

Wit and Humor.

AN unpaid-for yacht is now politely termed a floating debt.

WHAT is the difference between a Christian and a cannibal? One enjoys himself, and the other enjoys other people.

THE principal point of difference between the indorsement on a note and the dome on the Capitol at Washington is that one is under wrote and the other is rotunda.

THE Khedive of Egypt having presented New York with the remaining Cleopatra's Needle, the City Councils have referred it to the Committee on Sewers for action.

AFTER the acquittal of a man in Cincinnati, recently, one of the jurymen rose and suggested that "the acquitted be now recommended to the merciful consideration of the court."

IT is reported that Lydia Thompson will bring her performances to a close next spring. If next spring should bring any clothes to her performers, it will be a great improvement.

AN unruly horse attached to a coal cart backed across a Washington sidewalk the other day, and crushed seven candidates for Doorkeeper of the House against the sunny side of Willard's Hotel.

THE conundrum that now agitates London is:

"How can an unmarried man sew his shirt to a collar-button without losing the needle under his thumb-nail?"

UNPROFITABLE.—"Sam, why don't you talk to your master, and tell him to lay up treasures in Heaven?"

"What's de use of him layin' up treasures up dar? He never see um again."

JOKES, says an exchange, concerning the trade sale of rubbers and whist-players, are now in order. Yes, we should have tried one on this subject some time ago if we only could have gutta percha on it.

ST. LOUIS has a female woodsawyer who can haul in her dollar and a half every day. If Susan B. could only see her wading through a knotty log, how the old girl would throw up her sunbonnet and yell.

SWEET HOME.—"Home's the place for boys," said a stern parent to his son, who was fond of going out at night.

"That's just what I think when you drive me off to school every morning," said the son.

A DELINQUENT, arrested for drunkenness, was asked at the police court what he had done with his money.

"Invested it in lots," was the reply.

"What lots?" was the next question.

"Lots of whisky," he replied, with a serious face.

A LADY that would please herself in marrying was warned that her intended, although a good sort of a man, was singular.

"Well," replied the lady, "if he is very much unlike other men he is much more likely to be a good husband."

"COMPARISONS ARE ODIUS."—The Major (rocking Nelly on his knee, for Aunt Mary's sake)—"I suppose this is what you like, Nelly?"

Nelly—"Yes, it's very nice. But I rode on a real donkey yesterday—I mean one with four legs, you know."

A BIT OF TEXAN HUMOR.—"A young man at Kember's Bluff, in this State," says a Texas paper, "acquired the habit of tossing a cocked and loaded pistol in the air, and catching it by the muzzle as it fell. The last time he caught it was just a moment before he died."

RATHER SHARP.—A lady became so much dissatisfied with her lover that she dismissed him. In revenge, he threatened to publish her letters to him.

"Very well," replied the lady; "I have no reason to be ashamed of any part of my letters except the address."

A GENTLEMAN, whose house was repairing, went one day to see how the house was getting on, and observing a number of nails lying about, said to the carpenter employed on the work:

"Why don't you take care of these nails? they'll certainly be lost."

"No," replied the carpenter, "you'll find them in the bill."

A LAWYER, in cross-examining a witness, asked him, among other questions, where he was on a particular day, to which he replied:

"In company with two friends."

"Friends!" exclaimed the lawyer.

"Two thieves, I suppose you mean."

"They may be so," replied the witness, "for they are both lawyers."

A KEEN OBSERVER.—Little Girl—"Why don't you marry some one, Aunt Alice?"

Aunt Alice—"Oh, I can't ask them, you know."

Little Girl—"Well, do as Helen does with Tom: shake hands with some one, say you're glad to see them, and never leave them; then they'll marry you."

RUSSIAN PRINCES.—In Russia, where the principle of primogeniture is not recognized, the number of princes is said to be ridiculous. A person of high rank being stopped on a bridge by an uncivil tollkeeper, exclaimed:

"What do you mean by treating me in such a manner? I am Prince Galitzin."

"And so am I," responded the tollkeeper.

THERE is a certain distinguished commodore in the English Navy whose name is De Horsey. A negro sentinel once stopped him at the Bermudas because he did not know the password.

