

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

Ragtime music is to be banished before the next world's fair. St. Louis will have to invent something new.

Bonnets are now made to match gowns, but, strange to say, no one thinks of trying to make them match purses.

Mrs. Sarah Grand claims that the way to approach man and subdue him is by the dinner route. Well, this is certainly a better plan than lecturing at him every night.

The Glasgow exhibition came out with a profit of \$400,000, while the Pan-American lost three millions. The canny Scot takes his pleasure with an eye to money-making still.

Statistics show that one person out of each seventy in the United States is engaged in working for the railroads. And although statistics do not show it, there are more than seventy trying to work the railroads.

No human society can find fault with an automobile banquet held even on the coldest night. There are no horses to be left outside to shiver and shake while their owners warm themselves within and without with the best known heat producing commodities.

It is a disturbing bit of knowledge—the fact that six men can remain in a submerged boat fifteen hours, with no other air to breathe than that in the boat, and suffer no ill effects from the experience. There will be no ventilation whatever in sleeping cars after this.

What the anarchists desire is the privilege of remaining under a civilized government with full license to assault its rulers and its institutions. Illogical as such a demand is, that is what they insist on and what they strenuously contend for. But the American people have tolerated that condition of things as long as they are going to. The disciples of Most and Goldman have assassinated one president too many.

Let a people once be reduced to the condition where they can see no future for themselves or their children beyond the mental drudgery which barely serves to procure them the necessities of life and they will be ready to engage in any desperate venture which gives the faintest promise of breaking the yoke. An educated man with a future before him under a government guaranteeing him all the rights and privileges of a free man is hard to seduce into conspiracies and rebellion.

Jan Kubelik, the boy violinist, who learned to play on wires drawn over a cigar box, and is in America on a \$100,000 tour, has shown great interest in American boys. "I should like to tell them," he said, "how to succeed. They must learn to wish. Until they know how to wish and wish till their whole soul is one wish, they can never be what they should be. A wish that hurts and hurts—that is the wish that comes true! And the whole world and poverty and no friends and ill health cannot stop it. If they wish they will work. Wishing and working will make the world right over for them. They boy who would like to succeed—he cannot succeed; but the boy who wishes to succeed till he cannot eat or sleep or do anything—but work for wishing—he has success! That is why you are getting \$100,000 from America," one said. "That is why, also, I can play at all," he supplemented. Kubelik is a little more generous with his advice than he is reported to be with his money, but for all that, not even all his money could do the good to American youth that his freely-given advice may accomplish if it is acted on as it may be.

Because there is a lesson in the story, take your boy on your knee and tell him about Ernest Armineo, who killed a schoolmate, Joe Creelman by name. It happened in Newport, Ky., and has saddened the lives of two families and fastened to the future of a lad something that he can never forget. Tell the boy that the foundation of the crime was found in a taunt, in a species of weakness. Edward failed in school, and little Joe threw the failure at him. It hurt cruelly. The boy was ashamed because of his lack of success. He was humiliated because of his temporary downfall, and the cruel words aroused all his passion. Talk to your boy about anger. Tell him that the lad who does not learn to master himself can never master others. The greater the provocation the more need for self-control. Tell him that the successful employers of others are nearly always men who have learned the philosophy of self-restraint. Tell him that force is the weakest of all weapons, for it seldom convinces. In the old days great battles were started by the same means that led to the Newport tragedy. A knight in armor would ride out in front of his troops and hurl an insult at the enemy. He would call them dogs, thieves, cowards, traitors. From the opposing force another knight would ride out, and they would fight till one or both were dead. Then there would be more taunts, more fights, and the soil would be drenched with human blood. It was all very foolish. It made war a matter of personal bravado. It sacrificed lives and proved nothing, and after centuries of this

