

Topics of the Times

A lawyer's fee is due to the other chap's ignorance of the law.

This new kissing disease will not scare any young man who has plenty of sand in his craw.

People who think this world isn't good enough for them are not likely to be very well satisfied with the next.

It is said that General Kuropatkin receives a salary of \$100,000. The ghost doesn't walk in his case. It runs.

The pointed shoe adds another terror to the young man who is courting the daughter of the objective old man.

Like all generals who lose, Kuropatkin was not only whipped by his enemies, but is being roasted by his friends.

The nurse who killed two of her patients by giving them carbolic acid for water should have her sense of smell repaired.

The farmer who plants carefully tested seed corn in a thoroughly inoculated field would seem to have an immortal clench.

Lying, the scientific gentlemen say, is a disease, indicating a defective circulation of the blood. Certainly a great deal of campaign lying is done in vein, so to say.

Powerful whistles are to be placed on our warships. Still, as we are rapidly growing as a "world power," our navy will be expected to do something besides blow.

The German Emperor has just unveiled another statue of one of his ancestors. Let us hope that his ancestors and the sites for statues of them may never be exhausted. William might be doing much worse things than unveiling statues.

During the Peace Congress in Boston one of the oldest members of the American Peace Society published in facsimile his certificate of membership, dated Jan. 28, 1871. It was signed by the Vice President, a Quaker named John G. Whittier.

Of course the immigration commissioner's fear of an influx of Japanese immigration after the war may be well founded, but just now it looks as if by the time the war is over they will have considerable additional room of their own in which to spread out.

One way to deal with railroad wrecks is to make it so expensive for a railroad to maim and kill its patrons that it can not afford not to provide for their safety. As long as human lives are cheaper than soundly constructed passenger coaches there will be wrecks and the smoking cars and second-class coaches will always be the first to be ground into kindling wood.

Those who are clamoring against race suicide are all right, but too much credit must not be given to the mere fact of birth. According to a recent volume of statistics issued by the British Board of Trade the highest birth rate is in Roumania, 39 in 1,000, but that country has also the highest death rate, 27.7 in 1,000. Not the number of births but the quality is the important matter.

Whatever hopes the Japanese originally had of a short war, they are now preparing for a long and exhausting struggle. Count Okuma is free to tell his countrymen that they must expect to spend at least \$1,000,000,000. The taxes will be piled on the people, internal improvements will be stopped, even popular education is to be curtailed. In Russia the same procedure will take place, causing even greater distress to the nation. And this is glorious war.

Crop statistics for 1904 show that since 1901 the aggregate value of farm products of the United States has been steadily on the increase. The present year it reaches the enormous total of \$3,000,000,000, a gain over 1903 of \$127,000,000, over 1902 of \$213,000,000 and over 1901 of \$352,000,000. This would seem to prove beyond any doubt two important points—first, that the United States is the most productive nation in the world; and, second, that the migration cityward has been stopped.

A Jewish rabbi, speaking at the Congress of Arts and Sciences at St. Louis, said, "When God added man to His other creations, He made only one, so that men of future generations might not say one to another, 'My ancestors were better than yours.'" The rabbi also said that his religion does not teach that in the beginning God made a Jew, nor does Christianity teach that God created a Christian first; he declared that no religion recognizes the distinctions developed by profane his-

tory. He holds that the doctrine of human brotherhood is religious, and that its realization in life is impossible without the religious motive, the motive of obligation to a higher power than that of physical force.

