

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

When an umbrella trust can be broken up it just means that the trust will not always reign.

Zangwill insists that he finds the highest form of truth in fiction, and in this he seems to be telling some of it.

W. K. Vanderbilt has given Kissam hall to the university at Nashville, but as it is a coeducational institution the boys probably had not waited for that.

If this money lending by Uncle Sam does on he will pretty soon have on hand a lot of second-hand crowns and coronets put up as collateral by members of the effete monarchies as security.

Prince Inkatbar of Cambodia has had to pawn his jewels for ready money. This indicates that the prince is already married. Otherwise he would have come over with his jewels on and married an American girl.

The father of Cornelius Alvord, Jr., the man who stole \$700,000 from a New York bank, took \$100,000 from a Syracuse bank forty-one years ago. If there is a third Cornelius Alvord he is likely to have more or less trouble finding a job in a bank, unless he adopts an alias.

An edition de luxe, limited to 500 copies and offered for personal subscription at 1 guinea, will perpetuate a newspaper prepared by British officers while prisoners in Pretoria. The Gram, thus edited, was produced by means of the hectograph. When the time comes for a complete and dispassionate history of the South African war, the Pretoria paper will be an interesting witness.

Commenting on the late Mr. Huntington's assertion that there is great danger of overeducating the young, Abram Hewitt declares: "If I were to have the choice of one hundred million dollars or the pleasure I had in my college days and the pleasure I have had as the result of my education, I would quickly choose the latter. Were I to choose the millions, I should receive, and I should expect to receive, the scorn of my fellow-men."

The Earl of Chatham used to bow so low when he met a bishop that his nose could be seen between his knees. A savvy no less appalling to its subject marks, nevertheless, the ascent of our Indians in the social scale. A teacher in an Arizona mission school lately noticed a big boy holding a discussion with a little girl at the school door. He was explaining to her that girls should always "go first." She was accustomed to seeing the woman carry the load behind the man, and hung back, abashed at such gallantry. Of course, the "go first" may truthfully be used, "Not dancing, but advancing."

A muddy river betokens one of the greatest of national losses. It means that the rich soil, which Jack Frost and other natural agencies have been ages in forming, is washing away into the ocean. Tillers of the land could do much to prevent the loss by keeping the ground on hillsides covered with trees or with sod. It is the cultivated field on a slant which washes away most rapidly. It is contrary to public policy, or at least to the welfare of the future, that the top-soil of such land should be sent down to the ocean when it might be yielding grass crops. Many rivers that are now muddy were clear before the coming to this continent of civilized man.

Among the arts which the world is wont to place in the lost column is the art of conversation, for at regular intervals some one arises to assure people that they do not know how to use their tongues. Perhaps the injunction to children, to be seen and not heard, may have had something to do with this decadence, for certainly it does seem as if the tongue had not kept pace with the pen. The author of a pertinent editorial article in Scribner's questions whether the art of talking is not dying out because of specialism, the absorption of each individual in his own career. "The result of devotion to a speciality," he says, "is to reduce original subjects of interest—that is, the subjects which one has in common with other people, 'topics of conversation,' as they are called. We speak of our modern world as wonderfully broadened in interests and sympathies by the telegraph and the newspaper. Yet for even a high type of individual it may be a constantly narrowing world." One is sometimes inclined to the conviction that conversation as well as composition ought to be taught in schools. It might lead to the stiltedness and the artificiality that the author of this article finds in the fine talk of the past, but it would insure a glibness that is as good as gold at times. Tonguetiedness is worse than stiltedness and incoherencies more pathetic than artificiality. It is this lack of the right word which is responsible for the imperfect sympathies that exist between people, and conversation might perhaps help to bridge over those "estranging seas" which, as the poets have it, separate individuals.

What means of redress is open to the man who is bamboozled into buying a ticket for a bad theatrical performance? Is he to suffer in silence or has he a remedy? These questions are of added interest owing to a recent decision, the

learned judge holding that, though the show be of the kind professionally known as "rank," the deluded ticket holder is not entitled to manifest his resentment by blasing or other evidence of disapproval. Few people will approve this decision. It violates natural justice and it conflicts with the innate instinct of man to raise some kind of a disturbance when he finds that he has been swindled. As well say that the restaurant patron who finds tough beefsteak or dubious eggs set before him is not entitled to offer a few emphatic observations to the entire establishment, from the proprietor down to the dishwasher. Of course, it may be argued that the theatergoer who has paid good money to see a bad performance has his remedy at law—that he may sue for and recover the amount that he paid for his ticket. But even if this proceeding were not tedious and expensive it would still afford inadequate relief. The outraged patron of the drama is in equity entitled to express his resentment of the imposition that has been practiced upon him. He has a right to voice his indignation so that it will be heard of all men. No objection ever is offered to the applause which greets good plays and competent actors. Why, then, should bad plays and incompetent actors be exempt from the reprehension which they have incurred by their unworthiness? The question is one which will not be finally settled by the pronouncement of a judge. If merit is entitled to praise imposture deserves public rebuke. The bad actor is going to hear sibilant testimony to his shortcomings despite any decision that may be formulated by the courts.

