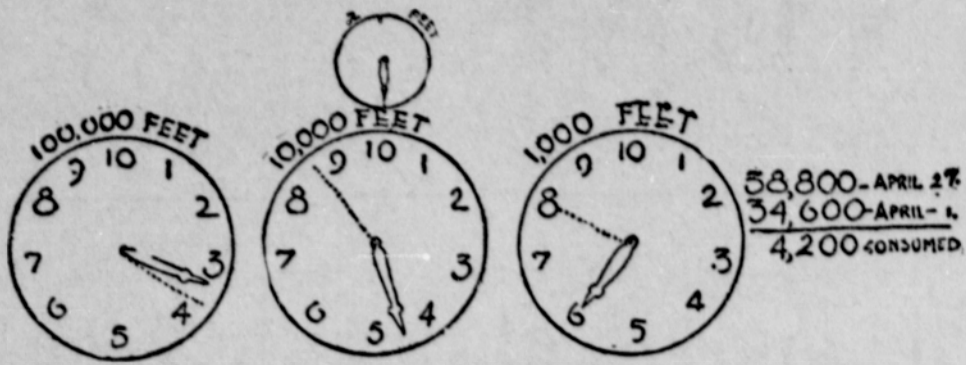


**KEEP TAB ON THE GAS INSPECTOR.**



THIS is the way to compute the amount of gas used in your house during the month, says the San Francisco Examiner. The meter tells the tale and the method is simple. On each meter are four dials. The dial on the left hand shows the hundreds of feet consumed; the one in the center the thousands; the third, the tens of thousands. The dial above the three does not concern you. It is merely for testing the meter. Every time the hand in the first dial moves one number 100 feet have been consumed. When the hand reaches 10 1,000 feet have been consumed; then the hand in the center dial moves one number. When the hand in the center dial gets around to 10 the hand in the third moves one number. The gas company never gives a meter to its consumer on which the hands of the dials point to nothing consumed. The hands are always well along in the numbers. This is done to confuse, but the computation of the gas consumed is none the less simple.

In the accompanying illustration the hand on the third dial points between 3 and 4. This means that over 30,000 feet of gas passed through the meter. On the center dial the hand points between 4 and 5, indicating that more than 4,000 feet of gas has been registered by that dial. On the first dial the hand is on the figure 6, showing that the dial registers just 600 feet. This would make altogether the number of feet registered by the meter 34,600. Now that is the condition of your meter when it is placed in your house, say on April 1. Following the dotted lines which represent the hands of the dial you will find on the third dial the hand still between the figures 3 and 4, the hand at the center dial between the figures 8 and 9, the hand of the first dial on the figure 8. This gives you 38,800 feet consumed. You started with your meter with 34,600 feet consumed. The difference, 4,200, gives you the number of feet that has passed through your meter from April 1 to April 27.

**GIRL FOUGHT WITH FIREBUGS.**

**Nebraska Teacher Who Saved a University Building.**

All Nebraska has united in paying tribute to the fine quality of courage exhibited by Miss Lether E. Watson, art teacher at the Cotner University, who defeated the plans of two determined incendiaries who attempted to destroy all the seminary buildings. The faculty voted the young woman a handsome medal, appropriately inscribed, recounting her courageous action; the citizens of the village, in mass meeting, passed resolutions complimenting Miss Watson, and Governor Poynter has written her a letter in acknowledgment of the services rendered the State, and thanking her in the name of the people.

Miss Watson was in her classroom, on the fifth floor of the university building, late in the afternoon, when she heard voices in the hall and discovered two men preparing to burn the place. They were discussing the plan, and suddenly discovered the girl. She had a penknife in her hand, and attempted to escape, at the same time attacking the men with her delicate weapon. They caught her, though she cut them both a number of times. After binding her, they attempted to make her take an oath not to try to leave the building for several hours, and to reveal nothing she had heard. This she refused to do, and was told that she would then be left to perish in the flames. Both men were masked, and at once disappeared. It was three hours before the girl was discovered by passing students and released. Evidence of the efforts of the firebugs were numerous around the elevator shaft of the building, but the fire had been smothered.

