

## Topics of the Times

Yes, there was a Hague conference in the year 1907.

When high financiers fall out the people may not get their dues, but they learn a lot from both sides.

The price of nearly all household necessities, with the exception of Teddy bears, is still going steadily up.

If the old guard in finance should retire John D. Jr. would invite confidence. He is a prudent young man.

Mrs. Melba says Americans "are really a musical people." Mrs. Melba is evidently going to make some more tours through this country.

President Roosevelt's ideas about women are not all of the good old-fashioned variety, like anti-race suicide. He approves of women riding astride.

King Chulalongkorn's subjects will pay to do considerable economizing to have his majesty's bill for giving the entire city of Hamburg that expensive "rest."

Knowledge is a great thing, but it doesn't add anything to the happiness of mankind to know, for instance, that there are 125 different kinds of mosquitoes.

The King of Spain, it is said, has been cured of snoring, but the men who occupy the berth just across the aisle from you in a sleeping car is a hopeless case.

A contemplative man has found a really formidable reason for opposition to 2-cent fares. His experience is that the new rate has made it easier for his wife's relatives to go a-visiting.

That woman who has declared that "a wife should always get half her husband's salary" is bound to be regarded as a piker by the women who have been getting three-fourths.

Since it has been found that Hamlet really lived, the average playgoer will feel a deeper thrill of sympathy for the unfortunate prince. He has been foully murdered thousands of times.

Mr. Rockefeller's income from Standard Oil is \$19 a minute. He is the one man in the country who can afford to eat porthouse steak at the present prices. But then it doesn't agree with him, and so he joins us in the same old "round."

One of the San Francisco newspapers offered a prize for the best answer to the question: "When is a man intoxicated?" The money was awarded to a subscriber who wrote: "When he kisses the bartender good night." Only unreasonable people will be likely to accuse the judges of unfairness in making their decision.

It has been discovered that the modern tourist is not the only person who has scribbled his name on the walls of public buildings. Mr. H. H. Hall, an English Egyptologist, said, in a recent lecture on the excavations at Thebes, that he had noticed on the tomb of Ramesses IV, a remark written by an ancient Greek tourist.

Not to be outdone by the submarine exploit of the President of the United States, Monsieur Clemenceau, the French premier, made an ascent in Paris the other day in a steerable war balloon. During the trip a pipe burst, and the premier was splashed with hot water. It took twenty minutes to make the needed repairs, and during this time the balloon remained stationary "above the city."

In the interests of a false economy a telephone man has ordered his operators to stop saying "please," and requested subscribers to abstain from the same useless and wasteful word. He has computed that the use of "please" costs the company a hundred and twenty-five hours a day. In the presence of this discourteous thrift one remembers with pleasure the extravagant Governor of an eastern State who began his official telegrams, "Dear sir," and ended them, "Yours truly." The commonwealth paid for the extra words, but no watching of the treasury could have barked at the additional expense.

A few days ago officials of the New York police department, acting under Commissioner Bingham's orders, took 5,000 revolvers out to sea beyond Sandy Hook and then they ordered the extra words but no watching of the treasury could have barked at the additional expense.

Suddenly a gap opened behind the man, almost unconsciously he slipped through, and the line closed once more. A bystander reached over and placed a hat on the man's bare head, and the people crowded about him as if to hide him.

A little later a man, his hands behind him, was seen in the Champs Elysees, walking with the air of taking a quiet stroll. This man was said to have spent the next night in a ditch, and to have afterward made his way to Russia. If this person, saved by a fortunate accident or by collusion, was Leonard, the story explains the mystery of the two death certificates.

## ANIMALS FELL FROM GRACE.

Changed Their Habits and Became Enemies of Human Race.

