

Birth Rate Statistics.

is a cause of great anxiety in France that the birth rate is less than the death rate, but the state of affairs in some portions of the United States are more serious. While in France the birth rate is 22 per 1000, in Nevada 16.30 per 1,000; in Maine, 17.99 per 1,000; New Hampshire, 18.4 per 1,000; Vermont, 18.5; California, 19.4; Connecticut, 21.5; Massachusetts, 21.5; Rhode Island has 21.8 per 1,000, a little more than France, Wyoming has 18.8 per 1,000, and Oregon 22.5. If the population would be gradually falling and according to statistics the inhabitants of New England and the Pacific coast will be replaced by another within a period varying from 16 to 20 years.

River and canal improvement is an important subject in France. One of the latest propositions is to improve the Loire and its canals at a cost of \$24,000,000. The Rhone and Garonne have already been improved and the heavy expenditure is justified by results.

USE GENTLENESS.

Be gentle in stimulating the kidneys, otherwise you will excite and weaken them. The simplest results follow the use of Hostetter's stomach Bitters to overcome renal inactivity. Avoid the unmedicated, fiery stimulants of commerce. The kidneys have a delicate membrane easily irritated, and upon this the action of such excitants is pernicious. Malarial complaints, indigestion, rheumatism, neuralgia and biliousness succumb to the corrective influence of the Bitters.

For use in recording instruments where a pencil is not desirable, a new device has a small reservoir for ink, with a conical bottom, in the end of which is a small opening with a pin point running through it to act as a feeder and marker.

A first edition of Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" sold in London the other day for \$1,575. It would be interesting to know the sum the great poet received for his work.

DRUNKARDS CAN BE SAVED

The craving for drink is a disease, a marvelous cure for which has been discovered called "Anti-Jag," which makes the inebriate lose all taste for strong drink without knowing why, as it can be given secretly in tea, coffee, soup and the like. "Anti-Jag" is not kept by your druggist send one dollar to the Remova Chemical Co., 66 Broadway, New York, and it will be sent postpaid, in plain wrapper, with full directions how to give secretly. Information mailed free.

Jupiter is five times as far from the sun as we are and the years on that planet are each as long as twelve of ours.

HOW'S THIS?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligation made by their firm.

WEST & TRAVAS. Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. WALKING, KISSAN & MARVIS. Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price 75c. per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Testimonials free. Hall's family pills are the best.

Some naturalists are of the opinion that the whale was once a land animal, and that it was forced to take to water as a means of protection.

HOIT'S SCHOOL FOR BOYS

Will commence its seventh year August 10th. It is a first class Home School, prepares boys for any University, or for active business. Address, Ira G. Hoyt, Ph. D., Burlingame, Cal.

When a person falls into the water a common felt hat may be used as a life preserver, and by placing the hat upon the water rim downwards, with the arm around it, pressing it slightly to the breast, it will bear a man up for hours.

I believe Piso's Cure is the only medicine that will cure consumption.—Anna M. Ross, Williamsport, Pa., Nov. 12, '95.

Queen Victoria rules 11,475,054 square miles of territory, and 378,725,887 of population.

ABOUT IRREGULARITY.

A Chat With Miss Marie Johnson. The balance wheel of a woman's life is menstruation.

Irregularity lays the foundation of many diseases, and is in itself a symptom of disease. It is of the greatest importance that regularity be accomplished as soon as possible after the flow is an established fact.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is the greatest regulator known to medicine.

"My health became so poor that I had to leave school. I was tired all the time, and had dreadful pains in my side and back and head. I was also troubled with irregularity of menses, and lost so much flesh that my friends became alarmed.

"My mother, who from experience is a firm believer in the Pinkham remedies, thought perhaps they might benefit me. I followed the advice Mrs. Pinkham gave me, and used Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Liver Pills and am now as well as I ever was."—Miss Marie F. Johnson, Centralia, Pa.



WAS AT WATERLOO.

Woman Who Witnessed the Last Charge of the Old Guard.

One day the sister on duty at the barred door of the Convent of St. Joseph at Tacoma heard a thud knock on the heavy oak panel. She let down the chain and turned the great key, and as the door swung open saw on the porch the bent figure and wintry hair of an old woman.

"I am tired," she said, "and want to rest," and the sister led her in.

That was a number of years ago, and now, though started well upon her second century of life, Grandmother Zaszinski is rested and able to tell thrilling tales of the days when Napoleon was the world conqueror, and of that fateful day when the guns of Waterloo silenced his cry of victory forever.