"Let me pass, fellow," said he; "I am Commodore de Horsey."

"I don't care if you are Commodore de Donkey," answered the angry West Indian darkey, bringing down his rifle.

Saratoga.

It is as impossible to see Saratoga in one day as it is the Yosemite Valley. You may take a superficial glance, but to see all the attractions, you must make an old-fashioned visit. It is a day or so, for instance, before you can talk understandingly of Congress Water and Congress Park. The first thing a visitor sees in the morning are people hurrying toward some spring. He follows the crowd, and finds himself beneath the picturesque pavilion over Congress Spring. Around the numerous tables ladies and gentlemen sit, drinking their sparkling Congress Water; while near by is a restaurant, where breakfast may be taken by those who wish to enjoy with their meal the delightful view and music in Congress Park. No Parisian cafe or German beer-garden can boast of attractions equal to those that the visitor sees in Congress Park. How differently does the land now look from what it did in 1792, when the spring was discovered by a party of hunters, and given its name in honor of a member of Congress from New Hampshire.

This park comprises almost the entire plot of ground encompassed by Broadway, Congress, and Circular streets. Originally a forest, possessing many natural attractions, it has been materially improved by grading, draining, and the addition of many architectural adornments, until it now presents a most beautiful appearance, and is one of Saratoga's principal charms. During the year 1876 its proprietors (the Congress and Empire Spring Company) expended nearly \$100,000 on these improvements, and now it surpasses all other parks of equal size in the United States in the beauty of its graceful and artistic architecture. The grade of the low ground was raised from two to seven feet, and a new plan of drainage adopted, which involved in its system the elegant new reservoir and the charming miniature lake. The grand entrance is at the junction of Congress street and Broadway, near the Grand Union Hotel and Congress Hall, on what is now called Monument Square. Once in the Park, you may stroll at will, visiting the lakes and the shaded lawns, listening to the delightful music of Downing's celebrated Ninth Regiment Band, which discourses every morning, afternoon and evening, in alternation, from the two band-stands and the very unique and artistic Music Pavilion in the center of the lake. Strolling along to the south part of the grounds, you may visit the deer-shelter and park, where are several animals that roam and skip about within the enclosure, greatly to the delight of the children and the amusement of the adults. In the Park, amid the flowers and shrubs, strolling over the grass-covered, shaded lawns, or lounging under the grand old forest trees, enchanted by the charming music—here it is that one may enjoy the supreme delights of a genuine rural summer resort. Every convenience for park enjoyment is here afforded, including abundant settees and shade and the security of efficient police supervision. The grounds are thoroughly lighted by gas at night, rendering them available as a place of evening resort. Every convenience for park enjoyment is here afforded, including abundant settees and shade and the security of efficient police supervision. The grounds are thoroughly lighted by gas at night, rendering them available as a place of evening resort. The scene in the evening, on the occasion of one of the grand concerts, is remarkably brilliant and charmingly fascinating. But the chief attractions of the Park are its wonderful mineral springs—the Columbian, a remarkable chalybeate water, highly prized as a tonic and general builder-up of depleted systems; and the Congress, without doubt the finest aperient water in the world, a spring which has been called a fountain of joy to Saratoga. The tube that now holds this spring has remained undisturbed since 1865; but what marvelous changes have taken place around it. With all the work round about, the Spring has remained unmolested, performing its wonted functions steadily and uninterruptedly. An analysis of Congress Spring shows that it contains of the laxative salts (chloride of sodium and bicarbonate of magnesia, 622 grains to each gallon) enough to render its effects certain without the addition or use of cathartic drugs. At the same time, it does not contain an excess of these salts, and it is almost free from iron, an excess of which produces congestion. The improved method of bottling the Congress Water, which retains the gas, has greatly increased its value, as will be readily recognized by those familiar with it in the past, or by any one who will look through the bottles at the transparent, sparkling fluid.

One queries if these wonderful fountains of health can ever run dry. Why should they? The mineral springs of Nassau, in Germany, have been known for a thousand years, and are as copious as ever. Equal long life, dear Independent, to you and the spring I drink in a sparkling glass of Congress Water.—Cor. N. Y. Independent.