The notoriety gained some years back by the New Zealand "red," which from being a farmer's friend, developed into one of his most dreaded enemies through the acquired taste of the huge cockatoo for the kidney fat of the living animal, is paralleled in many other instances in the German colonies, says the Philadelphia Record. A German zoologist relates how the chacma baboon has now become a regular scourge in some parts of southwestern Africa, for an unexpected reason. It is perfectly notorious that it has largely taken to killing lambs for the purpose chiefly of sucking the milk with which the lambs have filled their stomachs.

The reason that this animal has, if anything, increased in the colony during recent years is twofold. First, the alarming spread of the prickly tree in some districts has provided it with almost impenetrable shelter and abundant food, as it is fond of the fruit, and also eats the leaves. Secondly, it has become so cunning that only by means of artful maneuvers can one get a shot at it. A friend of the zoologist, whose wife could approach a troop of baboons without disturbing them, borrowed one day her cloak and hat and then went out. They let him approach to very close quarters and two of them were shot before the remainder got into shelter.

Sometimes the farmers of a district combine and during the night surround their sleeping place. As soon as the day breaks and the baboons try to escape they are shot down in large numbers, but this method of reducing their ranks is not always practicable.

The baboon is not the only South African animal which has during recent times changed its habits. Thus, the so-called "wet-gut" was formerly never known to touch fruit, its food consisting chiefly of insects, but during recent years it has, at all events on some farms with which the above zoologist is acquainted, become very destructive to fruit.

Another case which possibly comes under the same category is that of the Maanhaar jackal. Many districts in South Africa are paying a high reward for this animal because it is destructive to small stock. This, however, is only in certain districts. In others the animal has not changed its habits. This may be due to the fact that, with the advance of civilization, its natural food is falling.

## A MYSTERIOUS ESCAPE.

History contains many an interrogation point which has never received a decisive answer. Who was Kaspar Hauser? And the Man with the Iron Mask? What became of the Dauphin? These are questions asked over and over, and answered in many ways. Not the least puzzling of such mysteries is that connected with the hairdresser of Marie Antoinette, an important person in his way, and one who managed to leave a conundrum behind him for all the world to guess.

It is not a common occurrence—that of two dying, says Monsieur Lenoire, in his "Flight of Marie Antoinette." It is rarely a man's name appears twice in the same death register unless there is a substitution or a subsequent revision. Nevertheless, Jean Antie, alias Leonard, a Gascon, born in 1758, has the honor of being so distinguished. Leonard was a hair-dresser who acquired a huge reputation in Paris for his ingenuity in executing the elaborate and ridiculous coiffures of the time of Louis XVI. In 1791 he was living at the Tuileries as valet de chambre of the queen.

When Marie Antoinette and the royal family made their fateful attempt to escape from France, Leonard was seen on ahead as a sort of scout. He was arrested, brought back to Paris, and condemned to be executed.

So far as any one then knew, he was guillotined with every formality, and his death properly recorded. It has been proved for a fact, however, that this former hair-dresser was alive in Russia in 1814, and the Paris register shows his second death certificate in 1820.

Just how he managed to evade the penalty which the officials evidently had no doubt he suffered has never been definitely proved. One explanation offered by puzzled historians seems reasonable, and is possibly a true one. One day, when a group of prisoners were awaiting their turns to be guillotined, the machine broke down, and had to be repaired. A number of victims had been executed; ten or a dozen were forced to stand and wait until the mending was done.

One man, the twentieth on the list, his hands bound behind him, growing faint at the delay, leaned against the barrier of officers which separated the prisoners from the crowd of spectators. Suddenly a gap opened behind the man, almost unconsciously he slipped through, and the line closed once more.

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## LEGAL INFORMATION.

The acquisition of the life estate by the reversion is held, in McCreey vs. Coggshall (S. C.), 7 L. R. A. (N. S.), 633, to merge in fee in him, and to make out an intermediate contingent remainder, unless an intention that it shall not do so appears.

That there is no implied exemption of State bonds from taxation is declared in State Nat. Bank vs. Memphis (Tenn.), 7 L. R. A. (N. S.), 663, and an attempted exemption of such bonds is held to violate a constitutional provision that all property shall be taxed.

