

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

It has long been known that the backache microbe lurked in the carpet that needed beating.

The only man who can successfully sit on the fellow who has begun to rock the rowboat as a joke, is the corner.

When Emperor William gets weary of a diet he shuts it off. This is where William has a big advantage over people who board.

When a real prince is stripped and searched for dutiable articles by the minions of our republic, "triumphant democracy" may be said to have arrived.

John D. Rockefeller's advice to the young men about giving away money would have been appreciated a great deal more if he had given them a tip on what stocks to buy to get the money.

There are now three classes of people. Those who do not know that they have stomachs, those who feel as if there was not much else to their internal machinery, and those who have had them cut out.

It is improbable that the great American novel will ever come to pass unless the novelist is thoroughly prepared for his work, and this can only happen through slow development, not the forcing-house process of quickly achieved fame. When the death of great American novels is discussed let this be noted.

It is a serious fact that spelling is too lightly regarded in the public-school system of to-day and the result is a crop of graduates who are decidedly deficient in this branch. How serious this defect is may be judged from the fact that the time of students at Columbia is to be devoted to spelling instead of the higher branches they are supposedly fitted to undertake. Time would not be thus spent unless it was deemed necessary. And it would not be necessary if primary educational methods were less of fad and more matter of fact.

Whether or not a college education is advantageous depends entirely upon the ability of the recipient to absorb and utilize such an education. Unfortunately such a view of the case is seldom considered by parents and guardians who are inclined to send their children to college simply because it is considered the proper thing to do. Consequently we find throughout the country thousands of young men who have passed through college acting as cheap clerks or bookkeepers or even as car conductors and restaurant waiters. Having learned no mechanical trade, for which they may be well adapted, and being unfitted by nature for a profession, they go through life discontented with their lot and vaguely believing that the world owes them better treatment because they have gone through college.

A feature of a recent number of Success is an article on the early struggles of the members of President McKinley's cabinet. The history is the history of eight poor boys. None of them ate the bread of idleness, all of them struggled upward through difficulties. The sketches of the lives of these men are illustrated by drawings, showing John Hay as clerk to President Lincoln in the very room of the White House where he now sits as premier; Elihu Root, at 18, teaching a class in the Home, New York, academy; John W. Griggs, as a law clerk in Paterson, N. J.; Ethan Allen Hitchcock as clerk in the Hong Kong store of Olyphant & Co.; Lyman J. Gage, at 15, as a beginner in a bank in Rome, N. Y.; Charles Emory Smith as a compositor in the office of the Albany (N. Y.) Knickerbocker; John D. Long as a chore boy on a farm in Bucksfield, Me., and James Wilson, at 21, working as a farm hand in Iowa. One is again reminded of Garfield's eloquent comment upon our society, which, he said, in substance, was not like the strata of the earth, layer upon layer, each holding the other down, as in Europe; but was like the yielding waves of the sea, so that it was possible for the lowest drop to rise until it glittered like a jewel on the topmost wave.

A Philadelphia woman has lived with her five children an entire year, enjoying every luxury without paying a cent for the same. She rented two fine residences, each in an aristocratic neighborhood, filled them with up-to-date furniture, costly paintings and bric-a-brac, provided her family with costly clothing and jewels and supplied her table sumptuously. She had expensive equipages in the stables and maintained good style throughout. For several months she succeeded in hypnotizing her creditors. When finally the furniture was levied upon and taken away from one of the houses, she moved to the other, changed her name and repeated the operation upon other creditors. The American is authority for the statement that this adventuress lived in luxury for a year, and during this time paid no bills, her creditors permitting her to disappear. Of course such elaborate swindling is only possible in a large city, and the performance must be accomplished by a past master, or past mistress, of "dead beating," yet, there are persons in all cities who live largely by their wits and an

ability to swindle tradesmen out of their money. Economies take little account of the cost to society of "dead beats," but the business world knows that a goodly share of the capital of society is lost in maintaining this class of persons. The profit and loss columns of the ledgers tell the story.

It's quite common to hear a man say that he is "hungry as a bear" until he sits down at table, and that then he is unable to eat. It is even more common to hear a woman say that she cannot relish things that she has cooked herself, and especially that she cannot cook a meal for herself when she is alone in the house and get any pleasure or profit out of eating it. The scientific sharps have discovered a reason for this, and, even though to solve the problem it was necessary to dissect a few live dogs, the results are interesting. The doctors discovered that when food was placed before a hungry dog, the blood rushed to the stomach, causing the walls to blush a vivid pink. It was the blood of the system rushing to the stomach to be ready to aid in the work of digestion as soon as the expected food should arrive. The actual sight of food is not the only thing that will cause the stomach-blush. Anything that suggests food to a hungry creature has that effect. For this reason a neat table, attractively prepared viands and bright, cheerful surroundings intensify the blush, and it is that blush—or, rather, the blood that causes it—that gives the good appetite first and good digestion afterward. When a man has been hungry for hours and has thought of food the thought alone has caused the stomach-blush. The blood has waited in vain for the expected food and has finally departed, disappointed. That is why, when food is actually ready there is no appetite for it. The blush has faded. A woman, cooking a meal or preparing one for herself, is deprived of that sudden anticipation which comes upon other diners as they approach a table all prepared for a meal. With the woman, the repast has been slowly brought together, and any cheering stomach-blush of anticipation is impossible, because the mind is not affected as it would be if every dish and its ingredients were not known in advance. It is a good thing to remember that anything that tempts the sense of sight or smell adds to the intensity of the stomach-blush, and just to that degree adds to relish and good digestion. Hoe cake and a vivid blush would taste better and do more good than quail on toast without a blush.

