

Topics of the Times

It's impossible to buy a man off if he is on the square.

Still it might be well to suggest that Nicholas may have a little money put away in a stocking.

A lobster trust has been organized. Bet the Floridora girls are among the heavy stockholders.

Civilized humanity is coming rapidly to the conviction that Gen. Sherman understated the case.

When two persons tackle a duet it looks as if they ought to sing it in half the time one could—but they can't.

The vermiform appendix has been found to be useful. But the discovery comes too late for the expeditious generation.

If a young man lets a girl have her own way during the courtship he will find it difficult to break her of the habit after marriage.

According to a girl essayist in a Philadelphia school, "Boys wear out everything but soap." She must have had some brothers, else she could not have been so familiar with her subject.

"Dr. Osler," remarks the Charleston News and Courier, "has aged rapidly in the last few days." Dr. Osler may not be as young and handsome as he was, but he knows more than he did.

A Berlin physician says no girl under 16 should practice daily on the piano, and that no girl over 16 should devote more than two hours a day to such practice. Papers everywhere please copy.

"In the streets of St. Petersburg every third person wears crepe," says the Associated Press correspondent. And all because of their ruler's desire for more of a frozen land on the other side of the world.

To write the first draft on a slate, that erasures might easily be made, to copy in pencil on soft paper, and make more changes, and finally after many days and alterations to arrive at a neat and flawless manuscript—this was the painstaking method of the late Gen. Lew Wallace. But "Ben Hur" was worth the trouble.

A writer in one of the magazines says: "Children already born may walk dry shod from the mainland of the New York reservation to Goat Island across the present bed of the Niagara river." There seems to be no reason to doubt that this country will in the not far distant future have the ruins of what was once the greatest cataract in the world.

Paraguay would seem to present the smallest chance for woman's rights progress to be found on the earth. In that country there are seven women to one man. Consequently the men are petted and taken the greatest care of. Everything that is unpleasant or risky is done by the women. The streets are cleaned, ships loaded and the oxen driven by them and they even go to war as substitutes for the men. It is only an application of the law of supply and demand and some lazy men will probably think it a beneficent one.

The stomach proper has ceased to be a serious problem to the surgeon. He can invade and explore it with impunity. He can even, if circumstances demand, relieve the owner of it entirely, and so arrange the loose ends that the functions of nutrition are successfully maintained. To be sure, the patient can never thereafter derive much pleasure from his meals; he must restrict himself to a rigid diet, but for all the other affairs of life he may be as competent as before. There are today several stomachless men who are earning their daily predigested ration in occupations varying from clerk to expressman.

Experiments with automobiles, motor boats and flying machines will flourish in summer time; but since any winter is liable to "tie up" any vehicle, perhaps we should employ a part of the open season in planning roads over which it is possible always to travel. We pride ourselves, and with reason, on our systems of transportation. Yet an ordinary blizzard stops trains, wrecks ships, leaves travelers stranded anywhere short of the places to which they wish to go. Street cars become as powerless as the rest. Only in cities which, like New York and Boston, are provided with subways, can local lines of communication be kept open. The underground routes are the only ones that never fail us. Subways under the sea may appear more desirable than feasible, but a

tunnel across the English Channel seems a smaller undertaking than it would have been twenty years ago, and a hundred years hence projects for sending trains beneath the ocean may not be laughed to scorn. Although it is now impossible to do away with the discomfort and danger attending sea voyages in winter, money and annoyance may be saved by methodical burrowing on land. In large cities tunnels might extend from the railroad stations to the manufacturing and wholesale districts, and shipments might pass between shops and cars without getting in the way of persons who have no interest in them. To fill busy streets with drays and crowded sidewalks with packing-boxes, as at present, is to make a senseless misuse of common conveniences. Chicago already has a freighting subway that will relieve much of the street congestion. As to building local subways for passenger transportation, New York and other cities that have passed the half-million mark in population need little prompting. But it is conceivable that subways will yet be carried far beyond the limits of one city, and the railway company that tunnels some cold and tempestuous region will be safe in announcing itself as "the popular winter route."

Rubbish of all kinds is being written about the awful strain of modern life and its disastrous effects upon those who are forced to dwell within the limits of a busy civilization, instead of flying to a lodge in some vast wilderness. In fact, there has been so much said by one person and another about the degeneracy that is certain to follow life lived in the thick of things that any number of men and women are beginning to feel sorry for themselves. Feeling sorry for yourself, it is worth while saying, can invest more time and sympathy with less profit than any other occupation a man can take up. If a man drinks cocktails before each meal, highballs between meals, tea and coffee at regular intervals, smokes numerous strong cigars, eats too much, is out in the open air not at all, and ends his day with a bottle of wine and a midnight supper, something disagreeable is coming to him if he will only keep it up long enough. But he need not lay the result of his own gluttony and abuse of alcohol and tobacco and other habits of the sort to civilization or to the awful strain of life in the twentieth century. The proof of it lies in a decreasing death rate all over America and Europe. A really degenerate race begins to die out—it does not go on living longer and longer. It may be true that there are more men and women in rest cures than there used to be—but as there used to be no rest cures for them to go to, it is reasonably clear that there are lives being saved now that had to be given up heretofore. It is also said that there are more insane persons than formerly. Insane persons used to die in a comparatively short time, and comparatively few of them were ever restored to health and usefulness. Many more used to die before insanity showed itself who are now preserved. Statistics of that kind are generally misleading, since they take only one aspect of the case into account. Men who do not eat and drink to excess, who make play a part of their work and who stick to life in the open whenever they get a chance, need not worry about stress and strain in modern or any other life.