kind of slaughter the system was abandoned. It is easy to fight when the blood is boiling and hatred spreads a mist before the eyes. It is a thousand times more manly to avoid a contest if by any possibility it can be avoided. The other day two young men, once friends in the German army, fought over a small difference of opinion. They were angry, and each feared the word "coward" more than he did bullets. So Lieut. Hildebrand shot Lieut. Blaskowitz to death, and is now in a cell, where he will stay for two years. He is sorry. There is an awful remorse that is eating at his heart. He'd give his life to put the soul back into the body of his dead friend. Tell your boy that. Tell him to think twice before he strikes a blow; to guard his tongue always. Tell him that it often requires courage of the highest type to keep out of a fight, and only the brute courage, common to animals, to go into one. The boy or man who is big enough and brave enough to hold himself in check when his whole being cries out for a battle will never be deemed a coward by those whose opinions are worth having.

Every day things happen that furnish sufficient excuse for individual, municipal, or even national rejoicing. It is not so often that anything happens to benefit the whole world and to make it proper for the two hemispheres to congratulate each other. Just such a happening, however, is this of the transmission of the first wireless signals across the Atlantic. In this achievement all mankind may take satisfaction. It is a triumph for everybody. Of course it is Marconi in particular who is to be complimented, and the public will not be sorry that it is he. Marconi has conducted his researches and experiments in the most admirable way. His disclosures to the public have come after, and not before, the fact. They have been accounts of what he has done, not of what he intends to do. If Marconi had plans for communicating with the Pleiades the public would know nothing about it till the first message from that constellation had been received and translated. So when he says that he, in Newfoundland, has received signals through the air from England, he can be believed. No doubt Marconi, like other men, is not made unhappy by public recognition of his services. But he relies for that recognition on his achievements, not on his aspirations. For such a man the public has a deep respect and a cordial admiration. Only one exception can be taken to the universal shout of approval that will doubtless greet the young scientist. There is some danger that in glorifying him the public may forget the men whose steady, patient toil made his dazzling success possible. In the '50's James Lindsay sent a wireless telegram across a narrow sheet of water, and since that time scores of men have contributed the most results of their personal investigations to the great general problem. These results, informed by the genius of Marconi, have given the world the first transatlantic wireless signaling. It is a case of a great many men laboring and one greater and more fortunate man entering into the fruits of their labors. To say this is not to depreciate Marconi's abilities. It is only to call attention to the fact that coming at the end of a long line of investigators he has so summed up in himself all previous studies and conclusions that Marconi and wireless telegraphy are as imperishably linked together as Darwin and evolution, though in neither case does the linking tell the whole story. There were evolutionists before Darwin and wireless telegraphers before Marconi. The outcome of Marconi's successful experiment remains to be seen. There was a long space of time between the first experiments in passing an electric current through a copper wire and the first successful telegraph line. It may be a long time before the transmission of messages across the Atlantic otherwise than by cable will be an economic success.

Mr. Smith Now Has a Beard.
"I do not like to see a man wear a beard," said Mrs. Smith to her friend, Miss Brown, "but I have the greatest difficulty in getting my husband to shave often enough to give him a presentable appearance. He comes home with a three days' growth on his face, looking horrible, and when I remonstrate he says the barber shops were all full, or that he was pressed for time, or makes some other ridiculous excuse for his untidiness. It is a great worry to me."
"I had the same trouble with Brother Charlie," said Miss Brown, "but since that lady barber shop opened near his office he gets shaved at least once every day, and always looks as clean as a new pin."
Mr. Smith now wears a full beard and Mrs. Smith is learning to trim hair.

Heat in Australia.
Australia is the hottest country on record. I have ridden for miles astride of the equator, but I have never found heat to compare with this. Out in the country in the dry times there appears to be little more than a sheet of brown paper between you and the lower regions, and the people facetiously say that they have to feed their hens on cracked ice to keep them from laying boiled eggs.—San Francisco Call.

Let Us Hope So.
Mrs. Wedder has remarried her first husband after having been divorced and then buried two others.
"Well, the first shall be last, you know."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

We have some sympathy for people who are mean, and don't know it, but it makes us mad when anyone thinks up meanness, and takes pride in it.

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