TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

"What's good to eat is bad to eat," says a chronic dyspeptic.

If Hall Caine has collapsed it must have been from top heaviness.

When a man tells you all his troubles he becomes one of yours.

No disappointment can be quite so intolerable as disappointments in one's

Happy is the man who finds satisfaction in doing good things that nobody notices.

The population of Siberia has doubled during the past twenty years, but not of its own accord.

The glue trust will have to have both cohesive and adhesive qualities in order to make a success.

One of the hardest things in the world is to acknowledge a blunder which turned out to be profitable.

There are times, after all, when divorces are justifiable. A man has se cured one because his wife smoked cigarettes. About the only man in this world

who always gets just what's coming to him is the villain in the modern melodrama. Another Frenchman has been scratch-

ed in a duel. The French duel may yet become deadly. There is always the pos sibility of blood poisoning.

Sarah Bernhardt's Hamlet was not liked in Germany. The Germans are not accustomed to Hamlets that require a spy-glass obligato.

Noah, Columbus and J. Pierpont Morgan have been referred to as the three great masters of the sea. Why should Noah and Columbus be mentioned? So the Kaiser simply went to Eng-

land to arrange for the marriage of his son! In democratic America such match-making is usually left to the women.

"No task rightly done is truly private," said Dr. Woodrow Wilson, at his recent installation as President of Princeton University. A noble idea fitly clothed.

There is something about the name of that boy burglar-Pawpawlicki-recently taken in charge by the Chicago police, which suggests a paternal duty that may have been neglected at home.

True, one may find scriptural warrant for using a number of musical instruments in divine worship, but David seems to have drawn the line at the base and snare drum part of a brass band.

The daughter of the former Mayor of an Eastern city recently surprised her father by telling him she had been married just a year. There is something almost uncanny about a woman who can keep a secret as long as that.

And now it is the Sultan of Johore who proposes to make a tour of the United States. This thing is growing so common that we will soon make no more fuss over seeing an eastern potentate than we do now over one of our own justly celebrated kings of finance or industry.

Now that the Doukhobors of Canada have appealed to the Sultan of Turkey for hospitality and shelter on the ground that they wish to live where they would "not be compelled to obey laws made by man," many will find additional evidence that the sort of asylum they need is one with a wall around it.

The present volume of immigration mostly from the countries of eastern Europe, should receive the consideration of Congress at the coming short session. It is not what a man eats but what he digests that makes him strong. So it is with nations. Can the United States assimilate into its political system the tribes that are now contributing three-quarters of a million a year to the population?

"Father will get everything in advance, boys," little Alexander of Macedon used to say to his companions when news came of Philip's victories; "he will not leave any great task for me to share with you." Nevertheless, as Alexander the Great, he discovered that his father had but touched the rim of achievement. General William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, stands as one of the striking figures of the English-speaking world; but in the tremendous fight for good, for the rescue of the lower half of humanity, he has not pre-empted the field. His distinguished sons and daughters, in different lands under whatever banner, are carrying on what is at heart but one great task in which workers throughout the world may share.

A Japanese gentleman named Sugimura, living in Hawail, is a great lover of truth. One day he caught his wife In a fib. He wrote her a tender little note, enclosing his little finger, which he had cut off with a meat ax, and telling her that he would cut off one finger every day until she promised to quit lying. That is characteristic of the Japanese, whose ways are not our

ways. They are a gracious folk and wise in their generation. But did the wife tell any more fibs and did the husband lose any more fingers? Certainly a fingerless husband would be a standing reproach, to say nothing of his lack of ability to make the wife a living Can you imagine an American husband making this sort of a vicarious atonement? Or an American wife cutting off a finger every time the husband tells "a little lie" in business? In such a case the poor wife would probably be a hope less cripple inside of a week.

The growing public appreciation of the value of the forest reserves, not only for the needed timber supplies of the future but for the preservation of the sources of rivers and streams, will attract more than usual interest to the land office in protecting these reserves Dry Goods, Fancy Goods work now being done by the general and the recommendations for their further preservation made in the report of the Land Commissioner. On Oct. 1 there were fifty-four forest reserves, embracing 60,175,765 acres, an increase of almost 14,000,000 acres since the last report. In the last fiscal year 1,663 forest fires were discovered, which burned over 87,799 acres. The constantly decreasing area burned over appears to demonstrate the efficiency of the government forestry force and fully warrants a more extensive policing of the forested lands. The Commissioner shows that with the present inadequate force the work has not only proved self-supporting but has brought revenue to the government, that it has placed needed timber supplies within lawful reach of the people and has practically stopped timber depredations within the reserve limits. In addition to urging a large increase in the number of special agents to prevent timber depredations and to protect public lands from unlawful entry the Commissioner recommends legislation to protect game and fish in forest reserves, the extension of the boundaries of Yellowstone Park, legislation giving the President authority to set apart as national parks tracts of publie land having scientific or historic interest or containing medicinal The Commissioner also resprings. ports gratifying success in the work of reforestation of the denuded areas that has been undertaken by the general land office.

We rush through life in such a hurry, these days, that there is little time or thought for the refinements and courtesies that in the good old days of our grandparents were considered necessary to good manners. The man or woman who has really good manners, nowadays, we distinguish as being of the "old school." Unfortunately, the old school is passing away, and there is no new school to take its place. We seem to be drifting into the idea that good manners are a rather boresome and indefinable something in the way | . of an affectation which we may put on with our best clothes for weddings. parties and other such affairs, but not to be carried about with us on ordinary occasions. We have cut it out of Are now open for business with the ess hours. We have co gard common courtesy as a time-consumer and a waste. Rapid communications have corrupted good manners, for the speed with which we can travel or transmit news has aroused a nervous impatience of delay which is fatal to courtesy and manners both in spirit and form. We no longer write the good, long, warm, soul-satisfying letters that were written in the old days. Formerly letters were dignified and interesting, but now they are neither. We imagine we have no time to write elegantly and in a spirit of impatience we scribble a few lines to some friend when there is no escape from the painful necessity. And the letters of to-day show that their writing is a task, not a pleasure. Once upon a time it was good manners to hold old age in reverence, but it is not so any more. Whatever we may actually feel in the heart, our attitude toward the old indicates that instead of regarding them with reverence we consider age a synonym for incapacity and boredom. Maybe we mean all right. but our manners are such that we must often cause bitter heartache in the old, who, bred in a different school, can interpret our thoughtless inattentions only as downright disrespect. It is an age of ill-manners in both men and

The Young American Spirit.

Sooner or later the young American is bound to issue his own declaration of independence, but usually the young gentleman or lady, as the case may be-waits until he has passed the kindergarten stage before he expresses his determination to go and live his own life, unrestrained by parental

Not so with a slender, blue-eyed young gentleman, aged 4, who has just been initiated into the delights of kindergarten life. A day or two after his first experience in the wide, wide world his nearest and dearest feminine relative having offended him in some slight matter, the young man declared his intention of leaving her and going off and living by himself.

"People don't get along very well who live by themselves," she remarked in answer; "something's likely to hap-

"Huh!" was the contemptuous answer, "I can do it. I went to kindergarten two days by myself, and noth ing struck!"

The world is getting so highly educated that it is now possible to find a woman who makes a perfect pumpkin ple, and who does not pronounce it "punkin."

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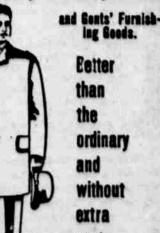
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