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**GIANT SWING ON BICYCLE.**



The "Human Whirlwind," a daring French athlete, is sending bunches of thrills up and down the spines of the spectators at the Casino in Paris, where he daily risks his life in performing the "Thriller," illustrated by the accompanying cut.

The bicycle and its rider, after descending the inclined plane, continued their course for an instant upon the semi-circular part of the track, and then, held by the rope, finish describing the circle in the air. At the moment at which the wheels of the bicycle resume contact with the ground, the rope becomes detached automatically, owing to the special form of the hooks that sustain it at its ends, and it is possible for the bicyclist to continue his journey in a straight line, the curved part of the track having been removed and the straight part lowered to the level of the ground during the short time that he was in the air.

The curved part is mounted upon two rails on which it is slid to one side, and the level part is supported by a metallic horse that is folded up when the pedal is pressed by the attendant. These two parts are manipulated at the same time by one man.

**GOV. WARFIELD ON MARRIAGE.**

He Thinks 26 the Proper Age at Which to Make Vows.

Gov. Warfield, of Maryland, has backed down as a matrimonial adviser to the girls of Maryland. Some time ago he told the high school girls of Wilmington that they should not have anything to do with Cupid until they had attained the discretionary age of 26 years. Now, to avoid the storm, the Governor, E. WARFIELD, does not cry "Joke." He has been pursued by indignant young and middle-aged females since his declaration and finally was pinned down and asked to explain.

"That remark to the young women of the Wilmington school was made playfully and without premeditation," he said. "What I said then was, 'My advice to you is not to marry too early. If asked the age when you should marry, I should say 26. That was the age of Mrs. Warfield when I married her, and I have said to my daughters that I should not give my consent to their marrying until they arrive at that age.'"

"Seriously speaking, I think that many lives are made failures by persons marrying before their characters have been formed. Young people are impressionable and romantic, and if left to their own free will are apt to rush into matrimony without properly considering the grave responsibilities of married life. Many cases have come under my observation where youthful and hasty marriages have resulted in unhappiness, discontent and lives of drudgery. The old saying, 'Marry in haste and repent at leisure,' proves too often true.

"Young women and men should remember that the romantic attachments of youth generally are not lasting. I would not wish to be regarded as laying down iron-clad rules concerning the exact age when a girl should marry. It might be at 22, 24, 26 or 28 years—it all depends upon the physical and mental development of the girl. I meant rather to indicate that a girl should not marry until she was more than 21 and of an age to comprehend the responsibility of the marriage state."

**JAPANESE ARE ECCENTRIC.**

Polltiness the Rule, from the Rickisha Man to the Hotel Porter.

The native Japanese, particularly those who have not come into close contact with modern civilization, is distinguished as much by his natural courtesy and politeness as by his aversion to clothing. The peasants in the interior are especially noted for their punctiliousness in saluting one another; even rickisha men hurrying along the road with a passenger will sometimes stop to greet a friend, while a pretty woman receives a reverence indeed. This salutation is not merely a word or a nod, but a low bow and a flourish of that little mushroom hat, and the greater friends they are the lower the bow. In saying good-by two Japs never see each other's faces, both being so busily engaged in bending their backs. As soon as one straightens himself the other bows, going backward all the while, until they consider it polite to refrain.

When a foreigner passes through a village every person he meets, from the little child to the old man, will bow most profoundly, so that the passage partakes of the nature of a triumphal procession. Your waiter at the hotel, too, would never think of turning his back until he had bowed

himself to a respectful distance, while the number of salaams he makes while taking your order would wear out an ordinary back.

Another pleasant trait of these people is their unvarying hospitality and gaiety. You may enter any house and sit down and the host and his family gather about you, offering cakes and tea, all the while chattering like magpies. Any little incident that among Europeans would pass unnoticed is quite sufficient to send these merry folk into fits of laughter.

The rural Japanese as a rule wear as few clothes as the law allows, and since in some districts there is no law on this subject the result is obvious. In fact, the children wear nothing at all in summer, while the men and women have but a scant, a very scant, apology for raiment. The national garb is, of course, the kimono, but this is often cast aside in favor of a short jacket and trousers, or among the fishermen and the farm laborers a handkerchief or other small rag. This scantiness of clothing, however, seems so natural that it rarely excites remark.

All the villages are remarkable for their cleanliness and neatness, and except for some of their sanitary arrangements are models of comfort and simplicity. Agriculture is carried on with the crudest implements, yet with a skill and care which have made a garden out of a land of barren mountains, while some of the workmen in regard to the arts of joinery and weaving might give valuable hints to our own people.

A short excursion through this country will give one a most pleasant impression of the land and its inhabitants, while their quaint courtesy and persevering industry render them worthy of considerable respect.