**CHURCH 200 YEARS OLD.**

**Antiquated Monument of Protestant Episcopal Faith in America.**

Right in the midst of the busiest part of Wilmington, Del., stands the grim, time-stained old gray church, the oldest living monument of Protestant Episcopal faith in America to-day. It is the Holy Trinity Church, colloquially called Old Swedes', built 200 years ago by the band of Swedish immigrants who settled on the Delaware. The erection of the building was commenced 1693, and the edifice was formally dedicated on Trinity Sunday, 1699. The size of the church inside of the walls was 60 feet in length, 30 feet in breadth, the walls being of hard gray stone. There were four doors, two windows on the north and two on the south. The roof was arched with logs and plastered and covered with cedar shingles. The pews in the church were made of fir. The aisle was seven feet in depth from the chancel to the door. The city has gradually grown around the old church, until to-day the Quick

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OLD SWEDES' CHURCH.

and the Dead are in the same spot. Amidst the hurly burly of life stands this venerable old church with solemn aspects silently bearing testimony to the existence and piety of a generation that has passed away forever.

Much time and labor have been spent on the old church in an effort to restore it to its former conditions. The wooden floor has been taken up and the original brick floor, where trod the zealous settlers 200 years ago, restored to its original appearance. The pulpit has been put back to its old place on the side.

**Zulus Fear Mothers-in-Law.**

Among the mysterious customs of the Zulus is the dread which the married man has of his mother-in-law. He is afraid to meet her and always holds up his shield to screen him from her glance when he passes her dwelling.

**THE WALTZ KING.**

**Johann Strauss Wrote the Music that Charmed Millions.**

The recent death of Johann Strauss at his home in Vienna closed the career of one of the world's greatest and most successful musicians and composers. So long as music will have charms for humanity, the rippling glide of his "Beautiful Blue Danube" waltzes will quiet the listening soul like the murmuring waters of the noble river from which they derive their name. At the age of 6 years he wrote his first waltz. His mother encouraged him in his musical studies, but his father, who was a leading musician of the day, used every means to prevent him from becoming a musician, and carried his anger to such a degree as to entirely separate him from his wife. By the aid of his mother and a few friends he continued his studies, and in 1844, at the age of 19, the Austrian capital had gone wild over him. He was the idol of the hour, and was proclaimed "Waltz King Johann Strauss Second."

Johann Strauss was a most prolific



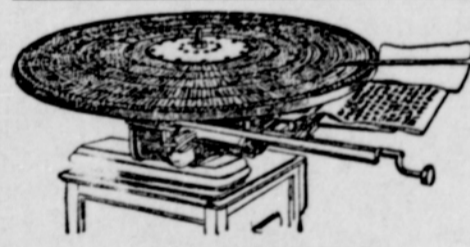
JOHANN STRAUSS.

writer. He wrote day or night, whenever the fancy took him, and he had a habit of jotting down musical thoughts on his cuffs and collars. Some of the most popular dance music ever composed was thus far recorded. The Strauss dances number nearly 500, and many of them are familiar the world over. In 1872 the waltz king made his first visit to America. In that year he accepted the invitation of Patrick Gilmore to conduct the Boston peace jubilee. During his presence he conducted an orchestra of a thousand musicians. His audiences seemed never to tire of his music, while the magnetism of the man with both audience and orchestra was simply astounding.

**CHINESE TYPEWRITER.**

**The Most Complicated and Wonderful Writing Machine in the World.**

The most complicated and wonderful typewriter in the world has recently been invented by the Rev. D. Z. Sheffield, an American missionary in China. It prints no less than 4,000 distinct characters, which are absolutely necessary for transacting ordinary business in the Chinese language. The type is cast on the under side of the



CHINESE TYPEWRITER.

wheel, shown in the picture, which is reproduced from the Scientific American. On the upper side of the wheel are pasted printed characters, each exactly over the character it represents. It takes four motions to print each character, but even then much time is saved, for in writing the Chinese characters from two to twenty-five strokes of the brush are required. Each character signifies not a letter, but an entire word.

