BANDON RECORDER.

SPEECHES THAT LIVE.

Oratoric Triumphs That Stand the Test of Reading.

It is often said that if a speech reads well it is not a good speech. There may be some truth in it. The reader cannot, of course, get the impression which the speaker conveys by look and tone and gesture. He lacks that marvelous influence by which in a great assembly the emotion of every individual soul is multiplied by the emotion of every other. The reader can pause and dwell upon the thought. If there be a fallacy, he is not hurried away to do something else before he can detect it. So, also, his more careful and deliberate criticism will discover offenses of style and taste which pass unheeded in a speech when uttered. But still the great oratoric triumphs of literature and history stand the test of reading in the closet as well as of hearing in the assembly. Would not Mark Antony's speech over the dead body of Cæsar, had it been uttered, have moved the Roman populace as it moves the spectator when the play is acted or the solitary reader in his closet? Does not Lord Chatham's "I rejoice that America has resisted" reads well? Do not Sheridan's and Burke's great perorations in the impeachment of Warren Hastings read well? Does not "Liberty and union, now and forever," read well? Does not "Give me liberty or give me death" read well? Do not Everett's finest passages read well?—Senator Hoar in Success.

Laughter Better Than Pills.

The cure for the bilious man is a clown, not pills. For indigestion go to a show where there are one or two first class fools who know how to make "monkeys" of themselves. The fun, however, should be clean, innocent, harmless and hearty, with no suggestion of indecency or vulgarity. In other words, the fun should be "hygienic." Fun that is foul and malodorous is unhealthful.

The best sort of fun for the dyspeptic is the fun that burlesques the follies and foibles of the odd "characters" you have met. If you can't find the show with the burlesque "artists" who can make you laugh, seek out companions who are jolly and who know the art of clowning.

Don't let any half baked idiot load your mind with his business or domestic troubles. When you get an hour or two from the desk or store, abandon yourself willingly and cheerfully to the frivolities of a jocular friend.—What to Eat.

A Stubborn Husband.

A most interesting phenomenon is the stubborn husband. He is not a bad man. He is contrary, and he has to be managed. He is usually married to a clever little woman, who is constantly devising schemes to accomplish the things which make their joint lives a success.

He has no suspicion of this. If he had, he would be so mad he could undoubtedly eat her. So all through life she goes on swinging a turnip ahead of his nose to make him go the same as though he were a balky mule. She is a cheery little body, and she grows plump with every year, and she does her smiling behind the door or she chuckles in her sleeve when he is not by. The stubborn husband is as interesting as a bug.—London Standard.

Marriage by Capture.

Marriage by capture is a very old and very widely spread custom. It prevails among the Hindoos, the Kalmucks and Circassians and the primitive races of Australia, New Zealand and America, but instead of abduction being considered an outrage by these half civilized peoples it is looked upon as a preliminary marriage rite, and, as a general rule, the coy damsel is by no means averse to the mild violence.

Abduction became so common in England in the reigns of the Tudor princes that a statute was passed on the subject, and this was followed by an act of Elizabeth which took away the benefit of clergy from the offender, and it was not till so late as the reign of George IV. that the crime ceased to be a capital offense and punishable with death.

What the White House Is.

To the American people the White House represents the personality of the president of the United States. To the politician the magic words may stand for the goal of an ambition too often associated with the deepest and most poignant disappointment, while to the historian the name may typify decisions that have marked epochs in the affairs of nations. In the mind of the people, however, the official character of the building has always been subordinate to its domestic uses. Popularly speaking, the White House is the place not where the president works, but where he entertains.—Charles Moore in Century.

A Mistake Somewhere.

"Is it true, Miss Gertie," he said, "that there are just two things a woman will jump at—a conclusion and a mouse?"

"No," she answered; "there is a third, Mr. Philip."

After thinking the matter over a few moments he tremblingly made her an offer, but she didn't jump at it. He was not the right man.

Not Appreciated.

Bjenks—It certainly seems to me that a man like Bjackson, who has worked hard all his life and brought up a family of sixteen children, deserves a great deal of credit.

Bjones—No doubt. But he can't have it at the stores.—Somerville Journal.

When you have eaten one apple dumpling, you feel like another. Wait a little, and the desire will disappear.—Schoolmaster.

Not the Same.