One of the most interesting sociological changes in history is now going on in the housing of people in the large cities. It is, of course, generally known that the proportion of private dwellings to the number of apartment-houses is decreasing, but it is doubtful if even the well-informed are aware how great the decrease has been and how firmly the new order has become established. Last year, according to the records of the building department of New York, but sixty private houses were erected in the whole of Manhattan Island, whereas in the same period the number of new apartment-houses reached into the thousands. The fact is that nearly all New York now lives in apartments, flats or tenements. The name is determined by the size of the rent. Almost the whole residential portion of the city is a gigantic honey-comb. The human bees enter their cells by a common entrance, seek their separate quarters, and there live in such degree of comfort as is possible under the circumstances. What will be the effect on the home life? A chance paragraph in a New York newspaper gives at least one hint at an answer. The paragraph notes the lack of any provision for guests in a modern flat that can be had for a moderate rent, and describes the consternation of a young married woman at the thought of company. In the old-fashioned home there was no virtue which shone more brightly than hospitality; not the hospitality which takes a friend out to the nearest restaurant or hotel to dinner, but that which, in the good old phrase, made him "feel at home." No more serious indictment could be brought against the apartment hotel than that it makes the entertainment of guests a burden, if not an impossibility.

Fifteen years ago there was hardly a town in Western Kansas which did not show many foundations on which no superstructures had been erected. The foundations remained uncovered because of the collapse of the boom. Some of them were small and shallow. Others were laid broad and deep. The elements assailed them all alike. The rains washed the mortar from between their bricks and stones. The frosts disintegrated the bricks and stones themselves. Foundations which, if built upon in the ordinary way would have endured for generations, fell, in a few years, into such utter ruin that when "good times" returned to Kansas it was in all cases unsafe, and in many impossible, to erect buildings upon them. Only small portions of the material they contained could be utilized in the construction of other foundations. Not unlike the fate which these abandoned foundations suffered is that which overtakes the educations which many men acquire in the schools. Schools and colleges lay but the foundation of education. They may lay it broad and deep, but if no superstructure is later erected over it the foundation will quickly fall to pieces. Association, the mortar that binds the bricks and stones of the mind together, will be washed away in time. Ideas, which are the mind's bricks and stones, will crumble and fall apart. A foundation without a superstructure is worthless. It has no adaptation to its environment. Nature will not let it long exist. There are thousands of men and women who have a smaller sum total of knowledge and reasoning power at 30 or 40 than they had when they threw aside their school text books. They have erected for themselves no intellectual superstructure, and their intellectual foundation, being unprotected, has fallen into decay.

The Difference.

Uncle Jared and Uncle Benjamin made a sorry pair. True, there was blood on Uncle Benjamin's forehead, and he looked white and faint. But Uncle Jared, who tried to support him, walked with a very pronounced limp, displayed only one coat tail where two should have been, and was rumpled and bedraggled generally in a way to suggest participation in a riot.

"What's happened to you two?" asked a townsman.

"That pesky colt of Benjamin's run away and throwed him just as I came along," Uncle Jared answered. "I'm giving him a lift along towards home."

"Look as though you needed one yourself," pronounced the inquisitor. "What's been happenin' to you?"

"Who, me? Why, nothin' to speak of—just been to town to see the big procession. Got more or less hustled round and tromped on, but—"

He stooped painfully to adjust a shoe which had been ripped open so that half of the upper flapped as he walked.

"Don't see much difference betwixt ye, judgin' by the display o' wreckage," the neighbor persisted.

"There's considerable difference, I take it," Uncle Jared answered, with conclusive dignity. "Benjamin's met with an accident, but I've been pleasin'."

Science AND INVENTION

A new vegetable for table use is the Crambe tatarica, an umbelliferous plant resembling sea kale. The sweet roots, raw and cooked, are eaten by Tartars and Cossacks, and for these and the sprouts also, it is recommended for cultivation by a prominent member of the Academie de Cuisine de Paris, who declares that it is finer in flavor than asparagus and cauliflower, which it suggests. The roots are boiled in salt water and seasoned in butter, a salad of young leaves and slices of roots being another dainty luxury.

Additional particulars about the new species of white potato, which is now cultivated in France from plants found in Uruguay, indicate that its importance as a substitute for the Irish potato has not been exaggerated. Originally a very bitter tuber, the new vegetable becomes, after three or four years of cultivation, an admirable food product. Its yield is enormous, and it is exempt from the maladies that attack the ordinary potato. It grows best in moist soil, its native habitat being the marshy shores of the River Mercedes in Uruguay. Its flowers have a jasmine-like odor, and a delicate perfume has already been extracted from them. After one planting the plant perpetuates itself from the broken roots left in the soil.