We should not be too hasty in bestowing either our praise or our censure on mankind, since we shall often find such a mixture of good and evil in the same character that it may require a very accurate judgment and a very elaborate inquiry to determine on which side the balance turns.—Fielding.

An old lady with a large family, living near a river, was asked if she did not live in constant fear that some of her children would be drowned. "Oh, no," she replied; "we have only lost three or four in that way."

THERE are 1,600 lodges of Knights of Pythias in the United States, with a total membership of 150,000.

An African Belle in Full Costume.

In one tribe through whose territory he passed after leaving Tanganika, Lieutenant Cameron found the women much more regarded than is usual among Africans, and consequently they were much more fashionable than the rest of their sex in that happy country. One of the belles of the country is thus described in Cameron's Journal: "She is a very sort of person, this Mrs. Packwaywa, and really ladylike in her manners. It was great fun showing her a looking-glass. She had never seen one before, and was half afraid of it, and ashamed to show she was afraid. She is a very dresy body, double rows of cowries round her head, beside copper, iron, and ivory ornaments stuck in her hair, and just above and in front of each ear a tassel of red and white beads. A large necklace of shells was round her neck, and round her waist a string of opal-colored singomazzi, and a rope made of strings of red beads. Her front apron was a leopard skin, and the rear one of colored grass cloth, with its fringe strung with beads, and cowries sewed on it in a pattern; bright iron rings were round her ankles and copper and ivory bracelets on her arms. Her hair was shaved a little back from her forehead, and three lines, each about a quarter of an inch wide, were painted below. The nearest one to the hair was red, the next black, and the next white; and, to crown all, she was freshly anointed with oil, and looked sleek and shiny. Her upper lip was perforated, and a piece of stone inserted, until the lip protruded a couple of inches, giving a hideous expression to the face and making her articulation quite indistinct."

A man in Sprague, Conn., during the last summer noticed bees going from the caves of his house, and returning loaded with honey. Last week he took a few clapboards from the house, and secured seventy-five pounds of honey in the comb. In California the bees hide their stores of honey in crevices in the rocks in some places. That State is the great honey region. Immense fields of natural flowers cover its soil in many parts. The past year, however, by reason of the want of rain, the flowers have not grown. The bees, in the dearth of flowers, have made little honey, and accordingly are brought face to face with the prevalent problem of the day, "how to live." In the excavations made in the mountain region in building the Southern Pacific railway, great stores of honey were found in fissures and sheltered places in the rocks, revealed in some cases by blasts in working the rock for the roadway.

A convention of bee keepers in the United States was held in this city last week. They represented a constituency estimated at 150,000 persons, keeping seventy-five millions of bees producing honey to the value of seven million of dollars yearly.—The Stockholder, New York.

OLD minds are like old horses; you must exercise them if you wish to keep them in working order.

THE first newspaper advertisement appeared in 1652.

The Wisest of Precautions.

Of precautions, the wisest is that which is taken against disease. There is safety in timely medication; great peril in delay. One malady often begets others far more dangerous, and if it does not, any abnormal condition has a tendency, if unremedied, to become chronic and obstinate. Trifling disorders of the stomach, liver, bowels or urinary organs may speedily develop into formidable maladies. Check them at the outset with Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which, although it is wonderfully effective in overcoming disorders of long standing, is like any other medicinal preparation, more advantageous in the infancy of the malady to which it is adapted than after they have become chronic. Among these are dyspepsia, liver complaint, constipation, intermittent and remittent fevers, gout, rheumatism, nervous and general debility, and urinary troubles. The Bitters are a capital appetizer, induce sound repose, and counteract the effects of fatigue and exposure.

Water Pipe.

While the attention of the people of this coast is attracted to the question of obtaining a proper and sufficient supply of water, not only for domestic and manufacturing purposes, but for use in irrigating the soil, it is but right that some attention should be paid to the proper means of conducting the water, when found, to the spot where it is to be put in use. It is well known that for many years iron pipes were supposed to be the only safe and proper conduits through which either water or gas could safely be conducted, but science and time has demonstrated beyond a doubt that pipe made of a combination of wood, iron and asphaltum, is not only cheaper, but far better and more durable.

