

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

It will devolve upon Congressman Cushman now to endeavor to live up to it.

The new comet is in Pegasus. Of course everybody knows where Pegasus is.

After a girl who married for money becomes a widow she is very likely to be married for her money.

The aut-not-mobilist is getting to be about as deadly a character as Pizen Pete of Quick Gulch, Arizona.

An egotist is a man who insists on telling you the things about himself that you want to tell him about yourself.

In other words, if they don't stop these railroad mergers the people will wait and do the final merging at themselves.

Any old rhyme may be made popular by a good tune, and almost any stick of a man may be made important by a clever wife.

It would be difficult to convince a Kentucky statesman that the water cure is not the most diabolical torture ever inflicted.

One of the church papers refers to Talmage as "the minister who reached the people." Why is it that more of them do not reach the people?

Nicola Tesla has discovered how to extract power from the atmosphere to propel air ships. As soon as he can get around to it he will extract some.

In Germany they are now making sugar from beets and gasoline from potatoes. They have not as yet been able, however, to get blood out of a turnip.

Carnegie says that the man who succeeds is the man who tries to do a little more than is expected of him. If this is true, no true office boy will ever get ahead the length of his nose.

And now comes John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and tells us that "riches is no bar to heaven." Probably not, in themselves, but it is the thing a man does in trying to get riches that lessens his chances for heaven.

Cecil Rhodes left ten millions to educate American boys in the great English colleges and universities, and it is said that Carnegie will leave several times that much for the purpose of educating English boys in the great colleges of America. Another tie in the Anglo-Saxon friendship.

The London Lancet, which has for many years been engaged in the noble work of protecting humanity from the dangers that keep continually springing up, comes forward with a timely warning against too much bathing. The Lancet says: "Too much bathing is harmful, as it tends to macerate the superficial part of the epidermis, which is too frequently removed and occasions probably too rapid a proliferation of the cells of the malpighian layer." Let people who are in the habit of giving themselves up to the pleasures of the bath pause and consider. It is doubtless a serious thing to bring on a maceration of the superficial parts of the epidermis, and we are free to confess that we should shrink in dread from one who carelessly went about with a proliferation of the cells of the malpighian layer. It is fortunate that the Lancet has pointed out the danger in time to head off an epidemic of the trouble mentioned, and we have no doubt that the warning will, in most quarters, be gladly heeded.

The managers of the steam railroads have claimed all along that they are not especially concerned over the fact that interurban railroads are rapidly developing throughout the country and they are still exploiting this same opinion. The position they take is that the interurban lines will not ultimately injure the steam roads, but will rather act as feeders and will stimulate a greater travel. It is pointed out in an exhaustive article in the New York Commercial on the development of electric railway traffic, that "the main railroad systems of the country as a rule run along the straightest line between markets, instead of deviating here and there to take in neighboring towns; they have tapped with branch lines the territory contiguous to their right of way. These branch lines are rarely profitable; but an electric road can traverse a territory which a steam line would find unprofitable and take up freight in small quantities and carry it short distances at a profit. It is therefore argued that the field for the future development of electric railways as freight carriers lies largely in their evolution as feeders to existing steam railroads." Another point dwelt upon is the "trolley habit." "People begin taking short trips on the electric line, and the taste for car travel is fostered to the ultimate benefit of the steam roads. Thus electric lines are constantly working up freight and passenger business for the steam railroad systems."

In the recent case of an abused wife and a brutal husband in his court Judge Tutthill of Chicago expressed an opinion to the effect that it was the right if not the duty of a woman to shoot her husband if he was beating her. The law does not authorize nor

excuse a homicide unless it is committed as the last necessity of a man in defending his own life. A person assaulted must retreat from his assailant and avoid collision as long as possible. When he can retreat no farther he may strike back. But he must use no greater violence than is necessary to protect his life or to avert dangerous injury. If a man is assaulted at night by a thug, or at any time by a known enemy, he may shoot his assailant even if he is not actually in extreme jeopardy. If he kills the man by whom he is attacked he will be excused on the ground that he believed his life was in danger. The facts in evidence and the entire situation as it appears to the jury will determine their verdict. It is seldom that the condition under which a drunken brute beats his wife places her life in danger or that she thinks she is in danger of mortal harm. It is seldom that there is a degree of passion in a brutal husband by which he is inspired with a murderous intent. Sometimes, perhaps often, the husband may not have commenced the quarrel. A desperate quarrel between a husband and his wife is generally complicated by the fact that they have children—sometimes very young and sometimes of older growth. The effect on the children of extreme measures adopted under a sudden passionate impulse or with deliberation is always to be considered. Consequences may occur worse than the acts of violence through which the wife and mother suffers. Domestic happiness is not promoted when a wife causes her husband's arrest for acts of brutality. The man may be fined and imprisoned. If there are children the family may be scattered to become objects of charity or to acquire a criminal education. The wife's longer forbearance may be a continued martyrdom. But there are some things worse than a martyr's life. What shall an abused wife do when assaulted by a brutal husband in a passion the most serious question that can be proposed. At any rate, the proper answer is not "Shoot him." The world is growing better in this respect. As compared with the not very distant past there are but few cases of domestic violence. A few more years of human improvement will bring peaceful homes to those corners or troubled spaces in life where they are needed most.

TOMB OF DANIEL.

Jealously Guarded by Followers of the Prophet of Islam. In the wastes of Western Persia, in the Province of Laristan, there stands a Mahomedan mosque, easily distinguishable at a distance by its faceted spire (for it does not boast of the usual round cupola). This mosque is jealously guarded by its priests, and no European is ever allowed access to the sacred spot. It is of profound interest



THE TOMB OF DANIEL.

to Biblical and other students, for here tradition locates the tomb of the prophet Daniel. Hard by is the fort of Susa, built by the brilliant French archaeologist, M. Jacques de Morgan, and his colleagues, on the site of what was no doubt once the acropolis of the ancient and famous city of Susa. This hill, of course, commands the best view of the exterior of the mosque. Yet even to M. de Morgan, who is on excellent terms with the reverend janitors, admittance is denied, so rigid is the rule.

DURATION OF LIFE.

Of 100,000 persons born			
Age	Men	Women	Total
0-10 years	55,303	49,499	104,802
10-20 years	33,868	38,280	72,148
20-30 years	30,434	36,276	66,710
30-40 years	27,073	34,952	62,025
40-50 years	23,216	33,710	56,926
50-60 years	18,384	28,173	46,557
60-70 years	11,730	17,023	28,753
70-80 years	5,170	7,710	12,880
80-90 years	1,170	1,710	2,880
90-100 years	170	210	380
Total	179,000	179,000	358,000

The above diagram shows your chances of attaining various ages.

Birthplace of Pestilence.

The marshy ground of the Ganges delta, with its vast masses of vegetation decaying under a tropical sun, is the native home of cholera. In that pestilential region cholera and plague are found every year and all the year round. Every cholera epidemic which has desolated Europe, every visitation of the plague, is believed to have started from the mouth of the Ganges.

Morphine in a Porto Rico Town. Morphine is used extensively in the town of Juana Diaz, Porto Rico. It is estimated by the insular board of health that out of the 2,500 inhabitants, 1,000 are victims of this terrible habit.

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