MRS. JULIA ZASZINSKI. (Aged 101 years.)

She is 101 years old now, and spending peaceful days in the sunset country; but she was born in the land of Kosciusko, and when still a child removed with her parents to Prussia on the Rhine. She comes of a patriotic stock, for her father was a refugee from the country on account of his part in the Polish uprising, and clouds black with war seemed to be her life's natural background.

She was 17 years old when she heard the cannon's opening roar at Waterloo, and from a tree top, where she had climbed to get out of the way of the soldiers riding so furiously by, witnessed the last charge of the old guard in one of the most thrilling dramas ever enacted by nations.

Wellington and his staff stopped at her father's house after the victory; and soon after that one of the young troopers became her husband. She came after some troubled years in Northern France to this country with her husband and family, crossing in a clipper ship and weathering a terrific storm of many days, and then following the path of the sun westward. For many years the little group kept together, then death claimed one and marriage others, until the old woman was left alone. Now the things most recent are of little interest to her, but with mind clear and undiminished enthusiasm she recalls the events of the years long past.

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MONUMENT TO M'PHERSON.

Erected on the Spot Near Atlanta Where He Was Killed.

A monument has been erected on the spot near Atlanta, Ga., where General James B. McPherson was killed in 1864. The monument consists of a large siege gun, pointing upward, the bottom being secured in a stone foundation, bearing the name of the General. The whole is enclosed by an iron fence. The monument is on the farm



THE M'PHERSON MONUMENT.

of Mr. Dahlgren, and is carefully looked after. General McPherson was killed in one of the battles near Atlanta just previous to its capture by General Sherman. He was one of the eminent Generals of the Western forces, and his death was lamented by friend and foe.

SNUFF BOXES OF GREAT COST.

Seven Thousand Dollars Paid for One at a London Sale Recently.

Snuff boxes have long been mediums of diplomacy and the favorite object of the collector's passion. The amount of sentiment in old snuff boxes can only be appreciated by those collecting them, but as virtu their artistic attractions will appeal to the general beholder, for the fine workmanship of the very old boxes cannot be passed by. In Europe to this day a snuff box is the prize gift of royalty to courtiers deserving recognition. The snuff will be absent, but the jeweled etui is the more welcome perhaps on that account, and if not added to the family heirlooms is often exchanged at the nearest silversmith's for something more useful. A superb collection of old French snuff boxes, formed by an English gentleman, has just been sold in London, the dealers from all parts of the con-

inent and Great Britain attending en masse. The fame of this Mainwaring collection, it seems, was world-wide, for its exhibition previous to sale attracted large and fashionable crowds, besides those who came to buy. Some history or romance was attached to every piece of the 114 lots. Among the most precious was a Louis XVI, oblong gold box, the top ornamented with a blue enamel medallion, that was bought for \$1,000. One Louis XV, oblong gold box, having the top painted with a lady and two children in a room, the sides and bottom ornamented, went for \$750.

One of the most exquisite had a top of exquisite enamel, the lady's head a marvel of loveliness, and surrounded with bouquets of flowers. It cost the purchaser the tidy sum of \$1,500. But one of the most costly was a large Louis XVI, oval gold box, with six panels of green translucent enamel, top panel with an exquisite enamel of "Leda and the Swan," that brought \$2,775. An octagonal gold box of the Louis XVI, period, inlaid on top and bottom with two panels of oriental onyx, in the upper panel a medallion of a lady surrounded by a frame composed of forty-four fine brilliants, came within \$75 of the "Leda." Several of the rarest specimens had enamels by Durand after Greuze, Boucher and Fragonard.

The highest figures, however, were commanded by a large Louis XVI, gold box, with six plaques of figures, after the latter artist, in brilliant colors, for someone with money to burn paid \$7,250 for what the connoisseurs declared to be a treasure. It is improbable that these exceedingly lovely boxes ever held any snuff, but were rather used as bonbonnières, or as caskets for some yet more precious jewel than themselves.—Boston Herald.

FINEST BUILDING IN AMERICA.

The New Congressional Library and a Brief Review of Its History.

A total floor space of 327,907 square feet, almost eight acres. Four hundred thousand cubic feet of granite. Forty-three miles of shelves. These figures



AMERICA. Figure designed for the dome of the Congressional Library at Washington.

furnish an idea of the magnitude of the new library of Congress. It is not only enormous but imposing and beautiful. It is conceded to be the grandest in the world.