"It's a merciful dispensation of Providence that makes consumptives always hopeful. It's just heaven's mercy that keeps them from realizing how bad they are."

"Huh! And what is it that keeps some singers from realizing how bad they are? Would you call that heaven's mercy?"—Catholic Standard and Times.

POLLY LARKIN.

A man, who had been misjudged at home and abroad, died in San Francisco the other day, and now his family and others, when it is too late to do the quiet sleeper any good, are singing his praise and shedding tears over their lack of appreciation. He earned an excellent salary—enough to keep his wife and daughters provided with luxuries they craved and allow them to entertain in a style in keeping with that of some of their wealthier friends—but he gave them a certain allowance for household expenses and clothing and never a cent more. He was ever a kind and loving father and husband, but was firm in this one thing, he never gave a cent more than the allowance. What he did with the remainder of his money no one knew. "Lost it in speculation, possibly gambled," whispered some of the doubting friends. He didn't spend it for his own comfort, for he neither drank or used tobacco; he was not extravagant in dress, in fact the family were always hinting that he was positively shabby. As the older children reached the age that they wanted to enter society and entertain, they grew impatient and fretful when he would not add to their allowance. They said he was parsimonious and selfish and did not greet him on his return from business with the loving kiss they had been wont to do. It hurt him, but he bore it uncomplainingly. They even told friends confidentially that he was too stingy to give them enough to live on, and they in turn told their particular friends how cruel this man, who had once been a prince of good fellows, was to his family. He was never seen at a place of amusement, and he had grown gray-headed and stoop-shouldered. He was ill a long time and needed rest, but would not give up. He seemed to have drifted out of the family circle. While they were making merry among themselves or with friends he was sitting silently before the fire in his own room with a newspaper until the house became quiet so he could rest. His brother workers brought him home from his office one day ill, but he explained that it was only a fainting spell and the alarmed household calmed down and went on with their preparation for an entertainment that evening. The next morning he was worse and the family physisian was called in. "You have called me too late," he said, and informed the dying man if he had any business affairs to attend to he had better not postpone it. The weary man smiled as if he was glad he was so near the end of life's journey. A lawyer was hastily summoned and was closeted with him for some time, but he did not reveal the dying man's secret. All through the long hours of the night the family watched beside the unconscious man until the first streaks of dawn heralded the advent of a new day. Then for a moment he rallied, and smiled upon the conscience-stricken group who, too late, remembered what a good father he had been to them, and recalled the fact that he had never spoken an unkind word to them in his life. There was only a moment of recognition and then he had passed beyond the heartaches and disappointments that he had borne so uncomplainingly and silently.

"What will the family do now?" said the wise sages who invariably gather at such a time to whisper words of condolence to the mourners and map out their future, and endeavor to find out what the family has to live on. Nearly everyone knew he had made money, had been almost miserly with his family, and yet had not, as far as was known, saved a dollar. Even the family shuddered at the bleak outlook for the future. The man who was taking his first and last long rest in the narrow bed prepared for him, had been charitable to some extent, but he took no chances and always enquired into the merits of the case before he contributed. "What a spendthrift he must have been," said Mrs. Busybody as she hurried from room to room, making herself so conspicuous, as was her custom, that she had been named the "professional mourner" by many of her acquaintances. "One thing is certain, the family can never live in the same style they have been used to," said Mrs. Busybody with a sigh. "Poor things, never been brought up to turn their hands to anything. I'm sure I don't know what is going to become of them."

The doleful words of lamentation ceased and the joyful news went winging on its way when the truth was made known. He was no miser, no spendthrift, but a provider for his family. He had two or three pieces of property that would bring a small amount per month and might in time become valuable, and he had twenty-thousand dollars life insurance for his family, which insured them from being in any great need if it was rightly managed. His family had been in his mind day and night, and he was determined to provide for them in the event of his being taken away. Every dollar outside of their monthly allowance for family expenses had gone to keep up his life insurance. How easy it is to misjudge people, and how frequently we do this very thing. It is better far to give the accused the benefit of the doubt, and let someone else do the censuring.