Personal property of a non-resident, which, for the performance of a railroad construction contract, is in the State on the day taxes are to be assessed, is held, in Eoff vs. Kennedick (Ark.), 7 L. R. A. (N. S.), 704, to be subject to assessment, under a statute making taxable all real and personal property in the State.

Failure to obtain the father's consent before administering an anesthetic to a youth 17 years old, who, in company with adult relatives, has applied to a surgeon to be relieved from a small tumor, is held, in Bakker vs. Welsh (Mich.), 7 L. R. A. (N. S.), 612, not to render the surgeon liable to the father for the death of the boy under its influence.

The removal of a suit from a State to a federal court is held, in Young vs. Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company (S. C.), 7 L. R. A. (N. S.), 591, not to confer upon the latter such exclusive jurisdiction that, upon its entering an order of discontinuance, plaintiff cannot institute a new action upon the same cause in the State court, laying the damages so low as to prevent a second removal.

The defective condition of the track upon which cars are run in a mine, by reason of which a car, loaded by a miner who is paid by the amount delivered at the pit mouth, gets off the track, is held, in Cavanaugh vs. Centerville Block Coal Company (Iowa), 7 L. R. A. (N. S.), 607, not to be the proximate cause of an injury due to his plucking his fingers between the car and an implement which has been employed in attempting to get the car back on the track, where he was at liberty to suit his own convenience and employ his own methods in replacing the car.

One day the Mellon Bank in Pittsburgh was amazed to receive from an unknown man a signed check for \$20,000. He had very little to offer in the way of security, the writer said, but he pledged his word that if the loan was made it should be returned with interest.

The audacity of the request interested the bank's head, and he sent a trusted agent to find out about the man Frick. When the agent made his report the bank decided to make the loan.

That \$20,000 was the foundation of the colossal fortune of Henry Clay Frick. Not only did he return the principal with interest, but the business which he subsequently gave the Mellon Bank was worth a hundred times the amount of the original loan.

There never was an ugly man who did not excuse his looks by thinking he was smart.

It is always a temptation to mock anyone you dislike.



## To Destroy Thistles.

Salt or kerosene, applied after the clump of thistles is cut down, will destroy them, but such method is slow and costly where the field is in possession of the pest. Many other methods have been suggested for their application. A piece of root stock an inch long if left in the soil will make a foundation for a new crop. A piece 2 inches long will grow 8 to 10 feet in six months, and weigh 3 or 4 pounds, and from each small piece from forty to fifty heads will grow. An old rule is to "plow the land in June, drag twice in July, plow 2 or 3 inches deep two or three times in August and harrow each time." Any tool that will cut off the tops in August or early in September will destroy them, as they cannot live if the tops are cut down. Experiments made at the Illinois station succeeded in completely exterminating them by observing the following rules: (1) Cut the thistles when in full bloom, as close to the ground as possible, and then plow 3 inches deep, sowing milled or Hungarian grass, seeding heavily, and then harrow. (2) In September plow the millet under and then seed heavily with rye. Plow the rye under in May and again seed to millet or Hungarian grass (or plant a clover crop, such as cabages or potatoes). (3) Continue the close cultivation, being careful to keep the weeds cut down from July until frost. If frost is not here too soon the constant cutting down of the thistles as fast as they appear will greatly reduce their number or exterminate them.

Best for the Farm. The plank boat illustrated herewith is made for general farm work and is used in winter to draw manure from the yard and stable to the field. It is constructed of four ten-inch, crooked maple planks, two and one-half inches thick, with an 8x2 1/2-inch frame planned and bolted on for sides. It has an iron clasp made of old wagon tire, bent and bolted or clinched, nailed across the top of the back end and top of the sides, as indicated, to hold them firmly in place. The front end has a 2x8-inch piece bolted on top.