Recent advances in the price of shellac, due partly to its use in electrical works and in making gramophone records, have led to the collection of facts about its production. Lac is an incrustation on the branches of certain trees in India caused by insects. It is found throughout India, but is most abundant in the Central Provinces, Bengal and Assam. It is collected by natives, who break off the incrustated branches. The gatherers and local dealers sell it in the form of "stick lac" to manufacturers, who turn it into the shellac, or "button lac," of commerce. Nearly the whole of the shipment takes place from Calcutta, and the chief markets are the United States and Great Britain. In India lac is made into bracelets, rings, beads and other ornaments.

The apparatus by which Dr. Arthur Korn, a German inventor, has succeeded in transmitting photographs about 500 miles over telegraph-and-telephone-lines depends for its action upon the changing electric resistance of selenium under the influence of light of varying intensity. A ray of light, caused to pass systematically over the surface of a transparent film containing a photograph, falls upon a selenium cell whose electric resistance varies with the amount of light passing through different parts of the photograph. These variations are transmitted to the electric wire and at the receiving end they vary the illumination of a small vacuum tube, which passes over a sensitized photographic paper synchronously with the ray of light moving over the film at the sending station. Thus a copy of the original photograph is produced.

Although the problem of color photography is still far from solved, progress is being occasionally made. A new German discovery—that of Dr. Koenig—relates to printing from tri-color negatives, and depends upon the use of paper coated with collodion solutions of colorless compounds of greenish blue, cherry-red and yellow dyes that develop the original colors on exposure to light. The set of three negatives is first made under the usual light filters. The printing paper is first coated with the solution of the dye that is changed by light to greenish-blue, and, after drying, it is exposed about thirty seconds under the negative taken through the red filter. When the required depth of color is reached, it is fixed in a solution which removes the unaltered dye compound. The paper is then recoated, this time with the collodion for the red print, and exposed in exact register under the green negative. After this is fixed the third coating is made, and the yellow image is developed under the blue negative.

By Wire and Air.

An accidental experiment in the velocity of sound is recounted by a correspondent. He went to his telephone, and just as he put the receiver to his ear he heard the click of another telephone. Another receiver had been removed and the line was open.

Then he heard through the telephone the shriek of a locomotive whistle, and a few seconds later the sound came through the open window in the usual way. Looking up, he saw a locomotive half a mile away, passing the house of a friend.

The mystery was solved. The telephone that was open was that at the distant house, and the sound of the whistle had come through its transformation into an electric current quicker than it had traveled through the air.

A widower can start a new story on himself every day in the week, if he wants to.

Proper Classification.
Rastus—What kin' ob ar dog am dat, Miss Snowball?
Miss Snowball—Dat am a expectorashun dog.
Rastus—What do yo' all mean by dat?
Miss Snowball—Why, he am a spit.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY
Take Laxative Broom Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

Let Us Hope Not.
Nell—According to this paper girls are now wearing collars and cuffs made of rubber.
Bess—Good gracious! I suppose we will be wearing rubber hose next.

A Famous Seed House.
An instance of commercial development and growth to proportions unusual is cited in the career of the well known seed firm, D. M. Ferry & Co., of Detroit, Mich. Since its establishment half a century ago, the company, following out principals of strict business integrity and building upon unquestionable merit, has steadily grown until the name of Ferry's Seeds is now a household word with every planter in the land.

Ferry's Seeds are famous for their purity, freshness and reliability. The greatest of care is exercised in their growing and selection, and only seeds of the highest possible standard are placed upon the market. Every package has behind it the reputation of a house whose standards are the highest in the trade. A fresh stock, just received from the growers, is carried by dealers everywhere.

