

A LETTER OF REFUSAL.

MAY I come in?" The curtains from behind which the musical

issued shook a little, but no one

man at the easel painted away

strongly, putting in a sunset sky

When our forefathers signed the

declaration of Independence 120 years

ago, he began.

"Please—"

face made its appearance at the

fringe of the curtains, a face framed

by dark, wavy hair, with big, shining

marks, made soft by long curling lashes,

a red, red mouth, just now droop-

ingly at the corners.

"They made all men free and equal,"

replied the man, never once look-

ing up, "and since then a lot of ladies

with abbreviated hair and petticoats

have been struggling to make their sex

independent—and with considera-

ble success.

"Don't be horrid," pleaded the red

mouth, seconded by the shining eyes.

"Therefore, I was about to say," he

went on, calmly, "I don't see how I

hope to prevent you from coming

if you choose to do so."

He stepped inside, but did not ad-

dress into the room.

"I know you're going to be horrid,"

he said, plaintively.

He laid down his brush, and, turning

back, surveyed her deliberately as

she stood, her slender shape outlined

against the curtains. They were bur-

pleaued, which she had painted a

light brick red ("Pompeian red," she

called it, and which she had orna-

mented with a Greek border in yellow

and hung in the doorway, herself,

in spite of his scolding and ribald

proposals.

"They were pretty bad, those curtains,

but whatever their limitations from an

aesthetic point of view, they certainly

smoke ceilingward to hide a little

smile.

"And she doesn't mind my having a

studio, if I'll fix one up at home, but

she doesn't think it looks well for me

to have one in this building and run in

and out of here all the time—and so

I've got to move to-morrow."

"This time she forgot to dry the tear,

and it ran forlornly down her cheek

and fell with a splash on a study of the

head of John the Baptist that lay on

the floor.

"For a moment there was silence, then

John suddenly pushed back his easel

and pulled a writing table toward him.

"Well, if you can't come to-morrow,

I suppose I'll have to help you write

your letter to-day," he said, but there

was an unnatural sound in his voice

and Jean looked up hastily through her

tears.

"Jean!" came a voice suddenly from

behind the burlap curtain. It sounded

like the clinking of ice in a pitcher.

"Aunt Maria!" gasped Jean, in hor-

ror.

"Oh, come in, Miss Chester," said

John, drawing aside the Pompeian red

draperies. "We were just going to find

you and ask you to come to our wed-

ding to-morrow, at 12."

"Jean—what does this mean? Why

didn't you tell me this before?" ex-

claimed Aunt Maria, aghast.

"I thought I ought to consult John

before I told you," said naughtily Jean.

—Chicago Times-Herald.

TRICK OF THE TICKET SELLERS.

How Circus Patrons Sometimes Are Cheated Out of Their Money.

"Short-changing" or "flim-flaming," is practiced by an unscrupulous class of ticket sellers," said an old-time circus ticket seller, "the opportunities that the business offers being greater than that of any other that I know of. Everything is bustle and confusion, a man loses his head, doesn't think to count his change, and becomes an easy victim, when under ordinary circumstances he'd detect the fraud. I'll attempt to describe to you one of the commonest tricks of 'flim-flaming' on an extensive scale: A man approaches the booth, hunts in his pocket for change, and finally pulls out a \$10 bill. The ticket seller takes the preliminary performance in a glance and knows to a dead moral certainty that the man hasn't anything smaller. He looks at the bill a moment, then sizes up his cash, as if in doubt, then suddenly he turns to his victim and says: 'Is this the smallest you've got?'

"The man tells him that it is. All of this has consumed but a fraction of a minute, you'd say, but in point of fact it has given the sharper a chance to fold the bill in such a way that none of the figures are visible, and there is nothing to indicate what its denomination is. The bill is passed deftly from the right to the left hand, in the palm of which is concealed a \$1 bill folded in precisely the same manner. It is the work of only a second to substitute one for the other, the ticket seller apologizing all the while for his inability to make change, and the victim walks off unsuspectingly with \$1 where he had \$10, and the chances are that he won't discover his mistake until some moments later. And then he fails to get satisfaction, for, of course, the short-change artist denies the fraud emphatically.