For a long time past it has been the popular and correct thing to do when the engagement of a couple was announced, for the friends of the young lady to send her an engagement cup and saucer. My, but how they did overdo the thing. Think of a girl having five or six dozen beautiful cups and saucers, all of them expensive and the majority of them black coffee cups, dainty and as fragile as an eggshell. Many brides to be would receive enough engagement cups and saucers to fill her china closet. Polly saw an engagement cup and saucer and an accompanying plate that was prized more highly than all the other beautiful pieces of hand-painted china by the bride to be. It was of the finest ware, ornamented with gold bands, and it was over a hundred years old. It had been one of the gifts to the donor's great-grandmother, who had been presented with the full set when she herself was a bride. But the fad of the engagement cup and saucer is on the wane, says "Sallie Sharp." There are many things to be desired by a bride beside a deluge of cups and saucers, and they have changed the custom. Now when an engagement is announced a friend, instead of giving the usual luncheon in her honor, issues an invitation for a "bride's linen shower," or a kitchen, china or glassware shower. The invited guests send in care of the hostess the gifts according to the shower specified. On the appointed day, in the presence of her friends, the honored guest is greeted with a shower of useful as well as beautiful presents. A linen shower gives an opportunity for the donors to show their skill in needlework, for beautifully embroidered doilies, drawn work, hemstitching and initialing handsome sets of napkins and tablecloths, bed linen, and even to fashioning exquisite bits of lingerie, a marvel of beauty to the feminine mind, with its material of finest texture, and fine laces and ribbons are in order. The presents for the linen shower are all placed in an immense pillow-case made with a secure flap over one end, secured with ribbons so that nothing can fall out. This is suspended from the ceiling and over a table at which the bride to be is seated, chatting with friends. At a given time the hostess pulls the ribbons that tie the flap and down comes the welcome shower of acceptable gifts upon the young lady. Upon each article is attached the name with congratulations of the donor. This mode of presenting the gifts would hardly do in the case of a kitchen or china and glassware shower. They must be arranged at a table where all can see and comment on the beauty and usefulness as the case may be.

Polly knows of several friends who, when it comes to giving a wedding gift, band together. The gift they could afford, if they had to give it alone, is not as handsome or as elegant as they would desire, so these few chosen friends combine their gift money and purchase a handsome piece of cut glass or silverware, a beautiful water-color or chinaware, as the case may be. The Lenten season is passed and June, the most popular month of the year for weddings, is approaching, so the above items may be of special interest.

BRIEF REVIEW.

Canada's Game Fields.

To one who knows what the vast solitudes of Northern Canada really mean the dread of game extermination seems rather uncalled for, says the Outing. The latest census of Labrador gives it a population of one man to every thirty-five square miles. This can hardly be called an inconvenient crowding. There are almost as many persons in a single East Side New York block as there are in the whole of Labrador. Why should game become extinct in this region? I must confess I can see no reason why the caribou and the bear and the other animals should not live out their lives just as they have always done. The number killed by man must surely be quite insignificant. The same conditions obtain in Northern Ontario, the greater part of the Northwest Territory and a very large part of British Columbia. The date is far distant when there will not be sufficient game to spare for the sportsman who is content to take the bitter with the sweet and leave behind the luxuriousness of the fashionable resort.

Antitoxin's Value.

Thierry and Bertail recently reported an epidemic of diphtheria in and near Argenteuil, France. On July 2, 1900, a patient with diphtheria arrived from Dijon. Up to March 9, 1902, seventy-nine cases of diphtheria had occurred. All the patients received from 10 to 20 cubic centimeters of antitoxin, when first seen, and in many cases this was repeated in a day or two. Of the seventy-nine cases but two died, and one of these was the original patient from Dijon. Slight paralysis occurred in but four cases. The case histories of all seventy-nine patients are given in detail. These results show the great efficacy of anti-diphtheritic serum.

The bacillus of the grip is an infinitesimal affair, but it creates a world of trouble. It is said to be only one sixteen-thousandth of an inch in length and one-eighty-thousandth of an inch in breadth. It makes up in numbers what it lacks in size.

A striking resemblance has been pointed out between the remarkable ancient ruins at Zimbabwe, in Rhodesia, and antiquities in Cornwall.

Seventy-one patents covering apparatus for wireless telegraphy were issued in the United States last year, making the total number 109.

Thirty tons of cauliflowers from Italy are now being landed daily at Folkestone for the London market.

It takes ninety threads of the spider to equal in size one of the silkworm.

THIEVES PETTY AND STUPID

Modern Invention Has Driven Out the Crafty Kind.