Broken on the Wheel.
In the diary of that remarkable man, General Patrick Gordon, who left Scotland in 1651 a poor, unfriended wanderer, and when he died, in 1699, had his eyes closed by the affectionate hands of his sorrowing master, the Czar Peter the Great, the following entry is to be found, under date Hamburg, March 2, 1680:

"This day, a man and woman, a burger of the lower town, belong the woman's master, for murdering, were carted from the prison to the house where the murder was committed; and there, before this house, with bottles pliers, the flesh was torn out of their arms, and from thence were carted to the place of justice without the town, and there broken and layed on wheels."

An instance fifty years later than those quoted at the last reference is recorded in the "Correspondence of Mr. Joseph Jekyll" (Murray, 1894.) In April, 1775, from the balcony of his lodgings at Orleans, Jekyll saw a criminal broken on the wheel. In a letter to his father (p. 13) he enters minutely into the sickening details, adding that "the crime of the unfortunate creature was burglary, as we learnt from his sentence, which is posted up at every corner of the streets."—London Notes and Queries.

Finger Bowls of Princes.
When a member of the royal family of Great Britain comes to dinner it is a point of etiquette to provide none but the illustrious guest with a finger bowl at the end of the banquet. The other diners must get on somehow without that convenience. The reason is a curious one. In early Georgian days one never knew who was loyal; every other man might be a Jacobite in his secret heart. Now, it was a piece of Jacobite ritual whenever the toast of "The King" was drunk secretly to pass the goblet over any water that had been used by the drinker; this was supposed to convert the toast into that of "The King Over the Water," the exiled Stuart at Rome or St. Germain. On this becoming known the court insisted that there should be no water within reach of any guest, and the prohibition still holds.

Isles of Shoals.
As to the Isles of Shoals, they are ten miles south-southeast of Portsmouth, N. H., and are eight small islands, inhabited only by lighthouse-keepers and summer visitors. On White Island, the farthest west, is a revolving light eighty-seven feet above the sea. The islands are partly in Maine and partly in New Hampshire.

Accustomed to Them.
"Do you know, Willie, what a horrible example is?" said the fond mother. "Yes," said the schoolboy, with a frown; "I never saw any other kind."—Yonkers Statesman.

French Submarine Boats.
France has fourteen submarine boats built or completing, and eight more projected.

Was there ever a woman so good that she was truthful in her warmth in inviting friends to visit her?

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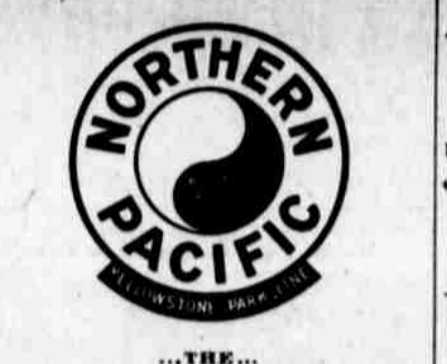
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6:45 a. m. Ex. Sunday	Willa Mette River. Oregon City, Newberg, Salem, Independence & Way Landings.	4:30 p. m. Ex. Sunday
7:00 a. m. Tues., Thurs. and Sat.	Willa Mette and Yamhill Rivers. Oregon City, Dayton & Way Landings.	8:30 p. m. Mon., Wed. and Fri.
6:45 a. m. Tues., Thurs. and Sat.	Willa Mette River. Portland to Corvallis & Way Landings.	4:30 p. m. Mon., Wed. and Fri.
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Cars leave corner First and Washington streets for Woodlawn as follows:
A. M.—7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8:00, 9:15, 10:00, 10:45, 11:30
P. M.—12:15, 12:30, 12:45, 1:00, 1:15, 1:30, 1:45, 2:00, 2:15, 2:30, 2:45, 3:00, 3:15, 3:30, 3:45, 4:00, 4:15, 4:30, 4:45, 5:00, 5:15, 5:30, 5:45, 6:00, 6:15, 6:30, 6:45, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8:00, 8:15, 8:30, 8:45, 9:00, 9:15, 9:30, 9:45, 10:00, 10:15, 10:30, 10:45, 11:00, 11:15, 11:30.
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