

It may be that we are unconscious that we adopt and incorporate slang phrases in our daily talk...

greater portion of the opium used for medicinal purposes both in Europe and America is the production of Asia Minor.

A HARD STORY ABOUT ALASKA. Mr. Henry Elliott, who went to Alaska last summer as Special Agent of the Treasury...

A FAMILY REUNITED. One of the most extraordinary stories of long-lost and finally restored children is this, which is told by the Portland (Oregon) Bulletin.

A PERSEVERING WOMAN. A few years ago, says the Cincinnati Commercial, an American lady while studying medicine abroad...

UTILIZATION OF LEATHER WASTE. While numerous processes for utilizing the offal in the manufacture of leather are in successful operation...

A MOTHER OF CRIMINALS. The discovery of a remarkable fact in crime statistics was recently made by Dr. Harris, of New York.

A NEW CAPRICE. And now Fashion demands that her female votaries must dress like wild animals.

LITIGATION EXTRAORDINARY. John H. Gonzales, while getting off at Mount Vernon from an up passenger train on the New York and Harlem railroad...

THE NEW BRITISH POLAR EXPEDITION. This expedition, which will consist of two steam whale-ships and about 120 men and officers...

WASHING POSTAGE STAMPS. The washing of postage stamps is probably the most profitable species of laundry work in this or any other country.

A HANDSOME OFFER. Mr. James Vick, the famous florist of Rochester, N. Y., has authorized the officers of every State and Territorial agricultural society...

TO BE REMEMBERED. If you have a crack in the wall in the corner of the room, or anywhere else, do not send for the plasterer...

VALUE OF FARM STOCK. Mr. Statistician Dodge estimates the average value of horses in the United States in 1874 at \$71.45 per head...

Some of the blocks of granite used in the construction of the Treasury building at Washington are the largest ever moved in this country...

WONDERS OF CREATION. Some singular and important discoveries were made by Prof. Cope, the great naturalist, who accompanied the Wheeler exploring expedition...

SCORPION SUICIDE. A scientist writes: "One morning a servant brought to me a large specimen of this scorpion, which, having staid out too long in its nocturnal rambles, had apparently got bewildered at daybreak...

GONE WITH HIS WIFE. The old story of a room with a number of windows, one of which disappeared every day, and the room gradually contracted until it crushed its occupant to death...

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DISEASE. A writer in Chambers' Journal speaks of the fact as decidedly noteworthy that the common opinion that excessive mental occupation gravitates toward insanity...

The Virginia City (Nevada) Chronicle tells how some of the people engaged in silver mining wake up in the morning to find themselves, millionsaires.

The British Empire now possesses 7,760,449 square miles of Territory. The United Kingdom, 121,808 square miles; the Colonies, 6,688,021; India and Ceylon, 961,820.

The Queen rules over 234,763,593 souls; her people dwell in 44,142,651 homes; and the area of lands they inhabit is not less than 7,669,449 square miles.

The Chicago Tribune is the latest journal to secure the services of a "funny man." He belongs to the ranks of the noble army of Danbury imitators, and some of his attempts at wit are extremely gaudy.

Salter had a boy who was not worth the starch in his shirt-collar to any one. His name was Noble. He was appropriately named. He was a noble brand.

Salter hired him for \$1 a week to tend office. He stayed with Salter just half an hour, when he discharged him. His discharge was summary.

Salter came to the office at 10 o'clock. Salter, after telling him what there was to do, went across the street to see a friend, leaving the boy dusting the furniture.

After having quieted a chat with his friend, during which he had told him that he had got a boy to work for him, and that he hoped he could leave the office offener now, he returned.

He had been gone just fourteen minutes by the watch. It is astonishing how much cussedness a good healthy boy can accomplish in fourteen minutes.

As Salter approached the door he heard a medley of indescribable sounds within his office. He opened the door, and there was that noble boy flying around the room with the broom after a strange cat.

As he entered, the boss, hurrying up and shut his door, or she'll get out. Oh Lord, catch the skin round, though?"

And, making a pass at the cat with the broom, he smashed all the glass out of the book-case. Did Salter get mad? Oh no! He kept his temper, but he started for that boy, and the boy, thinking that he was after the cat, too, got more excited than ever, and yelled: "There she goes, blast her old life. Head her off, boss, head her off! Oh, glory! ain't we having a time!"

And, making another pass at the broom, and, running against him, upset him into a coat-suitcase and rushed on. The cat making the front of the room before Salter had time to arise, dashed across his outstretched body, and ripped great gashes in his pants and shirt-bosom with its claws.

The boy, following close after her, fell over him. Picking himself up he sat down to take a rest, while the cat, hiding on top of the book-case, eyed him slyly. Then Salter arose. He did not let his temper get the better of his judgment, but he was very pale, and trembled perceptibly.

He reached for the boy. He got a firm grip on his collar, and started for the door. When he got outside he placed that noble boy in front of him and kicked him clear out of his coat. Then he dragged him to the stairs and pitched him down a flight of ten steps, and then jumped down on him.

Then he plucked a handful of the boy's hair, and pressed him out on the walk. The boy kicked himself up, gazed wistfully up the stairs, and, while great tears of sorrow rolled down his cheeks, he sighed, "What a bully time I could 'a' had with that cat."

Salter has concluded that he can get along until spring without a boy. He has adopted the cat, and has posted up notice to the effect that any boys caught in the building will be shot on sight.

THE COST OF OUR STURTEWART WAR. Mr. David A. Wells has furnished the Cobden Club of England with an essay upon the expenses, income and taxes of the United States.

We copy the following statement of the cost of the rebellion: The whole cost of the war in the Northern and Southern States from 1861 to 1866 is estimated as follows: Lives, 1,000,000; property, by destruction, waste, etc., \$39,000,000,000.

The gross expenditure of the United States from June, 1861, to July, 1866, \$5,792,267,000. Of this the actual war expenses were about \$5,342,937,000.

The expenses of States, counties, cities and towns in the Northern States, not represented by funds raised, have been estimated at \$500,000,000. The increase of State debts on the war account was \$123,000,000. The increase of city, town and county debts is estimated at \$200,000,000. Total war expenses of the loyal States and the national government, \$6,165,937,000.

The estimated direct expenditure of the Confederate States on account of the war was \$2,000,000,000. Aggregate estimated expenses of the war to the country, North and South, \$8,165,937,000.

The total receipts from all sources during the second year of the war were less than \$42,000,000. The expenditures were \$60,000,000 per month at the rate of \$700,000,000 a year.

A GIANT TELESCOPE.—A telescope of immense proportions has, Gallignani says, been for some time past in course of manufacture at the Paris Observatory, but is still far from its termination.

It was commenced in 1865 by M. Leon Foucault, but the death of that savant and the events of 1870 and 1871 interrupted this work, which was subsequently resumed under the direction of M. Wolf. The power of the new instrument will exceed those of the Cambridge and Herschel telescopes, hitherto the largest known; its diameter will be forty-nine feet, and its length six feet six inches, while the dimensions of Herschel's were only forty feet by five feet. The mirror will be of glass, but the surface will be faced with gold or silver. The telescope will be provided with a movable staircase.

A WELL-KNOWN San Francisco Judge says that there is a regular Board of Grand Jury Brokers in that city whose services can be had at all times to fix up a grand jury to suit the emergencies of any particular case.