"The people who nowadays give the detectives most trouble are the members of that vast horde of petty thieves, both white and black, that infest every great city," said one of the most efficient detectives of the Washington department. "The days of mammoth burglaries, diamond robberies and brilliant thieving operations have passed, perhaps never to return, and instead of the really shrewd, calculating and bold thief of half a century ago we have today a mob of petty pilferers, who are far from possessing one-tenth part of the brains and wit of the old time thief, but manage nevertheless to give the police a vast deal of trouble.

"The progress of invention has put the shrewd thief and burglar out of business. Say, for example, a man steals several thousand dollars. Very well. The moment he does so he realizes that in order to retain his ill gotten gains he must leave the scene of the crime, realizing that he is in nowise prepared to cope with modern detective and police methods. Probably before he leaves the city telegrams and telephone messages have preceded him to the cities of the United States and Canada, and he is nabbed the moment he reaches his destination. But supposing that he escapes all these traps and reaches some foreign country—why, he is simply in as bad a plight there as he was before leaving home. Nowadays there is hardly a government or country with which the United States has not entered into an understanding whereby criminals are caught and returned, and what few and far distant states with which our government has failed to draw up any such arrangement can be very easily managed in case Uncle Sam wants to get any of his missing children back.

"The result is that no really bright or shrewd person would think of undertaking a job of burglary or stealing in this age. None but the desperately poor, the degenerates, morphine users, the submerged tenth, so to speak, nowadays practice stealing. They are too stupid to realize the danger of such a course and plunge headlong into a career that must sooner or later land them behind the bars."—Washington Post.

FIRST OCCURRENCES.

Envelopes were first used in 1839.

The first steel pen was made in 1830.

Postoffices were first established in 1464.

The first lucifer match was made in 1829.

Kerosene was first used for lighting in 1826.

The first steamboat plied the Hudson in 1807.

The first balloon ascension was made in 1783.

Omnibuses first appeared in New York in 1830.

The first locomotive was run in this country in 1820.

The first watches were made at Nuremberg in 1477.

The first English newspaper was published in 1588.

Pins were first manufactured in this country soon after the war of 1812.

The first complete sewing machine was patented by Elias Howe, Jr., in 1846.

The first Union flag was unfurled on Jan. 1, 1776, over the camp at Cambridge.

The first newspaper printed in the United States was published in Boston on Sept. 25, 1790.

The Potato Planter.

The potato planter of today would make a farmer of a generation or so ago sit up and rub his eyes. It requires that the potatoes be supplied, but will do all the rest of its own initiative. It picks the potato up and looks it over, or seems to, cuts it into halves, quarters or any desired number of parts, separates the eyes and removes the seed ends. It plants whole potatoes or parts thereof as desired as near together or as far apart as the judgment of the farmer on the driving seat suggests. Having dropped the seed it covers it, fertilizes it, tucks it in like a child put to bed and paces off the next row with mathematical accuracy.—Chicago Tribune.

The Oldest Libraries.

The oldest libraries of which we have any certain knowledge are those brought to light by excavations among the ruins of the east. Among these are the Babylonish books inscribed on clay tablets, supposed to have been prepared for public instruction about 650 B. C. It is said by Aristotle that Strabo was the first known collector of books and manuscripts. This was about the year 330 B. C.

Our Common Woe.

"Beg pardon, sir," remarked the man who was hanging to strap No. 1, "but do you get off at the next corner?"

"I don't see that it is any of your business," replied his fussy neighbor.

"Well, no," admitted the mild gentleman, "but I was merely going to remark that I get off there and if you will be so kind as to lift I'd like to take that foot with me!"—Baltimore News.

Marvelous Memories.

Among men noted for wonderful memories were Milton, who was said to be able to repeat Homer; Professor Lawson, who boasted that he could repeat the whole of the Bible, except a few verses; Lord Macaulay, who made the same boast about "Pilgrim's Progress" and "Paradise Lost;" Dr. Lerden, a friend of Sir Walter Scott, who could repeat an act of parliament on hearing it read but once, and a London reporter, who took no notes, but could write out an unexpected debate verbatim. Henry Clay could not memorize a single stanza of a poem, but never forgot a name, a face or an argument.

A Training Table.

"Friend of mine today," said Mr. Klider, "was talking of coming here to board."

