

**SHOING A CAMEL.**—A traveler from Pekin to Siberia, across the great desert of Gobi, tells us that whenever a camel's feet have become very tender and sore from long marches, the poor creature lies down. His driver knows at once that his feet hurt him, and looks to find out if the thick skin of the feet is blistered. Whenever a blister is found, two or three strong men, usually Mongols, keep watch of the camel until it is not noticing them. At just the right moment they make a rush altogether upon the camel, throw it over upon its side, and make it fast. Then, with a needle made for that use, they sew a square piece of leather large enough to cover the hurt place over the camel's foot, the skin of which is quite thick enough to sew through, without hurting the animal. With his new shoes on the camel is quite ready to get up and march on. The pieces of leather are very carefully prepared for this use. It sometimes happens that a camel lies down in the mid-t of his long march across the wide desert, and dies. The natives take the thickest part of his skin to make shoes of. These bits of skin they take out, day after day, when on the march, and pull until they become so soft and yielding, that a camel with blistered feet seems grateful to have shoes made of it, although he would resist the shoeing to the last, were he not held so that he could not move.—*Rural New Yorker.*

**THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE.**—The eccentric but brilliant John Randolph once rose suddenly in the House of Representatives, and screamed out at the top of his shrill voice, "Mr. Speaker! Mr. Speaker! I have discovered the philosopher's stone. It is—pay as you go!" John Randolph dropped many rich gems from his mouth, but never a richer one than that. "Pay as you go," and you need not dodge sheriffs and constables. "Pay as you go," and you can walk the streets with an erect back and a manly front, and have no fear of those you meet. You won't have to cross the street to avoid a dun, or look intently in a shop window, in order not to see a creditor. "Pay as you go," and you can snap your finger at the world; and when you laugh, it will be a hearty, honest one, and not like the laugh of the poor debtor, who looks around as though he was in doubt whether the laugh was not the property of his creditors, and included in articles exempted from attachment. "Pay as you go," and you will meet smiling faces at home—happy, cherry-checked, smiling children—a contented wife—a cheerful hearthstone. John Randolph was right. It is the philosopher's stone.

**A COMPLICATION OF HORRORS.**—From time to time the French journals furnish us with tragedies as singular as they are horrible, and the following is a fair specimen of them: Two partners in the wine trade were in financial difficulties, and many angry interviews occurred between the parties. Wishing to put an end to one of these scenes, E. Descazeau was about to withdraw from his partner's presence, when M. Duploux, in a frenzy of passion, rushed upon him with a knife, and stabbed him in the side. The victim fell, and the assassin stabbed himself three or four times in the abdomen. He then rushed up stairs, opened the window, and after driving the knife up to the hilt through his left cheek, threw himself into the court. A woman employed in the house had heard the noise and rushed out to ascertain its cause just as Duploux was falling. His body struck her and she was felled to the ground. Her left arm was broken and she was otherwise greatly injured. Madame Duploux, a young and pretty woman, also rushed out at the moment and was so affected by the horrible sight that she is said to have lost her reason.

Always "going to blazes"—The firemen.

**SIOUX COURTESY.**—The Sioux are, perhaps mentally, morally and physically the best body of Indians on the plains. As wives, their women are faithful, and if a young woman becomes widowed, they pass her on to the prairie. That is to say, they take her out of the village, stake her down on the ground, where she is left for three nights, subject to outrage by roughs of the tribe, who can kill her if they wish. She is, after this, made to carry wood, water and do labor in the tribe, and is forever disgraced. Polygamy is practiced in this tribe, but not excessively. A man may have as many wives as he can keep, but must buy them. The universal price of a wife is a pony, or for a white man an American horse. A squaw once bought becomes the immediate property of the purchaser, but he must catch her. Men have bought wives and never been able to catch them. Most of them, however, are quite willing to be caught. An Indian, several years ago, took a fancy to an officer's horse, and tried in every way to purchase him, but the officer would not part with the animal. Finally the Indian offered his sister, a beautiful girl, in exchange for the horse. Fearing he would steal or maim the animal, and not wishing to offend him, the officer gave the Indian the horse, but declined to receive the girl in return. The young lady, however, was informed that she was sold, and so the matter stood.

After waiting a long time for her husband to come and claim her, she one day, as he rode by the camp, put herself in his way, when seeing he took no notice of her, she naively asked: "Why don't you eaten me?" The officer who had never seen her before, inquired what she meant, when she roundly told him she was his wife, and not at all pleased that he had not come for her. He never claimed her, but she was regarded by her tribe as the white man's squaw, and at last accounts was still single and waiting for her husband.