Its greatest utility lies in the hinged or swiveled tongue, made with two clasps or cleaves to hold it to the boat. On each side is a chain brace made of four long links, attached to the tongue and bolted or clinched, nailed across the top of the back end and top of the sides, as indicated, to hold them firmly in place. The front end has a 2x8-inch piece bolted on top.

up for a stiff tongue and unhooked when desiring to make a short turn. Being links, they will not bend or break when turning; therefore, are allowed to drag until wanted up again. With this attachment, one can go down hill without bumping the team's heels; and the boat can be turned or backed up to a desired place better than a sled.

Threshing Stacked Grain. In the majority of cases it pays to stack grain in the corn belt, or in sections where diversified farming, in distinction from all small grain or one-crop farming, is conducted. The difference in the cost of shock-threshing and stacking and stack-threshing is comparatively small, smaller than the average farmer realizes. We have a few figures on the subject from the Minnesota Experiment Station which will be of special interest in this connection.

The cost per bushel of shock-threshing wheat was 74 cents, while the cost of stacking and stack-threshing was 10.1 cents per bushel, a difference of 27 cents per bushel. In the per bushel cost mentioned all labor, machine cost, etc., is taken into consideration. Let us see what this means: Under ordinary conditions stacked grain will grade at least one grade above grain that is threshed from the shock, and in a wet season the difference may be yet more than that.

If you watch the markets you will find there is usually a difference of 2 cents in the price of No. 1 Northern and No. 2 Northern wheat. This means that the gain of one grade in wheat nearly pays the extra cost incident to stacking and stack-threshing as compared with shock-threshing.

The Farm Icehouse. An icehouse should be so constructed as to have a double wall (or air space) surrounding that portion above ground, and the cost of such is but little compared with the protection afforded. There should also be double doors. It is not difficult to keep ice in a building above ground if the double walls are used and the ice securely packed.

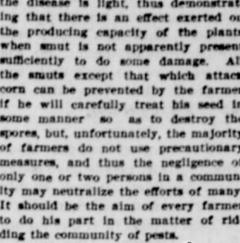
To Make Lean Pork. There are countries which grow pigs without corn, and feed the wastes of the dairy, with barley, oats, peas or roots, and make lean hams and bacon, which are most choke. This accounts for the great favor with which the English hold Danish pork.

Praying Crop. Generally speaking, farmers sow oats for the purpose of changing or resting the ground and expect little or nothing in return, viewed from a financial standpoint. This year they were all agreeably surprised. Oats have been yielding from forty to sixty bushels per acre, and are selling readily at 40 cents per bushel. The straw is worth from \$5 to \$6 per ton, which, all told, makes the oat crop of 1907 a source of considerable revenue.—King City Democrat.

## Varieties of Smut.

There are several varieties of smut that are known as the "stinking" smut, or blunt, attacking the kernels of wheat, while the variety known as "loose" smut attacks the whole head, converting it into a mass of loose, dusty spores. The loose smut of oats is also another variety, and is very similar to that of wheat. Barley is attacked by two smuts and rye by one. Corn smut does not do so much damage as the other kinds, but is more widespread. There is no known remedy for corn smut. Experiments made in treating the seeds of wheat, oats, barley, etc., show that by preventing smut the yield of crops is greater, even when the disease is light, thus demonstrating that there is an effect exerted on the producing capacity of the plants when smut is not apparently present sufficiently to do some damage. All the smuts except that which attacks corn can be prevented by the farmer if he will carefully treat his seed in some manner so as to destroy the spores, but, unfortunately, the majority of farmers do not use precautionary measures, and thus the negligence of only one or two persons in a community may neutralize the efforts of many. It should be the aim of every farmer to do his part in the matter of ridding the community of pests.

How to Trap Pigeons. Boys sometime have a hard time catching their pigeons. The picture shows how a trap can easily be made.