"The ordinary way of handing a man short change in silver is beautifully simple. Say, for instance, a man buys two 50-cent tickets and tenders a \$5 bill. Three dollars and a half in small change is placed in his hand hurriedly and he walks off without counting it. Eventually he finds out that he's 50 cents 'shy,' but it is too late to make a kick. The short-change man knows who to 'flim-flam' and who to treat squarely. He sizes up his man at a glance and can come pretty near telling whether he'll count his money or not before leaving. That's where his knowledge of human nature comes in to play.

"Ticket selling is a profitable employment outside of any illegitimate gain. A man can always count on finding his cash \$5 to \$6 'over' at the end of the day. The per cent of people who get excited in the confusion of the moment and leave their change on the counter is always great. This overplus goes to the seller, and the economical inclined showman doesn't have to touch his salary during the month."—Atlanta Constitution.

LAW AS INTERPRETED.

A provision that none but union labor shall be employed is held in Adams vs. Brennan (Ill.), 42 L. R. A. 718, to be beyond the power of a public corporation, such as a board of education, to make in a contract, as it constitutes a discrimination between different classes of citizens, and is of such a nature as to restrict competition and increase the cost of the work.

An act changing election districts after they have once been established by a statute based upon the last census and before a new census has been taken is held in Harmon vs. Ballot Commissioners (W. Va.), 42 L. R. A. 501, to be in violation of West Virginia constitution, art. 6, sec. 10, which permits but one apportionment after a census until the next census is taken.

A statute making a fire department association the recipient of privilege or occupation taxes collected from insurance companies and imposing on it the duty of disbursing or administering the fund is held in Phoenix Assurance Company vs. Fire Department (Ala.), 42 L. R. A. 408, to be not unconstitutional on that ground, where the money is applied to a public use.

An attempt to commence an action in a court of record by delivering a summons to the sheriff with intent that it be served, which is made equivalent to the commencement of an action in New York, is held in Hamilton vs. Royal Insurance Company (N. Y.), 42 L. R. A. 485, to be sufficient commencement of an action on a fire insurance policy under a statute requiring the action to be brought within twelve months after the fire.

FAMOUS DIVORCES.

The Sloane-Belmont wedding in New York and the recent case in Washington where a man sent a check for \$100,000 as a wedding present to his divorced wife are reminiscent of the most famous divorce case of modern times—that of Mrs. John Ruskin from her husband, the famous author and artist. When they were married John Ruskin was threatened with consumption. His wife was a young and lively woman. Sir John Millais, afterward president of the Royal Academy, came to paint Ruskin's picture. He fell in love with Mrs. Ruskin and she with him. Mr. Ruskin saw how things were going, but instead of objecting he assisted his wife in getting a divorce. Then, a little later, he went to the church with his former wife and actually gave her away in marriage to Millais.

Without Doubt. A bright girl in one of the New York public schools applied to her teacher for leave to be absent half a day, on the plea that her mother had received a telegram which stated that company was on the way.

"It's my father's half-sister and her three boys," said the pupil, anxiously, "and mother doesn't see how she can do without me, those boys always act so."

The teacher referred her to the printed list of reasons which justify absence, and asked if her case came under any of them.

"I think it might come under this head, Miss Potter," said the girl, pointing as she spoke to the words, "Domestic affliction."—Youth's Companion.

Although the gas meter never fails to register, it isn't allowed to vote.

HENRY CLAY FRICK.

NEW HEAD OF THE CARNEGIE STEEL COMPANY.

A Poor Bookkeeper in 1870, He Is Now a Multimillionaire and Controls Enterprises Involving Hundreds of Millions of Dollars.