Nearly twenty years ago the manufacture of this pipe was commenced in the city of Elmira, New York, and miles of it laid of both water and gas, where it is, to-day, as sound as when first put into the ground. In several of the streets where 3 and 4 inch mains have, after eighteen years' use, been found insufficient for the increased population, and been taken up to be replaced with larger pipe, not a sign of decay has been visible.

Mr. George M. Divin, formerly managing director of the Erie Railway Company, and one of the principal owners in the Elmira Water Company, and M. S. Benjamin, President, unite in a letter containing these words:

"The Wyckoff Combination Pipe is as sound after sixteen years use as it was the day it was laid. We can imagine no reason why this pipe will not last a hundred years or more."

From scores of cities and towns just as strong endorsements have been voluntarily given. Mr. John Brawley, Superintendent Hollydaysburg Water Works, Pa., writes: "We have had it in use under 170 feet pressure for sixteen years, and find it perfectly sound." From Lockport, New York; Augusta, Maine; Bellona, Ohio; Saginaw, Michigan; Kamapo, New York; Centralia, Pennsylvania; Chicago, Illinois; Salt Lake; the Union Pacific Railroad Company, and twelve other principal railroad companies in the East, the most convincing testimonials

have been received, attesting the durability, strength and purity of this pipe, which will be sent to any address upon application.

The right to make this pipe is enjoyed by two companies only in the United States.

In its issue of October 24th, the San Francisco Journal of Commerce, in a very lengthy article, upon the subject of Water Pipes, has the following: In March last an organization styled the American Pipe Company, with a capital of \$250,000, was established in this city for the purpose of manufacturing this pipe and thoroughly introducing it to the people of this coast and the territories. The officers of this company are Robert G. Byxbee, the firm of H. B. Tichenor & Co., President; John E. Caslant, formerly of the Mendocino Lumber Co., Vice President; John F. Byxbee, of the Duncan Mills Lumber Co., Secretary and Treasurer; Calvert Meade, Auditor; Col. Cook Talcott, of thirty years experience as a civil and hydraulic engineer, Chief Engineer; P. T. Dickinson, who has been for the last twenty years connected with the manufacture of this pipe, General Manager. On the organization of the company a mill was started at Olympia, Puget Sound, W. T., where the lumber is prepared, when it is brought to this city and taken to the factory of the company, on Channel street near Fourth, where it is finished ready for use. Some fifty or sixty men are employed at both places. The manner of making this pipe is peculiar. It is made in sections of eight feet long. It is first bored, and then turned in a lathe to a uniform thickness of one inch, and the surface of the pipe is thoroughly smoothed, and a condition best calculated to resist decay in any form. The water pipe is coated on the outside only, as it is a well known scientific fact that water, either salt, alkali, or sulphur, does not affect wood, and in this city this pipe is used at the Mint to carry off waste acids.

The gas pipe manufactured by this company is made the same as the water pipe, except that it is coated inside and is not bound as heavily with iron; and one great feature of the gas pipe is, that it prevents condensation.

From the San Francisco Daily Examiner of October 29th we quote as follows regarding a test of this combination pipe:

On Friday we were invited to witness a test of this water pipe, at the establishment of A. J. Smith, Esq., on Fremont street, where three of Mr. Smith's powerful "Atwood & Bodwell" pumps had been arranged for the test. There were present several gentlemen interested in the water supply, among them Mr. Schussler, Chief Engineer of the Spring Valley Water Company. Three lengths of the ordinary eight inch (inside diameter) pipe were placed in position. The first pipe was designed to stand a fifty foot pressure. The pumps were set at work, and soon a pressure of 160 pounds, equal to a fall of nearly 400 feet, and yet the pipe was apparently as firm as ever. A pressure was then put on equal to a head of 550 feet, when a small seam opened in the wood, and a small spray of water escaped. The pressure was reduced by the escape of the water and the seam at once closed and the pipe at 450 feet started, and a pressure of 550 feet registered, when the packing under the temporary washer on the first-mentioned pipe blew out. The pipe, however, did not show the least weakness, and even the joints being perfectly dry and the wood showing that not a drop of water had escaped.