Hogs for Slaughtering. Hogs to be slaughtered should not be fed twenty-four hours before slaughtering. They will not bleed freely. Nor should they become heated by chasing, or any other cause. It likewise has a tendency to check the flow of blood. Nor should a hog be scalded until fully expired. After the hog is hung up and the intestines, lungs, heart and all are removed and washed out, split the hog right through the center, leaving a small attachment near the tail and at the end of the snout, so as not to overbalance it; and as soon as the leaf lead is cold enough to be principally removed, take it out. This will insure the perfect cooling of the meat. This last precaution was learned from large lumbering concerns and packers in the early days when selling dressed hogs. We have found it a safe practice. The heavier the hog the more essential its quick and perfect cooling. Never allow meat to freeze solid, or pack it in a frozen condition, for it is sure to spoil.—Nebraska Farmer.

Cast of Handling Farm Products. Frank Andrews of the United States Agricultural Department, writes: "In hauling products from farms in savings there are opportunities for a saving in cost. In many regions in the United States the improvement of a road, or a short, rough section of a road, would allow much larger loads to be hauled than at present. If it were possible to increase the average weight of an ancient date, German explorers are reported to have said that the ruins originated with the civilization of the Arabs. However, not only the age of the ruins but the name and history of the ancient city of which they are composed continued a mystery until recently.

Christmas day, 1903, we began excavating at Bismya and the result was the discovery of the oldest temple in the world. The walls of the tower soon appeared, the summit was cleared and the first inscription discovered upon the surface was a brick stamped with the name of Dungi of 2750 B. C. Just beneath it were other bricks bearing the name of Urur of 2800 B. C. A little lower appeared a crumpled piece of gold with the name of Naram Sin of 3750 B. C., and just below that level were the large square bricks peculiar to Sargon of 3800 B. C., probably the first of the Semitic kings of Babylonia. Although we had dug but a meter and a half below the bricks of Dungi we had revealed several strata extending over the period from 2750 B. C., or more than 1,000 years, and still eleven meters of earlier ruins lay beneath us. We dug lower. Unknown types of bricks appeared, and two and a half meters from the surface we came upon a large platform constructed of the peculiar plano-convex bricks which were the building material of 4500 B. C.

The Peach Tree Borer. The insect that deposits the eggs which hatch the peach borers is a wasp-like insect, with transparent wings and a richly-ornamented body, banded and striped with gold, which deposits its eggs about the base of the trunk. The eggs hatch out the larvae, bore into the sap wood and cause an exudation of gummy matter, which appears in masses about the base of the tree. The larvae seem partly to live in this gummy substance and partly in the sap wood of the tree. Sometimes three or four are found on the same tree, occasionally gnawing and destroying it, but always inducing more or less of a diseased condition and impairing its vigor. Altogether, it is a very objectionable and destructive insect, and the eggs are deposited both in the fall and spring.

Full Feed for Cows. The profits derived from selling milk cows is at no time so great as during a drought in midsummer; yet most farmers retain their green fodder until just before winter sets in, and they do this when they must know that if a cow is allowed to nearly dry up in the milking season she will probably not recover. In the fall grass is usually abundant, and there are pumpkins and vegetables and grain in plenty, the corn fodder being but little needed.

A Dog and His Name. "There was a dog case which excited much attention in Berlin some years ago," said a former resident of that city. "A citizen complained to the authorities against a neighbor who, he said, to annoy him, gave his name to a mongrel cur. 'He calls my name,' he said, 'and when I turn around he laughs and says he was calling his dog.' 'What's your name?' asked the magistrate. 'My name is Schulz.' 'And do you call the dog Schulz?' he asked the other man. 'Yes, your honor, but I spell it with a T—Schultz.' 'Call him without the T,' commanded the magistrate, trying to look serious. The man did so, the dog came to him and an order to change the name or be fined followed."

It seldom pleases a man to be told of the goodness or greatness of another.