As the head of the new Carnegie Steel Company, the greatest of all the recently consolidated industrial concerns, Henry Clay Frick has become a man of world-wide interest. He is a man of uncommon mould. At 21 he was a poorly paid bookkeeper in a distillery, to-day, at 50, he is the owner of the greatest coke-making plants in the world, has a private fortune amounting to \$15,000,000 or more, and is the active head of enterprises involving the use of hundreds of millions of dollars in capital. A man who can make this kind of a record for himself can be truthfully described as "uncommon." Mr. Frick is the builder of his own fortune. He secured what he has without the aid of family influence or wealth—and it is the creation of his own brain and industry.

Henry Clay Frick was born in Fayette County, Ohio, in 1840. His father was a farmer in moderate circumstances, who had lived in West Overton, Pa. With nothing but a common school education young Frick went to work as a dry goods clerk, but soon gave up that to become a bookkeeper in the distillery owned by his grandfather at Bradford, Pa.

This took young Frick into the very heart of the coke region. Although he was only 21 years of age then, he had developed the habit of accumulating money, and saved most of his earnings. He took a great interest in the manufacture of coke, studied the process, and made up his mind that he would some day go into the business. At this time, too, he was a close student of the labor situation in the coal and coke regions.

A short time after passing his majority Frick and two other young men scraped up enough money between them to buy 300 acres of land and 50 coke ovens. They began to manufacture coke under the firm name of Frick & Co. Frick succeeded so well in the coke business that within four years he increased his ovens from fifty to

one hundred. The coke business kept on booming at a great rate until 3,673 ovens had been built in the region.

Then came the panic of 1873. The price of pig iron declined enormously, the price of coke fell in sympathy, and everybody wanted to get out of the coke business. Not so with Mr. Frick. He invested every dollar that he had or could raise in purchasing the coke properties and ovens which others were so ready to sell at low prices. All through the panic he kept his ovens going. In 1876 he separated from his old partners and took E. M. Ferguson as a new partner. Real success came to this new firm in 1879, when there came an unprecedented demand for coke, and prices went up from \$1 to \$5 a ton.

Under the impetus of this boom Mr. Frick continued to buy coke ovens and coke lands until in 1882 his firm had 3,000 acres of coal land and 1,020 coke ovens. It was that year that Carnegie Bros. & Co. (limited) became partners in the firm of H. C. Frick & Co.

The success of the firm from 1882 to 1890 was phenomenal, and it is generally acknowledged that it was in the greatest degree due to the energy and push of Mr. Frick himself. In 1890 the corporation owned and controlled 25,000 acres of coal lands, 42 of the 80 coke plants in the region, with an aggregate of 10,040 ovens, three water plants and a pumping capacity of 5,000,000 gallons daily, 35 miles of railroad and 1,200 cars. Eleven thousand men were on the payroll rolls of the company then. On the death of David A. Stewart, in December, 1888, Andrew Carnegie offered Mr. Frick an interest in the firm of Carnegie Bros. & Co., which Mr. Frick accepted and paid for. He was at once made chairman of the directors of Carnegie Bros. & Co.

As an employer of labor Mr. Frick earned the everlasting hatred of the Amalgamated Association. When he was put at the head of all of the Carnegie steel interests, the Amalgamated Association felt that the fight for its

HOW TO KEEP COOL.

FROM a hygienic standpoint, to be square overheat is as great an error as for an infidel to mess a ground hit. Equatorial climes with their dazzling heat do not destroy their peoples. Down close to the equator, where the sun gets a full tilt at the earth, sunstrokes are comparatively rare. Up here, where a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit is rare, sunstrokes or their twin afflictions, heat prostrations, are very common. Why it should be so is a topic of interest. When it is known that in neither case, the health being good, should a person be in any grave danger, the frequency of death in summer from such causes is a marvel. It all depends on the man. Some persons will walk smoothly and placidly along the street without an umbrella, with the sun making ridges of heat across the avenue. Collar and cuffs will not wilt and the man seems unconscious that the weather is playing any unusual pranks. He may carry pounds too much weight, yet suffer but little, if at all. Another man of this figure will pant and moan and mop his fevered brow in an agony of heat. Why this is thus is what a correspondent would term a mystery. But there is no mystery about it. One knows he is not hot, the other thinks he is. Keeping cool is not a matter of clothes or their lack. There are men on earth who wear nothing but a brown clothed in thought, whose sunburned petals indicate the advantage of garments, even if in an agony of heat. Why this is so, maturely discovered the same thing. Some positive directions apply to the art of keeping cool. The first is the most important and it well observed robs the weather of nine-tenths of its terrors. That rule is a simple one and is merely to give

life had come, and in June, 1892, came the bloody Homestead riots.