The requirements are so many and the examination is so strict that a man who joins the regular army of the United States must be, physically, an almost perfect man. It is the government's interest, of course, to keep him so. In time of actual war he may have to bear some deprivations as well as face the ever-present risks of battle; but ordinarily he is well sheltered, clothed and fed, and if the generous army ration does not satisfy him, he can buy a great many luxuries for a very little money. The subsistence bureau of the War Department does not often figure in print, but the enlisted man, at least, knows that it does much for the army's health and contentment. Virtually it conducts a department store for soldiers, selling everything at cost price. Private Jones of the Fourteenth can buy a fine razor, for instance, cheaper than his brother in New York can, and if the private has a fancy for toilet soaps and silk handkerchiefs, equally good bargains are open to him. To supplement the rations is, however, the principal business of the subsistence bureau. It provides almost everything that is eatable—condensed milk, jams and jellies, pickles, dried fish, maple syrup, olives, crackers and cakes, and a bewildering variety of canned foods, including soups, meats, vegetables and fish. Recently candy was added to the list, and although our boys in China are out of the latitude of chocolate creams, they can buy cake chocolate and all the gumdrops, lemon tablets and similar hard candies that they wish. Our army has no exact equivalent as yet for the "field bakeries" employed by the French and other foreign armies, which furnish fresh bread every morning to the troops in the field. But on the whole, United States soldiers are probably better cared for than those of any other country. It is a truism that they deserve the care. The army is so small, compared to the fighting forces of other nations, that the country has been able to set a high standard, and enlist men who are as worthy to enjoy luxuries as they are strong to endure hardships.

FASHIONS FOR WINTER.



STYLES IN OUTDOOR GARMENTS.

A Compromise. "He asked me to marry him." "No, you accepted him?" "No. I thought that I was, I asked for time." "And what did he say?" "He said he'd give me a year." "Ah! And what did you say?" "I saw my mistake. I said two days would be plenty. But he wouldn't hear it. He said no woman could make up her mind in such a short time. He really insisted on my taking six months. We finally compromised on thirty days." "And then?" "He married that putty-faced Bimberling girl the very next week."

"Cat" in Many Languages. The cat is called kat in Danish and Dutch, katt in Swedish, chat in French, katti or katze in German, catus in Latin, gatto in Italian, gato in Portuguese and Spanish, kot in Polish, kots in Russian, cath in Welsh, kath in Cornish, catus in Basque and gas or katz in Armenian.

A Strange Tree. In the village of Millbeck, near Kewwick, England, is a most curious freak of nature. Two trunks rise on each side of a spring of clear water, and join together three feet above, forming one tree

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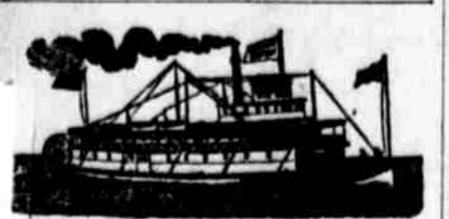
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SUMMONS. In the circuit court of the state of Oregon, for the county of Multnomah, Department No. 3. J. H. Hooper, plaintiff, vs. M. Hooper, defendant. To Mary A. Hooper, defendant named: In the name of the state of Oregon, you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled suit, on or before the 8th day of December, 1900, which is the time prescribed in the order for the publication of this summons, and if you fail so to appear and answer, plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the complaint, namely: For a decree dissolving the bonds of matrimony now existing between the plaintiff and defendant, and for the care and custody of Helen J. Hooper and Edgar W. Hooper, and for such other relief as may be equitable. This summons is to be published once a week for six successive weeks. First publication is the 27th day of October, 1900, and the last on the 8th day of December, 1900, by order of the Hon. J. B. Cleland, judge of the above entitled court. Made and entered on the 20th day of October, 1900. W. S. HUFFORD, Attorney for Plaintiff.

SUMMONS. In the circuit court of the state of Oregon for Multnomah county. William L. Goff, plaintiff, vs. Lester M. Love, defendant. To Lester M. Love, the above named defendant. In the name of the state of Oregon, you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled action on or before the 10th day of December, A. D., 1900, said day being the expiration of six weeks from the 26th day of October, A. D., 1900, the date ordered by the court for the first publication of this notice, and if you fail to so appear and answer the plaintiff will take judgment against you for the sum of \$320 with interest thereon from January 1, 1873, at the rate of 10 per cent per annum and the costs and disbursements of this action. This summons is published by order of the Hon. A. L. Frazier, judge of the above entitled court, made and entered on the 26th day of October, A. D., 1900. GILTNER & SEWALL, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT. Notice is hereby given that I have filed my final account as executor of the estate of F. H. Ramsey, deceased, in the office of the county clerk of Multnomah county, state of Oregon, and 9:30 o'clock on Monday, the 12th day of November, A. D. 1900, in the court room of said court, has been filed by said court as the time and place for hearing said final account and the settlement hereof. A. W. LAMBERT, Executor of the estate of F. H. Ramsey, deceased. Dated, October 4, 1900.

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