## LITERARY LITTLEBITS

Mrs. Michael Davitt is collecting the documents left by her late husband with a view to having an authentic life prepared. She solicits the loan of any letters or papers received from him by his friends, and undertakes their prompt return.

"Smokeless Sin" was the title first selected by Prof. E. A. Ross for his volume of essays on certain well-considered political evils. But at President Roosevelt's suggestion, the book is to be called "Sin and Society." Mr. Roosevelt indorses it and is godfather, to the extent of an introduction, as well as a Christian.

H. Fielding Hall, author of "The Soul of a People," has in the press a volume called "The Soul of the World." The new book seems to be an interpretation of Buddhism and Christianity, unfavorable to the latter. Mr. Hall's study of the Burmese is one of the most interesting books in English on an eastern people.

Chicago has some years to spend before it can survey its streets in the fashion adopted by the London Daily News as follows: How many readers of The Chicagoer have passed down Young street to the Kensington postoffice and been aware that in No. 11 those immortal words, "Vanity Fair," "Edmond" and "Pendennis" first saw the light? Gower street, again, is a somewhat monotonous street of prosperous-looking middle-class houses. Few people know that in No. 110 Charles Darwin wrote certainly not his "Origin of Species," but his famous work on "Coral Reefs." Again, in 56 Great Queen street, Boswell wrote a considerable portion of his famous "Life of Johnson." At 5 Frith street, Soho, William Hazlitt during the last six months of his life wrote some of his most notable essays. As for Charles Dickens, London teems with memories of that great novelist. At 48 Doughty street he began "Barnaby Rudge," finished "Pickwick" and "Oliver Twist," and wrote "Nicholas Nickleby." At 1 Devonshire Terrace he finished "Barnaby Rudge" and "Dombey and Son" and wrote "The Old Curiosity Shop," "Martin Chuzzlewit," "The Christmas Carol," "David Copperfield," "The Cricket on the Hearth" and "The Hunchback of Notre Dame." At Tavistock House he wrote "Bleak House," "Little Dorrit" and "A Tale of Two Cities." Henry Fielding wrote "Tom Jones" in a house on the site of the present Bow street police station, and Smollet wrote "Roderick Random" and "Pamela" at Monmouth House, Upper Chancery row. Richardson's "Pamela," "Clarissa" and "Grandison" were written at The Grange, North End, Hammersmith, occupied for some time by Sir Edward Burne-Jones. At 24 Ceyne row the sage of Chelsea, Thomas Carlyle, wrote "The French Revolution," "The Life of Frederick the Great," "Past and Present," "Oliver Cromwell's Letters and Speeches" and "The Life of John Sterling."

WORLD'S OLDEST CITY. Bricks Taken Out of Ruins at Bismya Bear Date of 4500 B. C. In a sand-swept belt of central Babylonia, that country of ancient ruins, in a region dangerous and deserted because far from water, and on the border of the territory of several hostile Arab tribes, lies the low ruin of Bismya, says Dr. E. J. Banks in Putnam's Magazine. Few explorers have ever visited it, and those few did so at the peril of their lives. Dr. Peters of New York, while excavating at Nippur, discovered at Bismya a clay tablet of an ancient date. German explorers are reported to have said that the ruins originated with the civilization of the Arabs. However, not only the age of the ruins but the name and history of the ancient city of which they are composed continued a mystery until recently.

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## CURE FOR SEA SICKNESS.

Old Sailor Prescribes a Looking Glass—Keep Your Eye on It. A new remedy has been discovered for seasickness, according to the London Express. An old sailor has proved that a pocket looking glass is an infallible cure.

The looking glass cure must be taken immediately the sufferer steps on board ship. The prescription directs the patient, when the first undesirable feeling comes on, to take out the pocket looking glass and look himself fair and square in the eyes.

The result is alleged to be that the rolling of the ship, and even the smell of the engine, will pass unnoticed, and a little perseverance will transform a bad sailor into a good one.

An Express representative consulted a west end physician yesterday on the new cure.

