

A St. Louis preacher says the recent volcanic eruptions are the death throes of Satan. If all the preceding disturbances of this sort were due the same cause the old fellow must be an interminable time dying.

The London Lancet sounds this "note of warning": "Too much bathing is harmful, as it tends to maceration of the superficial part of the epidermis, and occasions probably too rapid a proliferation of the cells of the malpighian layer." The children will please take due notice, and not stay in free baths all day.

Texas is noted for the number and extent of its ranches. Of a total of seven thousand, they vary in size from a few thousand to several million acres, the large ones averaging 50,000. The greatest is the "X. I. T." in the Panhandle, which embraces half a dozen counties and contains nearly 3,000,000 acres.

It belongs to the "Capitol syndicate," a company of men who received this vast territory some twenty years ago in return for providing the magnificent state house at Austin. The ranch is divided into seven sections, each managed by a foreman and each connected with headquarters by means of telephones. The whole is run with the system and dispatch which characterizes all great industries, says the Review of Reviews.

Here is one that is being passed around by the newspapers that is applicable to all towns: "There is no reasonable excuse for a man living in a town if he doesn't like it. If you have no word of commendation to say for your town, its institutions or its people, emigrate. You won't stop the course of events by going away, neither will you carping criticism cut any figure if you remain. The church bell will have the same musical ring; the dogs will play just as well and the pure air and sunshine will have the same health giving properties. Speak a good word for your neighbor, if you can, if you can't don't everlastingly enlarge on his faults. If you have become thoroughly sour and disgusted and cannot see any good in your town, move away; go somewhere where things suit you."

An old railroad man, having been converted, was asked to lead in prayer. The following was the response: "O, Lord, now that I have flagged Thee, lift up my feet from the rough road of life and plant them safely on the deck of the train of salvation. Let me use the safety lamp known as prudence, make all the couplings on the train with the strong link of Thy love and let my lead off the sidings, especially those Father, keep all switches closed that land off the sidings, especially those with a blind end. O Lord, if it be Thy pleasure, have every semaphore block along the line show the white line of hope that I may make the road of life without stopping. And, Lord give us the Ten Commandments for a schedule, and when I have finished the run on schedule time and pulled into the great dark station of death may Thou, the Superintendent of the universe say, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant; come and sign the pay roll and receive your check for eternal happiness.'"—Railroad Gazette.

It is estimated that 200,000 Americans will go into the Canadian Northwest this year. Numerous syndicates formed in this country are buying land by hundreds of thousands of acres. One syndicate alone has purchased

over 1,000,000 acres of Canadian land. There is a meaning in this movement. It is a pressure for homes that is sending so many people from the United States to Canada. The population of Canada, that enormous stretch of country, is between only 6,000,000 and 7,000,000. There are vast areas unoccupied, and, as land grows scarcer on this side of the line, people are rushing there to secure it.

Farming lands in Iowa, Kansas, Indiana, Dakota, Minnesota and Nebraska sell at from \$25 to \$60 per acre. As good land can be secured in Canada for \$15 an acre. Pressure of population as land becomes scarce is the basis of all valuation. Increase of population makes land worth more, and because good land can be secured at a smaller price in Canada people are leaving the agricultural regions of the Middle West. This perhaps will operate to hasten the day when Canada and the United States will become one common country. At any rate, the immigration from the United States will create closer ties and tend to bring about more reasonable trade relations.—Portland Journal.

The men and women employed in the Chinese factories have long hours and poor pay, and they suffer much from the sulphur fumes. The Chinese care little for human life, and almost no precautions are taken to lessen risks. No foreigners are employed, and the heartless native overseers have full sway. There is one redeeming feature, however, of this industry—the matchboxes are largely made at the homes of the factory girls. They go to the factory and receive a certain amount of prepared box materials "in the flat"—that is, the thin pieces of board and the sanded and the stamped paper covers which when assembled constitute a matchbox. At their own homes they sit down beside a pot of paste and begin the long day's work of pasting together these parts and placing them in the sun to dry. When several hundred of these are completed, they pile them upon a board, lay another board on top of the stack, then tie them tightly with a small rope and, bundling them on their backs trudge off to the factory. There the boxes are counted and the number entered in a book against the monthly settlement day.

People in India are calling the legislation to preserve wild animals from extermination. It takes about three seconds for a message to go from one end of the Atlantic to the other. Camel teams are now being used for the carriage and distribution of mining machinery on the North Coolgardie gold fields, Western Australia. Lightning statistics in the United States last year showed that nine-sixteenths of the persons struck recovered. Less than one-fourth were struck in open ground. At Plougastel, a small town in Brittany, all the weddings of the year are celebrated on one day. In February last thirty-four couples were married simultaneously. The gold contained in the medals, vessels, chains and other objects preserved in the vaults would make more gold than the whole of the European circulation. Glass is the most perfectly elastic substance in existence. A glass plate kept under pressure in a bent condition for 25 years will return to its exact original form. Steel comes next. It's all well enough to laugh and grow fat, but too many people take on weight over their own jokes. Where do you buy your dry goods, clothing, boots, shoes and hats? We have the stock and at prices that defy competition from any source. Call or write the O. C. Co., Huntington.

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