**Queer Tastes of Women.**

"The new waiter came to me looking scared," said the head waiter in a Chicago restaurant where many working girls take their luncheon. "I got him from a down-town place where men are served exclusively. The whims of women privileged to order their own meals frightened him.

"That girl wants powdered sugar with an order of little necks," he said, as though he expected me to fall at the news.

"Give it to her," I said, "and give her plenty of it."

"I have seen women who think steak and onions grossly unhealthy eat raw clams with sugar and olive oil. I have seen them use Worcestershire sauce, tomato ketchup and sugar as a condiment. A pinch of lemon and a dash of tabasco seems absurd to them. Olive oil is becoming more of a fad all the time in serving both oysters and clams.

"But I was nearly bowled out myself the other day when I saw a young woman who had ordered little neck clams, with a follow of spring lamb and mint sauce, sprinkle her clams with the mint sauce."—Cedar Rapids Republic.

**The Other Side of It.**

"No, Jake," said the ward heeler; "I can't put up any more stuff for you. You went against me last fall, after you had my money. The trouble with you is you won't stay bought."

"You're wrong, Pete," argued the honest voter. "The trouble ain't with me. Seems as if my vote was so blamed contrary it won't stay sold."—Judge.

**Toads and Their Huge Appetites.**  
The toad is an exceedingly greedy animal. It feeds continuously throughout the night, and in twenty-four hours consumes a quantity of insects equal to about four times its stomach capacity.

**PREDICTS MAN WILL FLY.**

Machines Now Building by Which it is to be Accomplished.

In less than five years, according to John P. Holland, of Newark, N. J., the inventor of the submarine boat,

man will spread his wings and fly like a bird. Without any more exertion than is required by the act of ordinary walking he will make flights at the rate of from fifty to 100 miles an hour. He will fly from

Chicago in a day. He will make a short flight to Washington to see his friends and will fly back home in time for supper, and without more trouble or energy than would be expended in the same time at walking; probably without as much exertion.

He will take a course with or against the wind or at any angle he wishes, at any height above the surface he may find convenient or desirable. He will beat his wings vigorously, just as any bird does, and then, settling in a fixed course, will ride the air without any more effort than does the swallow that skims and dips. He will use no airship or other device to attain buoyancy, but will simply mount to the height sought by the same means as do creatures endowed by nature with feathers.

Flying machines, or more properly improved aeroplanes, are now being constructed after designs by Mr. Holland, and the practicability of flight by them will be demonstrated as soon as Mr. Holland is sufficiently protected by patents. The machine will consist of four wings. Those with which the first trials soon will be conducted will be in two sizes, one pair 7 and the other 10 feet long. This will give a spread of from 15 to 20 feet from tip to tip. They will be applied directly to the person in such a manner that appropriate muscles will manipulate them without more exertion than is necessary for ordinary walking.

Thirty-four years ago Mr. Holland constructed his first flying machine. It did not suit him and he turned his attention to submarine boats, which he developed to success. At first the plans for his submarine boats were scoffed at by scientists and experts, but to-day almost every navy in the world is building or preparing to build such vessels.

"I expect," he says, "that people will laugh at my flying machine just the same, and I expect the theorists and scientists to tell me a man can't go up in the air without a balloon to lift him, because he is so much heavier than air. When the skeptics see a man flying around the skyscrapers and hopping to the ground as lightly as a sparrow, maybe they'll believe he can do it, too. I don't care what they think. I waited before. I can wait now."

**JAPANESE RED CROSS OFFICIALS**  
CARING FOR THE WOUNDED.



The Red Cross service, which has become so indispensable a department of every modern army, has been carried to the highest point of efficiency with the Japanese. In fact, development of the hospital corps and the means for caring for the sick and injured have been made important features in the military training of Japan.

**American Display in the Orient.**  
In the Orient, where strength, social status, in fact, everything that counts in favor of a man or a country, is estimated by exterior show it is certainly shortsighted of our government not to provide adequate display for its representatives. A few American soldiers suitably mounted and equipped as a special legation escort would go far to impress American prestige upon the minds of these Orientals. This may be avowedly opposed to Jeffersonian simplicity and our democratic ideas, but it is an established fact which other countries quickly recognize and act upon, thus securing favors for their representatives that are hesitatingly granted to people less well provided for.—Century.

**No Room to Spare.**  
Mrs. Schoppen—I'd rather have this wall paper than the other for our rooms, but unfortunately it's so much thicker.

Dealer—Goodness! What difference does that make?

Mrs. Schoppen—A great deal of difference; we live in a flat.—Philadelphia Press.

**Behind in the Rent.**  
Hewitt—His words moved me.

Jewett—Whose?

Hewitt—My landlord's.—Smart Set.

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