**PRESIDENT OF BROWN.**

**An Eloquent Preacher Chosen for the University of Providence.**

Rev. Dr. W. H. P. Faunce, who has recently been selected for the Presidency of Brown University at Providence, to succeed E. Benjamin Andrews, was born in Worcester, Mass., in 1859, and was graduated from Brown University in the class of 1880. He remained in that institution as an instructor in mathematics for one year and then took a course in the Newton Theological Seminary. He was ordained to the ministry in 1884, and that same year became pastor of the State Street Baptist Church, in Springfield, Mass., the largest church of that denomination in the city. He resigned the pastorate in 1889 to accept a call from New York to fill the pulpit of the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, left vacant by the resignation of Rev. Dr. Thomas Armitage.

Dr. Armitage was one of the giants of the Baptist denomination, and some of Dr. Faunce's friends feared that the vacant minister had assumed too heavy

a responsibility in undertaking to maintain the high standard set by his predecessor. But he speedily proved himself the right man in the right place, and under his guidance the church has enjoyed continued prosperity. As a preacher he is eloquent and forcible.

**PASSING OF OLD-TIME COOPER.**

**Barrels Are Now Made Out of Sheet Metal by Machinery.**

An effort to get barrels and casks in some cheaper form than they are now made is found in the metallic barrel designed and patented by Jay G. Conderman, of Rhinelander, Wis. The sides of this barrel are pressed out of a single sheet of metal, and the proper taper is secured by a series of length-wise corrugations at the ends, forming inwardly projecting shoulders near the chimes, these shoulders being utilized to support the head. Barrels of this kind answer many purposes, and can be very economically made, the labor being performed by machinery.



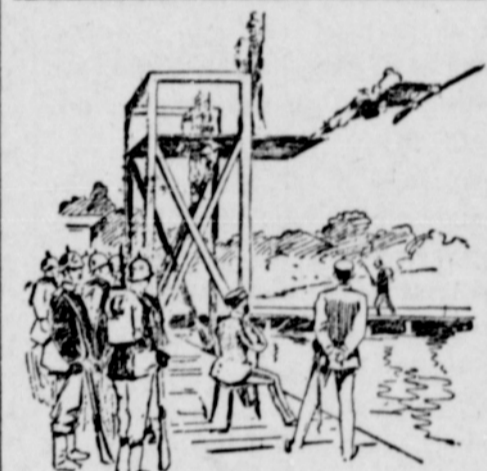
METALLIC BARREL.

**GERMAN SOLDIER'S FEAT.**

**He Is Made to Swim in His Clothes and with All His Trappings.**

Next to the British army there is probably no force in Europe so well trained as the soldiers of Germany, and without depreciating in the least the systems in vogue in our own military centers, it may be said that in certain respects the training of the German soldier is of a more practical and useful kind.

In the matter of swimming, for instance, the Germans are pre-eminently practical. It is self-evident that a thorough facility in swimming under the most difficult condition would be of the greatest advantage to a soldier in war time. This advantage the German "Tommy" is enabled to gain by a course of exercises designed for that



SOLDIERS JUMP OVERBOARD IN UNIFORM.

**WINDSOR HOTEL FIRE.**

**Monument to Be Placed Over Graves of the Unidentified Dead.**

In memory of the unidentified dead who perished in the Windsor Hotel fire in New York a monument will be erected in Kensico cemetery, where they are buried. The monument will be of granite, twenty one feet high and twenty feet wide. It will consist of a life-size bronze figure of Grief, bearing a palm, and standing beside three columns. One of the columns will be perfect, to represent those who escaped from the fire. The second will be partly broken, to represent the identified dead, while the third will be broken off at the base,



WINDSOR HOTEL FIRE MONUMENT.

to represent the unidentified dead. The memorial will cost \$7,500. The names of those who perished in the fire, but whose bodies were not recovered, will be cut in the stone.

**An Army Incident.**

A French engineer lieutenant, near Toulouse, became convinced recently that one of his men had stolen. As the soldier would not confess, the lieutenant ordered him to be shot, and put him through all the forms of a military execution, save that the firing platoon used blank cartridges. The lieutenant has been court-martialed and sentenced to two months' imprisonment.