Splicing Twine.

It has been said that Henry Clay achieved success so easily that he quite misunderstood others and over-estimated himself. But he was eager to learn the best way to do whatever he had to do. In "The True Henry Clay," the author gives an instance of this:

At fourteen Henry became clerk in a store in Richmond, whether the family had removed. Stories are told of his willingness to do his duty, although the work was distasteful to him.

Once he was reproved by the storekeeper for wasting too much twine. Thereafter he saved every scrap he could get and tied the pieces together. Again it was explained that using this sort of twine might be offensive to customers, as it made the packages look untidy by reason of so many knots. So he consulted with a sailor at Richmond, who showed him how to splice strings with a smooth joint.

From that time he spent his leisure hours making short pieces of twine of the same size into a continuous cord. When his employer discovered this he was so much pleased that he had all twine saved, and turned the task of splicing it over to young Henry, with the result that the young man's enthusiasm rapidly abated.

Russia's St. Andrew Cross.

Russia's Cross of St. Andrew has a remarkable peculiarity attaching to it. All who are decorated with it have the right once to demand a pardon for a Russian subject condemned to death.

When a girl tells her steady she is willing to give him everything she has in the world, he should remember all she is likely to have is a lot of undesirable kin.

TELEPATHY AMONG INSECTS.

Able to Communicate with One Another at Great Distances.

Not only the unworthy sluggard might observe the ant and other insects and profit thereby. Science each day adds to the wonders which these little creatures are capable of and puts human creatures to shame.

This time it is a sixth sense which a noted scientist has discovered many insects to be fortunate enough to possess, says the New York World. At least they are able to communicate with one another at great distances.

This professor had two allanthurus trees in his yard, and these suggested the idea to him of obtaining from Japan some eggs of the allanthurus silk-worm. He got a few, hatched the larvae and watched anxiously for the appearance of the first moths from the cocoons. He put one of the moths in a wicker cage and hung it on one of the allanthurus trees. This was a female moth. On the same evening he took a male moth to a cemetery a mile and a half away and let him loose, having previously marked him by tying a silken cord about his abdomen so as to be able to identify him. The idea was to find out if the two moths would come together for the purpose of mating, these two being the only ones of their species within a distance of hundreds of miles. This power of locating each other had been previously observed in these insects. In the morning two moths were found to be in the same cage, the female having been able to attract her mate.

Comparatively little is known about the ordinary senses of insects. Most of them see well, the eyes of many being far more elaborate than those of the human being. The eyes of common house flies and dragon flies are believed to be better fitted than the human eye for observing objects in motion, though these creatures are short-sighted. That insects have the sense of taste cannot be doubted when it is observed how nice they are in their selection of foods. That they have smell is a matter of common observation. Most insects are deaf to sounds which are heard by human beings. At the same time there is no doubt that they make and hear sounds which are entirely out of our range of hearing.

Certain senses in insects appear to be beyond comprehension. The neuter among ants, known as the "termites," are blind, and yet they will reduce a beam of wood in their burrowings without once gnawing to the surface. An analogy is found among animals. A bat in a lighted room, though blinded as to sight, will fly in all directions with great swiftness and with infallible certainty of avoiding concussion or contact with any object. It seems to be able to feel at a distance.

WHY HE WOULDN'T BE A JUDGE.

Rhode Island Philosopher Sure Ermine and Pin Pool Wouldn't Mix.

"I was reading in the paper one morning this week that judges are overworked here in the East, and I guess that's true," said a prominent lawyer who was watching atrocious billiards in a club last Monday afternoon, according to the Providence Journal. "This article to which I'm referring explained that the duties of a judge were more exacting, if anything, than those of a physician. He has to be on time when court's in session, the soul of punctuality, whatever the soul of punctuality may be. Otherwise he couldn't consistently reprove jurymen who miss trains or are detained by croupy children. Then, again, the judge can't get out at noon or night until he adjourns himself, and he frequently forgets to adjourn himself in decent season. Besides, he must take papers home with him and study exceptions and hear arguments on the outside, so that on the whole I'm glad I'm a plain attorney."

"Now, we understand," interrupted a listener, "why you refused a judgeship a while ago. You're lazy and fond of those office hours of yours that stretch from 11:30 to 4, with a long luncheon in the middle of them."