It was a time of great political excitement and party managers brought the greatest influence to bear on Mr. Frick to get him to agree to the terms demanded by the men. But he was deaf to all entreaty. The only question he would consider was how to defeat the strikers. He thought of nothing else, even after the Anarchist Berkman had shot him and he was upon a bed from which it was feared he would never rise. The bloody battle of Homestead, when the Pennsylvania State troops were called out to protect the Carnegie Works, and in which so many lives were lost, did not swerve Mr. Frick in his purpose. He fought the strike out and won it.

Mr. Frick and others were indicted for manslaughter as a result of the Homestead riots, but the indictments were afterward dismissed on the motion of the prosecuting officers. Since that time other anarchists have threatened to kill Mr. Frick. It is a fact that he has been nervous on that score. He is always very careful whom he receives, either at his home, his office, or his hotel. Up to the time the Anarchist Berkman made an attempt to kill him, and succeeded in wounding him seriously, Mr. Frick gave little heed to the threats made against him, but since then he has shown more concern for his personal safety. Personally Mr. Frick is a very pleasant man. He spends very little time in social pleasures and is wrapped up completely in his business.

A MIRACULOUS SPRING.

Fresh Water Gushes from an Oak in Switzerland.

This is not an optical delusion, but a fresh water spring in the trunk of a healthy oak tree, situated in Oneby, Switzerland. It is more than a passing mystery how it has succeeded in making this outlet for itself, and it

is hardly to be wondered at that the villagers regard it as supernatural and having some miraculous powers, especially in cases of courtship. The water was found so pure that a pipe was introduced to assist its flow, and a tank made to receive the sparkling liquid. The spring is the trying spot of the adjacent villages.

TWO STRIKING COSTUMES.

Two striking costumes are shown in the illustration. The one is a long, flowing gown with a high collar and long sleeves, and the other is a shorter, more fitted dress with a high collar and long sleeves. Both are shown with elaborate headpieces and jewelry.

The man who drinks to stimulate his appetite, stimulates his appetite for drinks.

NEW GATE PRISON.

This Thousand-Year-Old Building to Give Way to a New Structure.

Newgate prison, the cable dispatches say, is to be torn down. On its site a new court building is to be erected. Newgate is a place of bloody memories. Standing in the heart of London, it has been for a thousand years the scene of tortures and executions. Englishmen will probably be glad to see its ancient walls give way to a new structure which will stand for more civilized and merciful methods of punishment.

Newgate has not been used since 1881, except for the detention of prisoners awaiting trial or execution. It is one of the oldest buildings in London—how old no one knows. It was used as a prison as far back as 1188, as the records of those times show. It was probably built several hundred years before. Hundreds of thousands of prisoners have been executed within its walls. In 1556 it was almost altogether destroyed by fire and again in 1630, but was rebuilt, and has always

served the same grim purpose. The names of the distinguished men who have been imprisoned in Newgate would fill a volume. Among them are William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania; DeFoe, author of "Robinson Crusoe"; and Sir Robert Wright, Lord Chief Justice of England.

Inside Newgate Prison many prisoners have been tortured. In fact, as late as 1723 torture was used, and until 1808 the executions were public and were made the occasion of a holiday. In 1807, when 40,000 people had gathered to see one Holloway, a murderer, executed, a panic ensued, and 100 men, women, and children were trampled to death. As late as 1788 women were burned to death in front of Newgate prison for counterfeiting, and the stocks and pillories were always full of unfortunates. Dickens thundered against the abomination of the public executions at Newgate, and it is largely due to his great influence that the reform was accomplished in 1868.

END OF WAR ROMANCE.

