

Topics of the Times

Their photographs show that Johann Hoch's wives were no "Florodora" beauties.

Some day Maxim Gorky's enemies may not have all the Maxim guns on their side.

As Oklahoma is to have State prohibition, it cannot hope to induce immigration into the State from Kentucky.

The original of Dickens' "Little Dorrit" is still alive, at the age of 90. But she has changed so you would scarcely know her.

It would seem that the college authorities might defer these anti-football campaigns until after having been suppressed.

The House begs to inform the midshipmen at Annapolis that dismissal for hazing is merely temporary. Thus is discipline in the navy fostered.

It is an unmistakable sign of progress that the women of China are making a vigorous kick for the right to wear their feet as nature made them.

The society for psychical research wants \$100,000 to find the way to the hereafter. This might be encouraged if we had discovered any royal road to the here.

A son of Brigham Young is being sued by twenty-three chorus girls. In the good old days of polygamy he could have compromised by marrying the bunch.

A Virginian who in the civil war was badly shot in the leg and had his head split open with a saber, after living to be 75 years old, has just been killed by an attack of indigestion.

Susan B. Anthony is 85 years old and admits it. Alice Roosevelt is 21 and makes no secret of the fact. But between Susan and Alice are many women who would rather not tell.

A Massachusetts man who opened an old family Bible found a government bond that had been stowed away in the volume for forty years. There are many valuable things to be found in the Bible.

"Pittsburg Phil" left \$2,000,000, which he made as a gambler. Let the young men who think of starting out to make a fortune as a gambler stop right now and remember that every dollar left by "Pittsburg Phil" was lost by some other gambler.

The reappearance of one of those historic letters containing the injunction to burn it, and which did not get burned, calls attention to one case in which science and invention have not come up with the needs of progress. Some inventions are wonderful; but the paths of statesmanship will never be easy until a time fuse is perfected which will make sure of burning up the letter to which it is attached.

A man falling on a slippery sidewalk, instead of dropping in a leisurely, gentlemanly manner, like a boy falling from the barn, goes down so quick that the sidewalk smokes. The boy, falling from the ridgepole or out of a tree, is very much less hurt than the prominent citizen falling from a point only three or four feet above the sidewalk. The reason is simple. The boy is ferre nature, but the man is so stiffened with dignity at paying taxes and voting for the wrong party that if he wrenches himself anywhere something cracks. Let's be careful that our dignity doesn't harden on us and become a shell, for that is what is the matter with the lobster.

How country life is attracting a greater number of Americans every year is shown in no clearer way than by the increase in periodicals devoted to its various phases. As to books on topics of this kind, each season brings them in greater numbers, until it seems as if the whole population must be interested in the country to the extent of buying books and periodicals on the subject. The Easterner is told by one writer how to build a log cabin, and by another how to run a duck farm on a pond. Mountain cottages, forest cottages, lake cottages, are described in a manner that makes the reader long to abandon the steam-heated flat for a breezy country home with chinks between the logs and holes in the roof.

Every once in a while a wave of public sentiment sweeps across the country, as definable in its movement and character as any other real and physical thing. Generally speaking, this popular feeling finds expression in suggested legislation or constitutional amendment. Any student of American history, viewed from its political and legislative standpoint, knows that an examination of congressional records presents a panorama, so to speak, of great public movements, culminating sometimes in actual legislation, but more frequently subsiding without definite result. It is a good thing to clear the political and social atmosphere with these upheavals. Stagnant air is fatal, and even a cyclone, with all its accompanying trouble, is preferable to an atmosphere so heavy that it has lost all its vitality.

Greasy, dirty and unsanitary paper money constitutes one of the disagree-

able features of the American currency system which the banks and the government have made no very earnest effort to reform. Perhaps the danger from bacteria is not so serious as some instigators would have us believe, but many of the notes of small denomination do become disgustingly dirty, and the contrast between the general run of the American notes and those, for instance, of the Bank of England is sufficiently striking to prove that something might be done to improve conditions here. One effect of the present condition of the paper currency and of the lack of postal currency system is the very large use of postage stamps for minor business transactions. This has grown to enormous proportions, to the acute inconvenience of many large mercantile concerns, and will contribute to the increasing pressure for a remedy.

The nation recently through its representative at Washington responded impressively to Emerson's sentiment that civilization is the power of good women. There was a striking recognition of this power when the statue of Frances E. Willard was unveiled in the capital. Moreover, as the statue stands, the first memorial to woman in Statuary Hall, the personal distinction through which tribute is paid to the sex commands immediate assent. Miss Willard was known throughout this country and throughout the world. Few statesmen have achieved a celebrity as wide as hers, and none was ever more devoted to a noble work for the uplifting of humanity. It may be said also that to that work she brought abilities of an order rare among women or men. She was a great organizer, an effective speaker, a dominant personality in any assembly. She had the enthusiasm that is the "height of man" combined with common sense, a sound understanding and a rich gift of humor. Such endowment as hers would make a splendid equipment for anyone who should aspire to be a leader of public thought. Having this endowment, she made such effective use of it as to exert an imperishable influence upon the good cause with which her name is most closely identified. Her fame was secure through her works, and the nation honors itself in honoring this fine type of womanhood.

The painstaking researches of Ambassador Porter in Paris in quest of the burial place of Admiral John Paul Jones have been crowned with success to the extent, at least, that it is now believed to be known that the remains lie somewhere under one of several tenements which were built many years ago on the site of an old cemetery. General Porter is not a man who is likely to be deceived in a matter of this kind. Paul Jones was the only American hero of rank and importance to find an unmarked grave in a foreign land. More a soldier of fortune than a warrior belonging to any particular country, he nevertheless was the first American admiral, and his prowess on the seas gave the first impulse to a naval history which has always been creditable and most of the time glorious. Peace and independence in the United States were altogether too monotonous for him when wars were in progress elsewhere, and during his later years he was in the service of Russia and France, dying in the last-named country at a time when many other notables were hurried to nameless graves. If Paul Jones' remains can be found they should be transferred to the United States and buried with all the honors of war, participated in by the ships of one of the greatest naval establishments on earth, as a tardy but none the less merited disavowal by the republic of the persistent slanders which have been heaped upon his memory. It has pleased most British writers, historians and orators to characterize the first American admiral as a "pirate," and even now, when good feeling between the two English-speaking peoples is properly cultivated, the old falsehood frequently crops out. The ashes of Paul Jones borne from France to America on a first-class battleship, escorted by French and American squadrons and given interment at Arlington with the honors due his rank and services, would be an excellent answer to this libel, and it would be worth all the money that it is likely to cost. Paul Jones was an adventurer, no doubt, but he was no pirate. His service in the infant American navy was as regular as that of any admiral since his day.

A Memory Method.
Association is the vital spring of memory, and any one who analyzes his thought process may catch himself recalling a thing by a series of allied things. Many people have tried to systematize association and arrange a scientific memory method.

A mathematician has discovered a most interesting process for remembering dates. Suppose you have forgotten the year of the Norman Conquest. Take the date of your birth and add to it the number of the month when you were born. Multiply the result by the day of the month your father was born. Square the result. Add six. Now divide by the cube root of the number of people in the United States. Forget the result, add ten hundred and sixty-six, and you have the required date.

Fair Knowledge.
"Does he speak French?"
"Oh, well enough to make himself understood!"—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

The Way to Get 'Em.
"Is you hopin' for de good times?"
"No; bless God, I got my sleeves rolled up an' I is workin' for em!"—Atlanta Constitution.

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