"I hope," remarked Mrs. Starvem, "you were pleased to recommend our table and"—

"Sure! Told him it was just the thing for him. He's a pugilist and wants to increase his reach."—Catholic Standard and Times.

CHOICE MISCELLANY

Navy In Need of Young Surgeons.

There is a great demand in the navy for young medical officers. The need of assistant surgeons in the medical corps is very great, there being at the present time twenty-seven vacancies in that grade. Surgeon General Rixey is trying to attract young medical men into this service. He is now in the south inspecting a hospital at Pensacola. He intends addressing several medical colleges and calling to the attention of the students the desirability of a naval career. Not long ago he delivered an address at the Jefferson Medical college, in which he dwelt upon the opportunities for young medical graduates in the navy.

The work to be performed by the medical corps in the navy is growing every year. The authorized strength of the navy now is about 38,000 and within the next six years will probably reach 50,000. The enlistments and reenlistments require the constant attendance of surgeons to make physical examinations, and besides this routine work there are fourteen naval hospitals, with naval stations, navy yards and receiving ships, where the services of members of the medical corps are needed.

Applicants for admission into this branch of the service must be between twenty-one and thirty years of age, physically sound, of good high school education and master of their profession to a degree that would insure a successful career in civil life.—Philadelphia Press.

Artistic Wall Paper.

The artistic side of the manufacture of wall paper, says the Wall Paper News, is the development of a very recent period. In this development different manufacturers and designers have had a hand. Some of these are living today and deserve all honor for their labors. If any one man has had more to do with this work than any other that man was William Morris. When William Morris first entered upon his work, there was very little that was artistic in wall paper. When he finished his work, wall paper was a thing of beauty and a joy forever. The period in which Morris worked lay between the years 1856 and 1896. Thus the influence of William Morris was so recent as to be almost present with us today, and it is not too much to say that not a line of wall paper is manufactured in this country or in England that does not show marked traces of his taste and originality.

A Navy Boy on the Navy.

Victor G. Foree, one of the Kansas City boys who are now serving in Uncle Sam's navy, is at home for a thirty days' furlough after completing a cruise around the world. He is now serving on board the battleship Wisconsin. He is immensely pleased with his chosen profession.

"I wouldn't trade places with any boy in Kansas City," he said the other day. "We get the finest treatment imaginable, and any fellow who will behave himself is given every possible chance for advancement. In addition to the technical training that we get the general education given on board the training ship is as good as you would get at many a college. We are given an especially stiff course in mathematics, as all that is needed in the study of navigation."—Kansas City Journal.

Buried Treasure.

In 1836 Willard Burson made his hermit home in what was known as Rock Creek township, Ind. White settlers moved into the locality, and Burson, not wanting neighbors, shouldered his flintlock gun and with his wife and children disappeared into the wilderness. A middle aged man came to the place a few days ago and identified himself as Burson's son. He went quietly at midnight to where the old dead sycamore tree lay and commenced digging. The farmers living near and who saw him at work say he uncovered a large box and then drove rapidly away, disappearing as his father had sixty-seven years ago. Several English gold coins were found on the ground next morning, where they had fallen from the rotten box.

The Queen and Her Cows.

The kings of Bavaria have long derived a profit from certain breweries in Munich, and now Queen Wilhelmina of Holland is making money by selling milk and butter. Her first step in this direction was when she induced her husband, Prince Henry, to buy several cows, which were placed on the rich land adjoining the castle of Loo. The cows prospered exceedingly, and the queen was so pleased with the success of the experiment that she instructed the manager of her estates to visit several stock farms and to purchase thirty of the best cows that could be obtained in Holland. This has been done, and milk and butter of excellent quality are now being sold from the royal farm.

Located by an Egg.

Miss Nancy Smith, who is employed in a department store at Paoli, Ind., placed her name and address on an egg which was included in a shipment to a Hoboken (N. J.) firm. Nothing more was thought of the matter until recently the young woman received a letter from a young man in Hoboken whose father had bought the egg of a local grocer. The name being the same as his own, he wrote telling how the egg was found. It transpired that the young woman and her Jersey correspondent were first cousins and that her father and the father of the Jersey man were brothers who were separated many years ago and knew nothing of the location of each other.

The Artist.

Palette—De Auber is the most egotistical chap I ever met.

Brusher—How's that?