A Wife Who Followed Her Soldier Husband to the Philippines.

Capt. F. E. Buchanan's return home from the Philippines on the United States transport, Valencia was a sad one. He brought with him the body of his wife, who succumbed to the climate in the Philippines. Mrs. Buchanan had been a bride but a few months. When the Kansas regiment left home to fight his country's battles in the Philippines there was an understanding between Capt. Buchanan and his sweetheart, Miss Lucinda M. Smith, of Lawrence, Kan. Separation was more than the two could stand, so with the exchange of letters came a determination to join their lot in the fortunes of war.

They were married and the young bride followed her soldier husband to San Francisco. Here the first cloud fell across their honeymoon. The officers were not permitted to have the company of their wives on the transports and separation seemed inevitable. But the Kansas girl had pluck. With the wife of another officer, Col. Fred Funtston, she became a stowaway on the Indiana, and although the Government tried to prevent it she journeyed as far as Honolulu on the way to Manila before she was parted from her husband. Though compelled to leave the transport, she followed Capt. Buchanan within a few days on the regular steamer and shared his lot up to the time of her death.

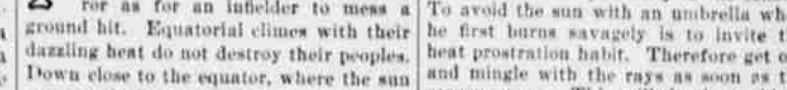
NEW ARO LAMP.

An electric arc lamp for use under water—a consummation that has baffled electricians for years—has been produced by a German firm.

The man who drinks to stimulate his appetite, stimulates his appetite for drinks.



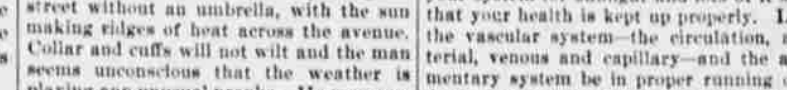
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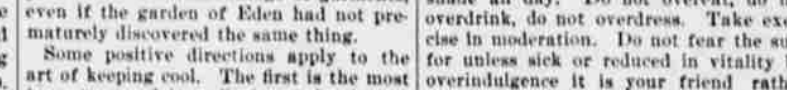
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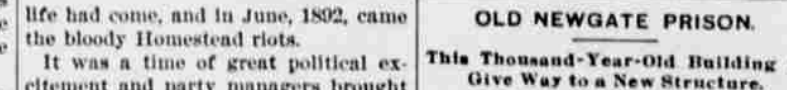
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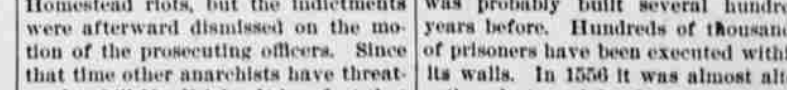
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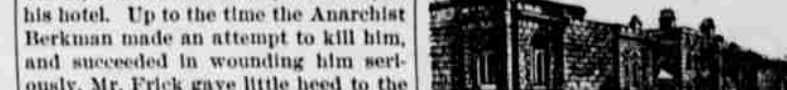
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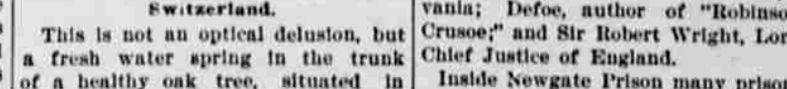
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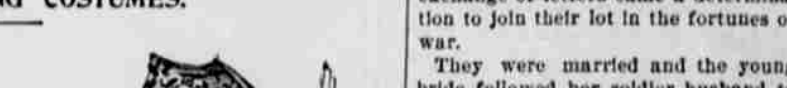
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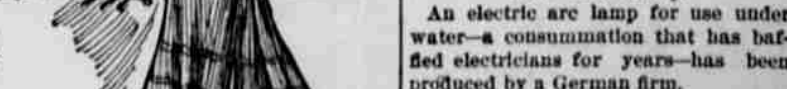
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