The pipe was then disconnected from this one and the interest concentrated in the other test, whereby it was expected that the iron section would give away. The wood pipe had been prepared to resist a pressure of 200 feet. The pumps were started and the indicator on the gauge registered 1,350 feet when the bar of iron running through the pipe separated with the tremendous force of the water, and further testing was useless. An idea of the force may be had from the fact that the bar was an inch and a quarter in thickness, and it drew apart like a thread.

The tests yesterday were satisfactory in every particular to the company present, and the next one will be watched with interest. The following are among the most prominent places of companies on the Pacific Coast using this pipe for the last three to eleven years: Alameda Water Co., Cal.; Santa Cruz Water Co., Cal.; Claus Spreckels Esq., Aptos, Cal.; Portland Water Co., Oregon; Seattle Gas & Water Co., W. T.; Olympia Water Works, W. T.; Port Gamble, W. T.; Southern and Central Pacific Railroad Companies, a large amount; United States Mint; Camp McDowell, Arizona.

A very high endorsement of this pipe is made by E. M. Morgan, Chief Engineer and Superintendent of the Santa Cruz Water pressure was perfectly tight. The second pipe was made for a head of 100 feet. This stood a pressure of 270 pounds to the square inch, equal to a fall of nearly 600 feet. The third pipe, made for a 200 feet head, stood a pressure of 400 pounds to the square inch, equal to a head of 900 feet. The test was evidently satisfactory to the scientific gentlemen present, and Mr. Schussler expressed himself highly pleased with the test. He said no pipe in actual service would be called upon to stand such a test, for in cities it was impossible to close all the hydrants at the same time, and even if it were possible to do so, the peculiar elasticity of this pipe rendered it superior to any pipe he knew of. From his own observation and what he had learned, he expressed himself highly pleased with the pipe.

This pipe has been used in the East for the last eighteen years, and nearly one thousand miles of it has been thoroughly tested. It has been brought into immediate competition with the best iron pipe, and not in a single instance has it failed to prove itself the best, and when taken up to lay larger pipe it has been found perfectly sound and every foot relaid.

From the Alta California and San Francisco Morning Call of November 1st:

A party of scientific gentlemen, including Supervisors Gibbs, Chief Engineer, Scamell, of the San Francisco Fire Department, and several city officials, were present to witness a test of the strength of the combination pipe, which was of an exceedingly interesting nature. Col. Dickinson had had prepared two tests, one of the ordinary six-inch pipes with three joints, manufactured to withstand a pressure of two hundred feet head. The other was two sections, joined in the center with an iron pipe obtained from the Spring Valley Water Company. The iron section was six feet long, six inches in diameter, the iron being five-eighths of an inch in thickness. Joining at each end was the wood pipe, also six inches in diameter. An iron bar, 1 1/2 inches thick, passed through the center, and was secured at each end, making the pipe perfectly airtight. The object was to give a decisive test of the strength of the two pipes, and, if possible, break the iron with the force of the water.

The water was pumped into the pipes by a hydraulic pump. At 5 o'clock the pump was started, and the water began to flow. There they have 200 feet pressure all over the town, and he says he can lay 1,250 feet of six-

inch pipe per day with four men, and that in all ways, tapping, laying, etc., the expense is far less than iron pipe. That this pipe must eventually come into general use there can be no doubt, for it possesses the following advantages over any pipe in the world: 1st, it is the cheapest road pipe; 2d, it is the most durable of all pipes—practically imperishable; 3d, it neither expands nor contracts, and corrosion is impossible; 4th, it is more easily laid—can be tapped with an ordinary auger; 5th, it is more easily handled—lighter in weight, and perfectly tight; 6th, it is not liable to get out of order; 7th, it need not be laid so deep, and in cold climates will not freeze so quickly; 8th, when used for water it neither tastes of, or can be affected by chemical ingredients; 9th, when used for gas it prevents condensation.

Descriptive books, with full information, can be obtained by addressing AMERICAN PIPE COMPANY, No. 22 California street, San Francisco.

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