The library of Congress was founded ten years after the United States became a nation. It began with a \$5,000 appropriation for books and one room set apart in the Capitol. Its annual appropriation was \$450. In fourteen years 3,000 books had been accumulated. Then came the destruction of the library in 1814 by the British. A new start was made the next year with 6,700 books purchased for \$25,450 from Thomas Jefferson. In 1851 there were 50,000 books in the library. Of these 35,000 were destroyed by fire on Christmas Day the same year. In 1852 there were 20,000 books. The forty-two miles of shelves were built to accommodate the 800,000 volumes now comprising the library.

Nine years ago work on the new building was commenced under the superintendence of the late Thomas Lincoln Casey, whose death occurred too soon for him to witness the triumph of his skill. The building is now completed. It covers one block of ground and cost \$6,000,000. It has not a dark corner in it, so skillfully have inner courts been placed, aided by 1,800 windows. A vast and graceful pile in granite and marble. Without and within the finest achievements of contemporary sculptors and painters. The new Library of Congress stands foremost among the buildings of the world designed for similar uses.

Where All the Trouble Started. She—Do you think, at the rate woman is progressing, that the time will ever come when she will treat the man, instead of the man treating her?

He—I hope not. That was what got the whole human race into trouble; Eve's setting up the apples to Adam.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Not Flattering. Jack—Imitation is the sincerest flattery.

Tom—I don't believe it. I saw Bob kiss Mabel the other night, and when he saw me doing the same thing a little later he didn't seem at all flattered, I assure you.—Tid-Bits.

One Guess for every yellow ticket—in every package of Schilling's Best tea.

Don't send coupons; save them for something else.

Rules of contest published in large advertisement about the first and middle of each month. A18

Neapolitan Cruelty. Neapolitans have a bad reputation for ill-treatment of animals, and the Naples society for the prevention of cruelty to animals seems to have plenty to do. During last year its agents stopped 44,321 carts for carrying too heavy loads, and in nearly one-half the cases had the load reduced; they confiscated 41,011 sticks used for beating animals and 887 spikes used on curb chains; 2,282 convictions for cruelty were obtained.

Lord Kelvin, the great British scientist, declares that the earth is 30,000,000 years old.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.

WE ARE ASSERTING IN THE COURTS OUR RIGHT TO THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE WORD "CASTORIA," AND "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," AS OUR TRADE MARK.

I, DR. SAMUEL PITCHER, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," the same that has borne and does now bear the fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher on every wrapper. This is the original "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years. LOOK CAREFULLY at the wrapper and see that it is the kind you have always bought and has the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company of which Chas. H. Fletcher is President.

March 8, 1897. Samuel Pitcher, M.D.

Do Not Be Deceived. Do not endanger the life of your child by accepting a cheap substitute which some druggist may offer you (because he makes a few more pennies on it), the ingredients of which even he does not know.

"The Kind You Have Always Bought" BEARS THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF

Chas. H. Fletcher. Insist on Having The Kind That Never Failed You. THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 17 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

REASONS FOR USING Walter Baker & Co.'s Breakfast Cocoa. 1. Because it is absolutely pure. 2. Because it is not made by the so-called Dutch Process in which chemicals are used. 3. Because beans of the finest quality are used. 4. Because it is made by a method which preserves unimpaired the exquisite natural flavor and odor of the beans. 5. Because it is the most economical, costing less than one cent a cup. Be sure that you get the genuine article made by WALTER BAKER & CO. Ltd., Dorchester, Mass. Established 1780.

The Russian minister of the interior, acting under instructions from the czar, has alleviated the severity of the press laws in all the larger towns and cities of the empire, in fact wherever the population is over 100,000, by exempting the newspapers from the obligation of submitting all articles on political subjects to the censor before publication. Hitherto only a few of the principal papers at St. Petersburg, Moscow, Warsaw and Odessa have enjoyed this immunity.

The German military authorities have decided that in future all bicycles for the army shall be constructed in the government establishments. The imperial gun factory at Spandau will accordingly be fitted up with the necessary machinery in the course of a few days.

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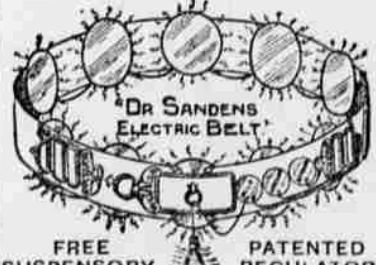
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