"It is a very curious fact, and one for which it is difficult to account," said he, "that a casual glance in a looking glass may arrest seasickness. It may be that the sea-sickness countenance is responsible for introducing a vein of humor, and the sufferer resolves to 'cheer up.'"

"Personally, I think there is a more scientific reason. It is well known among sailors that the rise and fall of the horizon is responsible for the early stages of this distressing malady. Physicians in consequence often recommend their patients to try to fix their eyes on some immovable object, such as a ring on their finger, or a book held firmly on the knee. The looking glass is probably the same kind of antidote to the movement of the ship.

"It would be necessary, of course, to hold the glass firmly and fix the gaze steadily on the reflected image.

"The looking-glass remedy may be something in the nature of a faith cure. If the attention can be absolutely concentrated on the image in the glass and all thought of illness banished, there is an excellent chance that the voyage will have no bad effects.

"With regard to the length of time required for the cure, it is a general fact that if sickness can be successfully warded off for several hours the symptoms are not likely to recur, except in cases where no remedy will relieve the unfortunate sufferer and sea and brain sickness are interchangeable terms."

SAVED BY THE TELEPHONE. The wedding guests had assembled, the preacher was in readiness, and it lacked but fifteen minutes of the time appointed for the ceremony, when the young man in the case appeared at the door of the parlor and called the preacher out.

"Mr. Stedman," he said, "I'm in a terrible fix. I forgot to bring the license. I left it at home in my other coat."

"That is very unfortunate," the preacher answered. "I can't marry you without it. Isn't there some way of getting it here?"

"Not in time!" groaned the hapless bridegroom-elect. "The boarding house where I've been living is ten miles from here. It would take two hours to go and get it."

The preacher reflected a moment. "Can we reach the place by telephone?" he asked.

"Yes, sir."

Two minutes later they were standing before a telephone in another room, and the young man was conversing with the landlady of his boarding-house.

"Mrs. Guernsey," he said, "will you please go up to my room, take a folded paper out of the inside pocket of a coat that hangs up in my closet, and bring it back with you to the phone? Hello, Central! Don't cut us off!"

Presently Mrs. Guernsey reported that she had found the document.

"Thank you," he said. "The Rev. Mr. Stedman will carry on the rest of this conversation with you."

He handed the receiver to the preacher, who asked:

"Are you this young man's landlady, madam?"

"Yes, sir," she said.

"Will you please open and read to me the paper you hold in your hand, or tell me what it is?"

"It's a marriage license, authorizing any clergyman or other lawfully qualified person to solemnize the marriage of George H. Bellmore and Ida Travvers."

"Is it dated, signed and sealed?"

"It is, sir."

"Thank you very much. Now call a messenger and send the license here by the swiftest mode of traveling at once. That will do. Good-by!"

Then he turned to the young man.

"Now, Mr. Bellmore," he said, "there need be no delay in the ceremony. We will proceed with it, and when that license comes I will examine it, and if there is any apparent informality in this arrangement I will marry you again after the company has gone."

This program was carried out, and the marriage still holds—Youth's Companion.

Her Own Sweet Will. Mrs. Gaddie (over telephone)—This is Mrs. Gaddie. I wanted to have a talk with your wife this morning.

Mr. Merchant—Oh, yes, Mrs. Gaddie. Well, I asked her not to go shopping this morning as she had intended, because the weather's so bad.

Mrs. Gaddie—Ah! then I'll be likely to catch her.

Mr. Merchant—Yes, if you know where she usually does her shopping.—Philadelphia Press.

Two Points of View. "A Boston woman says she has no faith in luck of a horseshoe. She had a diamond one and lost it."

"But isn't that a narrow view to take? Think of the luck it has brought to the person who found it!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

We are all compelled to do a great deal of hard marching, but the victorious soldier has an easier time of it than the soldier smarting from defeat.

No man is as wretched as he imagines himself to be.