**Tattooed Dogs.**

Tattooed dogs are now the fashion in London. A coat of arms or a monogram is marked on the throat or breast of the animal. The process is made almost painless by the use of cocaine.

**A SECRET LANGUAGE.**

**The Jargon that Children Make Up to Convey Their Secrets.**

The secret-language period is a thing of child nature. There are three distinct periods in language learning by the child. The first is the acquiring of the mother-tongue. The second period comes shortly after the time of beginning to learn the mother-tongue, and is a language made up by children who, perhaps, find themselves unable to master the mother tongue. Very few children have a complete language of this kind, but all children have a few words of such.

Then comes the secret-language period. Although in a very few cases the learning of secret languages began about the sixth year, and in some instances the period ran till after the eighteenth year, yet the vast majority of cases are covered by the period between the eighth and the fifteenth year, while the greatest use is between the tenth and the thirteenth year.

There are many reasons why children learn and use these languages. One lady confesses that she originated a language, and introduced it into a mysterious set of ten, in order to write notes in school, and she truly adds that had their teachers discovered the key they would have learned many truths.

It can never be known whether these languages originated in the first cases with children. The names would in many instances imply that children had to do with them, as they show things familiar to the child and loved by him. So in the secret languages we find animals playing an important part in the naming. The hog, dog, goose, pigeon, pig, fly, cat and other animals are attached to these languages.

The child in the old-fashioned school, where all sat together, hearing the (to him) senseless and unknown Latin, would naturally attach the name to his language, and thus give birth to Hog Latin, Goose Latin, etc. Seeing or hearing a language, one letter may strike the child's fancy, as in one the letter h is "hash," and so Hash language is the result. In another "bub" (b) finds the funny spot in child nature, and so Bub talk comes forth. The child in former days, so frequently hearing of the a-b-c's, would upon the construction of an alphabet language at once recur to such, and so name this the A-Bub-Cin-Dud language.—Century.

**The Carrying of Money.**

To the initiated, a man's nationality is betrayed by the way he carries his money. The Englishman carries his loose in his right hand trousers' pocket—gold, silver and copper all mixed up together. He pulls a handful of the mixture out of his pocket in a large, opulent way, and selects the coins he has need of. The American carries his wad of bills in a peculiar long, narrow pocket, in which the greenbacks lie flat; the Frenchman makes use of a leather purse with no distinguishing characteristics; while the German uses one gayly embroidered in silks by the fair hands of some Lottechen or Mina. The half-civilized capitalist from some torrid South American city carries his dollars in a belt with cunningly devised pockets to baffle the gentlemen with the light fingers. Some of these belts are very expensive. The Italian of the poorer classes ties up his little fortune in gayly colored handkerchief secured with many knots, which he secretes in some mysterious manner about his clothes. A similar course has charms for the Spaniard, while the lower class Russian exhibits a preference for his boots or the lining of his clothes as a hiding place for his savings.

**A Novel Explanation.**

A Georgia revenue man had a novel experience recently with a moonshiner in a suspected district.

Early one morning he discovered an old man standing near a grave in the mountain region.

But the trouble about this grave was that the revenue man had observed smoke issuing from the place where the headstone should have been.

He surprised the old man, who immediately feigned great sorrow, explaining his presence there by the statement that his brother was buried there.

At the mention of his brother he feigned great grief, and said he "never would get over it—it wuz sich a hard dispensation of Providence."

"But isn't it peculiar," said the revenue man, "that I see a stovepipe at the head of his grave, and smoke issuing therefrom?"

"Stranger," replied the weeping moonshiner, "he died in his sins, an' hit's my opinion they're a-roastin' of him down below!"

**Not According to Agreement.**

An Irish principal in a recent impromptu mill, realizing that he was being badly worsted, vigorously protested to the bystanders against the methods of his adversary.

"Shure, an' wasn't it to be a fair stand-up fight?" he excitedly exclaimed.

"It certainly was," returned an on-looker, who had been a witness of these arrangements.

"An' how, thin," retorted the defeated candidate, "can he be expectin' me to shand up and foight 'im fairly if he do be knockin' me down all the time?"

—Answers.

**NEW OUTDOOR MODES.**