Palette—Why, every time he paints a landscape he imagines he flatters nature.—Chicago News.

Deceptive Bearing.

"To hear that young clerk talk you would think he owned the place."

"How's that?"

"Why, he never says a word against his employers."—Kansas City Journal.

HUMOR OF THE HOUR

Family Bookkeeping.

"My account book," she said proudly, "showed that I had $8.15 more than I really did have, so I felt at liberty to expend the excess."

"But there wasn't any excess," he protested.

"Oh, yes, there was," she replied. "The book showed it."

"If you didn't have the money," he urged, "it was a shortage."

"Certainly not," she returned. "It was right there on the book—$8.15 more than I had—and when the balance was so much bigger than it should be I felt free to spend the money."

"If you had had more money in your purse than the book showed," he suggested, "what then?"

"I would have spent it," she answered. "Either way it's all the same."

And now he is trying to get her to give up keeping accounts.—Chicago Post.

No Sympathy.

"Charley, dear," said young Mrs. Torkins, "you know I never blame you for anything that is not your own fault."

"But when the horse you bet on loses, that isn't your fault, is it?"

"Charley, dear, the winner was just as easy a horse to bet on as any other, wasn't it?"

"Why—er—yes."

"No one forced you to bet on some other horse?"

"No."

"Then I can't see that you deserve any sympathy whatever."—Washington Star.

Bliss.

She put the book down with a sigh.

"What is it, darling?" he asked.

"Ah, dearest, I'm so happy," she replied.

"But you had such a sad look in your eyes just now."

"I know. I've been reading about the unhappiness that the wives of men of genius have always had to bear. Oh, Alfred, dear, I'm so glad you're an ordinary plug of a fellow!"—Chicago Record-Herald.

Not Worth Breaking.

Dealer—These are the most beautiful cut glass tumblers we have; $48 a dozen.

Mrs. Housekeep—I'll take them, but I want you to label them "Seconds. Imitation cut glass, $1.59 a dozen."

Dealer—That's a remarkable request.

Mrs. Housekeep—Yes. It's merely to deceive the servant girl.—Philadelphia Press.

Covered the Bet.

"I hear Jim Jonsing's dun got pinched. What's got him in trouble?"

"His sportin' blood. He bet de copper dat he wouldn't arrest him."

"What did de cop do?"

"He took him up."

Launched on His Literary Career.

"I understand your son has decided to go in for literature."

"Yes, and he's made a splendid start already."

"You don't say?"

"Yes; he went to auction this morning and bought a secondhand writing desk for only $4.98."—Catholic Standard and Times.

The Unhappy Author.

Little Brother—Let's see. What is the title of that new book of yours, Mr. Scrybbler?

Mr. Scrybbler—"The Boundary Line."

Little Brother—Oh, yes. I suppose that's what sister was trying to say when she said it was "The Limit."—Baltimore American.

Apprehensive.

"Those Vermont farmers who say they'll have to bear their maple sugar disappointment philosophically seem to have the right sort of grit."

"Yes; I'm afraid, however, that a good deal too much of their grit will be found in the maple sirup."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Plenty of Room.

"Yes," said the detestable bore, "at that moment my heart was in my mouth."

"Of course that didn't inconvenience you," said the sarcastic person, "for your heart is so small and your mouth is so big."—Baltimore Herald.

She's Right.

She—I'm right because I'm right!

He—How do you know?

She—I'm right because I'm right. I don't need to know.—Pittsburg Gazette.

The Vale of Silence.

"And now our old time friend Meekly, has joined the silent majority."

"What! Meekly dead?"

"No; married."—Atlanta Constitution.

Just So.

Little Elmer—Papa, what is the bone of contention?

Professor Broadhead—The jawbone my son.—Judge.

Agreed.

"My wife and I agree perfectly about some things," remarked Mr. Meekton, with a gentle smile.

"Indeed?"

"Yes; when anything goes wrong I take it for granted that it is my fault, and Henrietta always thinks so too."

She's Right.

She—I'm right because I'm right.

He—How do you know?

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FACTS IN FEW LINES

Vesuvius, the famous Italian volcano, is 3,948 feet high.

Next to Liverpool Bremen is now the leading cotton market of Europe.

Scotland shipped 11,279,422 tons of coal last year, constituting a record.

The growth of vegetarianism in the United States is gradual, but persistent.

