

A policeman, like a rainbow, is a token of peace, and both have a habit of appearing after the storm is over.

A Massachusetts man expresses himself as confident of being able to live 60 days on three pints of water per day. The country is full of men who are willing to bet they can live 60 days and never touch water.

Mark Twain complains that when one is young a dollar would buy him a hundred exquisite pleasures, but he hasn't the dollar, and when he is old he has the dollar but can't find anything worth buying with it. The trouble, however, is not in the dollar, but in Mark.

There is talk of establishing a woman's college of matrimony in Chelsea, England, where the duties of a wife will become the subject of a two years' course of study. The success of such an institution would be assured only upon the guarantee of a situation upon graduation.

The famous French chemist, Marcelin Berthelot, who discovered smokeless powder, is now engaged in searching for means by which palatable foods may be produced by chemical combination. This will save considerable wear and tear on the farmer and make kitchen work as joyous as chemistry.

The story that John D. Rockefeller is to make his home in England is probably incorrect. But if such a thing should happen it would hasten the day when the United States will adopt drastic measures to check the evils of absentee millionarism. Of course, says the Chicago American, we have no objection to the expatriation of any money-hooper who finds the air of America too raw for his lungs. But we do object to having the wealth accumulated by the energy, labor and ingenuity of the American people sent abroad to maintain a useless colony of Astors, Bradly Martins and Van Alens. When the ownership of American property is transferred to Europe by hundreds of millions at a time the process assumes the proportions of a national disaster. It will have to be stopped. If nothing else will stop it a graduated income tax reaching 50 per cent on overgrown revenues sent to owners living abroad probably will.

Elmer Skillings, champion fox trapper of this section, who became a wonder in that line so suddenly that there has always been great wonder at his success, has finally told the secret by which he lured the sly foxes to his traps.

Mr. Skillings, who is a farmer in a sparsely settled district, purchased a phonograph and some records, for his own amusement and to entertain his fellow farmers at the Grange meetings. He has an ingenious mind, which suggested an attempt to get on record the noises of the poultry yard, that of the pullet who had just laid an egg, the crowing of a cock, the quacking of ducks and the discordant note of the guinea fowl. He bought some blank records and secured all the novel results he wanted.

Then another idea came to him. He exchanged his instrument for a much finer and larger one, and after a number of trials obtained a fine record of the clucking of a mother hen and the peeping of her brood of chickens.

Then he went into the woods, dug a large hole, partially filling it with brush and arranged the phonograph in the hole, so that by means of a long spring and a self-returning mechanism of his own invention the record would

run continuously for nearly half an hour. A powerful resonator made the sounds nearly as distinct as the original. The apparatus was completed with an alarmclock arrangement, so that the instrument could be set in operation automatically at any hour desired. The effect was startling, when suddenly there would be heard, apparently from a heap of brushwood, the excited clucking of a mother hen and the answering peeps of her brood of chickens.

Mr. Skillings surrounded the place with fox traps and set the machine to begin operations several hours after sunset. It worked to perfection. The first time it was tried two foxes were trapped. From all appearances they were rushing in upon the supposed defenceless brood, forgetting their usual cunning. The scheme worked again and again until nearly all the foxes in the vicinity had fallen victims to Skillings' genius.

Professor Israel C. Russel, of the United States Geological Survey, is at present examining the great lava-covered plain of southern Idaho, through which Snake River has cut a deep canyon. Many creeks and rivers arising in the mountains on both sides of this plain lose their waters as they enter upon the pervious surface. The percolate underground to finally reappear in great springs far down the canyon walls. Some of the streams from these springs are literally large enough to float a steam boat. It is the object of the Geological Survey to locate the courses of these underground waters beneath the drought-trick region and to indicate where, by deep wells water may be had for cattle or sheep, which, for lack of water, are unable to graze over the broad area.

William Phelps of Richmond, Kentucky, died a hero. His heroism was displayed without a hope of reward, in the face of almost certain death and amid surroundings bereft of all the enthusiasm, the cheers of comrades and the excitement of battle and the lead to great deeds when the flag is to the fore and an enemy is to be overcome. This man deliberately made way for a companion when the two were imprisoned in a boiler into which steam had been accidentally turned. There was room for one to escape and Phelps said "You go first Jim, you are married." "Jim" went first and William died in horrible agony, but with a smile, and with the words "It was Jim's right to go first; he's married."

If, as the New York Post's correspondent avers, Senator Hanna proposes to frighten President Roosevelt into a different course than that announced for the southern federal appointments, he will have reckoned without a just estimate of the man in the White House. Mr. Hanna enjoyed the confidence of the late president McKinley and could exert an influence upon him that will be lost when directed toward Mr. Roosevelt. Another essential element in the situation is the conceded pugnacity of the new chief executive. Threats will not drive him from the pathway he has mapped out.

Why should the laborers in the steel mills strike? They are not quite starving and the trust is making only \$10,000,000 net profit per annum. Under such pleasing conditions why can't everyone be happy?

President Roosevelt is said to be taking quite an interest in the question of national irrigation of the semi-arid West and will likely recommend legislation of some kind in his first message to congress.—Ex.

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