The following statement is based on information from official sources: The accounts of General Howard and his officers show a deficiency of \$11,000, though only a small portion is in the name of Howard. He adds that he has a balance of six thousand dollars which he is ready to pay over to the proper officers. Nearly one half the deficit is charged to the account of a subordinate formerly on duty in the West. Letters have been received from colored men who served in the army and navy, stating that they never received bounty, though in some cases accounts show to the contrary. It will require an investigation to ascertain whether forged entries have been made, or statements in letters are false. The accounts will have to undergo further examination by collectors, and their figures may be changed either for or against Howard, should those officers differ from others in the construction of various laws bearing upon the subject. All agree that there has been some dishonesty on the part of subordinates, though it is not believed that the defalcation will amount to as much as is generally supposed.

President Mac Mahon is reported as saying that the real government of France is now vested in a Ministry; that the only change which they will introduce will be to carry out the programme which the late Government proved itself incapable of doing; that it is directly against the interests of Italy to expel the Pope from his dominions, as it would array public opinion against the Italian Government to such an extent that not only French interference would become compulsory, but it might become the signal for a European war, from which Italy has little to hope and everything to fear.

"I live by my pen," said a poet, wishing to impress a young lady. "You look as if you lived in one," was the reply.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The United States has 33,244 post-offices.

Gen. Howard is to be court-martialed.

Half of the business portion of Thomastown, Ga., has been burned.

Raphael Semmes, of the pirate *Alabama*, attended a wedding in Newburyport, Mass., last Thursday. Owners of vessels destroyed by him were well represented in the company, but none of them seemed anxious for an introduction.

For two years a young Pennsylvanian has been pursuing the seducer of his sister. Two weeks ago he caught him in Lincoln, Neb., and last week he brought him back to answer for his sin.

There are in Chicago's new hotel, the Grand Pacific, 53 flight of stairs, 38 miles of wire, 999 windows, and 1,070 doors.

And now they have gone to the other extreme! Instead of high heels and slender soles, the charming creatures amble about in great wide box-looking boots. The broader the sole the more stylish the boot.

A child with a frog's head is the latest reported Darwinian phenomenon. It was born in Washington county, Vt.

Georgia has a penitentiary convict who has served thirty-four years, and the other day, when they talked of turning him out into the cold world, he sat down and went.

A young man twenty years old, a citizen of Augusta, hung himself the other day because his coat wrinkled in the back. And he wasn't at all particular, either.

A widow in Maine has lately worked out her tax on the highway, and the surveyor said she did her work better than any man in the town.

A Minnesota paper asserts that a kerosene lamp, so set that the rays of the sun passed through it and came to a focus on a window curtain, set the curtain on fire.

Jefferson Davis was in New York on the 5th.

It is said that while "beaux" are permitted to go on in the way they are bent, "belles" are expected to go in the way they are "told."

The bed to be avoided next to an omnibus, is probably the bed of the river—unless one is partial to sheets of water.

"Ain't it wicked to rob dis here roost, Jim?" "Dat's a great moral question, Gumbo; we ain't got time to argue it now. Hand down another pullet!"

A Cincinnati man, who is going to get married in September, sits around boilerships so as to get his ears trained to it.

Parson Brownlow never bought but one silk hat, and that one he has worn for thirteen years without a cent for repairs.

A Pennsylvania man owns a bible 117 years old that has never had its leaves cut. If such careful usage continues, the sacred volume will answer for his descendants for twice as many years to come.

Jealous lovers in Omaha, when their adored one is being married to another fellow, vent their passion by sneaking in the back door and licking the insides out of the wedding cake.

M. Prudhomme, in the decline of life, was talking with his nephew, to whom he related stories of his youth.

"But, uncle," suddenly exclaimed the young man, "what struck you most during your life?"

"My dear boy, it was your aunt!"

A boarding house fiend tells the story that in a recent thunder storm the warring of the elements was so awe inspiring that the hair in a dish of butter in the pantry turned completely white during the night.

A Monticello, Iowa, jury has recently rendered a written verdict, the most beautiful specimen of phonographic spelling yet seen. It was, "Kno cos of axion."

The steamship Wisconsin left London on the 2d inst., with 750 Mormon emigrants for America.

Young Walworth was taken from the Tombs to Sing Sing on the 9th.

The weather throughout the West is reported unusually cool.

A fatal case of cholera was reported in Jersey City on the 7th.

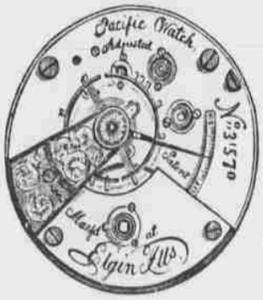
The annual fires in the woods on Puget Sound have broken out.

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