In engine propelled cycles British makers can claim pre-eminence of the world.

Fifty million gallons of petroleum were produced in Burma and Assam last year.

The Roman Catholic nuns in the world are alleged by a statistician to number 458,000.

The tight fitting British uniform is alleged to be the cause of much heart disease among soldiers.

Within twenty years the south has increased its railway mileage 162 per cent and its exports 95 per cent.

The bicentenary of the founding of St. Petersburg by Peter the Great in 1703 will be celebrated this year.

Two sections of the city of York, England, have a public house to every thirty males over seventeen years of age.

One hundred and seven thousand tons of peanuts were bought at Marseilles in 1902 for use in making olive oil soap.

The Homestead mills produce, with about 4,000 men, three times as much steel as the Krupp works produce with 15,000 men.

That the gas engine, large or small, is now developed to an efficiency at which it can rival the steam engine in reliability is admitted.

A link with Ireland's literary history of the last century has been severed by the death of the wife of Colonel Robertson of the Gordon highlanders.

The Royal Geographical society has recently acquired the boat's compass used by Dr. Livingstone on his first journey down the Zambezi valley in 1856.

An English writer has recently described a battleship as the last word mechanical genius, naval construction and cash payment can say in aggressiveness.

Six employees of a Barrow (England) engineering firm have received prizes ranging from $5 to $50 for suggestions tending to the more economical production of work.

In the electrical furnaces now in use quartz is volatilized at relatively low temperatures, and lime and magnesia become vapor before the highest temperature possible is reached.

During practice at St. Helena's fort, Isle of Wight, at a towed target a shot ricochetted from the sea and struck the passing steamship Serbistan close to three men standing on the deck.

Out of 150,000 children whom the surgeon at Leeds, England, has examined as to their fitness for factory labor 50,000 were found to be rickety in consequence of improper feeding when babies.

The British government recently appointed unpaid vice consuls in four large towns in France, where such posts have not hitherto existed, and found in each case well qualified British residents willing to undertake the duties.

The total value of the exports of animal products in 1902 was about $3,000,000 greater than the like exports of the previous year, but there was a decrease of nearly $8,000,000 in the value of cattle exported. This was due to the sharp demand for beef cattle in this country.

The nearest star, whose distances astronomers think they know, is Alpha Centaur, and it is distant from us four light years—that is to say, its light is four years in reaching us, although traveling at 186,000 miles a second. This estimate places it 252,000 times as far away as the sun.

The national trades and labor congress of Canada has issued an appeal to organized labor to join with it in advancing the interests of Canadian labor. The congress is a new body, resulting from the action of the Dominion trades congress in favoring international as against national unions.

The governments of German cities were prior to the law of 1892, which Bismarck championed, notoriously corrupt through spoils of politics, but are today the models of efficiency and honesty. The prominent features of the law for their deliverance are home rule, compulsory service of the citizens in municipal affairs, long tenure of office and civil service.

An eminent English student of economics, Professor Smart, regards the trusts in Britain "as in the main the elimination of the unnecessary—the unnecessary persons, the unnecessary process, the unnecessary machinery of production and distribution. They mean smaller cost of raw materials, the dispensing with costly advertisements, larger shipments, fewer middlemen and a smaller staff."

A somewhat remarkable textbook for the use of young German soldiers has just been published. It deliberately instructs soldiers to inform their superiors of all kinds of offenses committed by their comrades. Services of this character are stated in the textbook to be a high duty and worthy of commendation. If the soldier hears anything derogatory to his officers or to the kaiser, he is to fetch a policeman.

At the present rate the British government soon will cease to be English. It will be composed of Scotsmen and Irishmen. The present prime minister is a Scot, as are the leader of the opposition, the chancellor of the exchequer, the attorney general and the secretary of the board of trade. The lord chancellor, the solicitor general, the secretary for India, the foreign secretary, the war secretary and the chief secretary for Ireland, all are Irishmen.

Compliments.

Miss Koy—In discussing the "galaxy of beauty" at the ball the other night Mr. Grafton paid me quite a compliment.

Miss Speits—The idea! That's so unlike him. I never before heard of his paying anything before it's due.—Philadelphia Press.

One might as well attempt to rearrange the rainbow colors of a soap bubble as to undertake the reformation of one's neighbors.—Chicago News.