All farmers and gardeners ought to have a copy of the 1905 Seed Annual of the Ferry Company. It contains information and suggestions that are invaluable. The Annual will be mailed free to anyone addressing D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich.

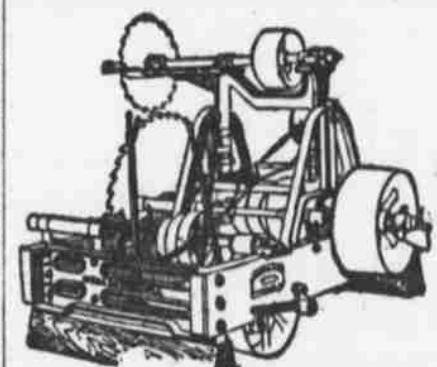
Mrs. Henry K. Sheldon has given \$20,000 to the proposed university of hucis in Brooklyn.

For coughs and colds there is no better medicine than Pilo's Cure for Consumption. Price 25 cents.

The 15-year-old daughter of Sir Chen-tung Liang Cheng, Chinese minister to the United States, is to make her social debut in Washington this winter. She will be the first high-born Chinese girl to enter American society.

FITS Permanently Cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for Free \$2 trial bottle and treatise. Dr. R. H. Kline, Ltd., 931 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Her Opportunity.
Her—I have often wished I were a man.
Him—How would you like to be me?
Her—Oh, I'd like it immensely.
Him—Well, I know a minister who will make us one.



W. L. Douglas makes and sells more men's \$3.50 shoes than any other manufacturer in the world.
The reason W. L. Douglas \$3.50 shoes are the greatest sellers in the world is because of their excellent style, easy fitting and superior wearing qualities. If I could show you the difference between the shoes made in my factory and those of other makers and the high-grade leathers used, you would understand why W. L. Douglas \$3.50 shoes cost more to make, why they hold their shape, fit better, wear longer, and are of greater intrinsic value than any other \$3.50 shoe on the market today, and why the sales for the year ending July 1, 1904, were \$2,263,040.00.

W. L. Douglas guarantees their value by stamping his name and price on the bottom. Look for it—take no substitute. Sold by shoe dealers everywhere.

SUPERIOR IN FIT, COMFORT AND WEAR.

"I have worn W. L. Douglas \$3.50 shoes for the last twelve years with absolute satisfaction. I find them superior in fit, comfort and wear to others costing from \$2.00 to \$7.00.—J. G. McCaffrey, Dept. Coll., U. S. Int. Revenue, Richmond, Va."

W. L. Douglas uses Corona Collatkin in his \$3.50 shoes. Corona Coll is conceded to be the finest Patent Leather made. Fast Color Erylets used exclusively.

W. L. DOUGLAS, Brockton, Massachusetts.



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If NOT carried by local grocers, write Wadham's & Co., who will advise where obtainable.

Ayer's

For hard colds, bronchitis, asthma, and coughs of all kinds, you cannot take anything better than Ayer's

Cherry Pectoral

Cherry Pectoral. Ask your own doctor if this is not so. He uses it. He understands why it soothes and heals.

"I had a terrible cough for weeks. Then I took Ayer's Cherry Pectoral and only one bottle completely cured me."
Mrs. J. B. DARTMOUTH, St. Joseph, Mich.
50c. 50c. 50c. J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.
All druggists.

Coughs, Colds

You will hasten recovery by taking one of Ayer's Pills at bedtime.

Discovered.

"Huh!" exclaimed Growells the other evening when he came home. "I see evidence of crooked work around here during my absence."

"Why, John, what do you mean?" asked his astonished better half.

"Oh, you can't deceive me, madam," he retorted. "You have been trying to drive nails."

No circumstances can repair a defect of character.—Emerson.

FIRE PROTECTION!

OLDEST HOUSE IN NORTHWEST
Large and complete stock of Fire Apparatus, Hose and Department Supplies. Our goods are in use in nearly every Fire Department.

HEAVY COPPER, BRAZED JOINTS, RELIABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS
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