"No, you don't understand," continued the lawyer. "That isn't it at all. I declined that appointment for another reason; it's what I call the judicial dignity reason. Here in this section of the country the moment a member of the bar ascends to the bench he feels it incumbent on him to invest himself with a distant air. No matter how good a fellow he may be naturally, he's convinced that the proprieties of the profession demand that he shall hold his friends and acquaintances at arm's length. He's civil and courteous enough, of course, but he doesn't mix in. That's the whole story in my case. I thought it over and said to myself: 'How'd you look as a judge playing pin pool Saturday and breaking your cue on the floor to rattle your opponents? No,' said I, 'I'm too young. Pin pool and the things that go with it for mine. Let somebody else wear the ermine.'"

He Was Real Rude.

Wife (during the spat)—You'll be sorry some day when I am in the silent tomb.

Husband—Well, it won't be your fault if it is silent, my dear.

SCROFULA A Disease We Inherit

The tainted blood of ancestors lays upon the shoulders of innocent offspring unold suffering by transmitting to them, through the blood, that blighting disease, Scrofula; for in nearly every instance the disease can be traced to some family blood trouble, or blood-kin marriage which is contrary to the laws of nature. Swelling, ulcerating glands of the neck, catarrh,

weak eyes, sores, abscesses, skin eruptions, white swelling, hip disease and other deformities, with a wasting of the natural strength and vitality, are some of the ways this miserable disease manifests itself. The poison transmitted through the blood pollutes and weakens that health-sustaining fluid and in place of its nutritive qualities fills the circulation with scrofulous matter and tubercular deposits, often resulting in consumption. A disease which has been in the family blood for generations, perhaps, or at least since the birth of the sufferer, requires constitutional treatment. S. S. S. is the remedy best fitted for this. It cleanses the blood of all scrofulous and tuberculous poisons, makes it rich and pure and under the tonic effects of this great blood medicine the general health improves, the symptoms all pass away, there is a sure return to health, the disease is cured permanently while posterity is protected. Book on the blood and any advice wished, furnished by our physicians, without charge.

Scrofula appeared on the head of my little grandchild when only 18 months old, and spread rapidly over her body. The disease next attacked the eyes and we feared she would lose her sight. It was then that we decided to try S. S. S. That medicine at once made a speedy and complete cure. She is now a young lady, and has never had a sign of the disease to return.

150 S. 5th St., Salina, Kan. MRS. R. BARKLEY.

SSS

THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.

In Light Distress.

A new term was heard the other day. An old lady and her two daughters came into a millinery store. The young women wore mourning hats. The old woman said to the clerks: "I want a mourning hat, for I am in mourning. But my datter here," indicating, "is a widder of two years' standing, and she is in light distress. Give her a hat with blue feathers on it."—Chicago News.

Grateful Change.

Clara—Did you have pleasant weather at the springs this summer?
Dora—No. It was hot, dreadfully so. "Really uncomfortable, was it?"
"Awfully. Why, the weather was so warm that when a man with a cool million proposed to me I accepted him at once."

Equal to Leap Year.

Slowboy was wearing a gaudy tie for which he had recently given up 48 cents in real money.
"What kind of a tie do you admire most?" he asked of his fair companion in the parlor scene.
"Why, er—tee! hee!—the marriage tie," she giggled.
And the next day Slowboy hunted up a minister and contracted with him to make one.

Benefits of Proper Breathing.

The habit of slow, measured, deep breathing that covers the entire lung surface is of more value and importance than you will ever believe until you have tried it, and when you have established the habit of breathing in this manner you will say some remarkable things in its favor. It will reach all points of your physical system. All the benefits that occur from a healthy condition of the blood will in a greater or less degree be yours, for the manner and completeness with which the inspired air comes in contact with the blood in the lungs are of the utmost importance to every vital process.—Christian Work and Evangelist.

Antiseptic Telephones.

The French telephone service has just accorded to the public one of those little amenities of civilization which might, with obvious advantage, be extended throughout the world. In every public office there will henceforward be hung with a white linen handkerchief, treated with a chemical solution, with which every person can cleanse and disinfect the plate or tube before using it. If he will only do so also after breathing into it himself for several minutes, so much the better. These handkerchiefs are renewed daily.

GUBAN MINISTER TO THE U. S. Recommends Pe-ru-na.



Senor Quesada, Cuban Minister to the United States.

Senor Quesada, Cuban Minister to the United States, is an orator born. In an article in The Outlook for July, 1899, by George Kennan, who heard Quesada speak at the Esteban Theatre, Matanzas, Cuba, he said: "I have seen many audiences under the spell of eloquent speech and in the grip of strong emotional excitement, but I have rarely witnessed such a scene as at the close of Quesada's eulogy upon the dead patriot, Marti." In a letter to The Peruna Medicine company, written from Washington, D. C., Senor Quesada says:

"Peruna I can recommend as a very good medicine. It is an excellent strengthening tonic, and it is also an efficacious cure for the almost universal complaint of catarrh."—Gonzalo De Quesada.

Congressman J. H. Bankhead, of Alabama, one of the most influential members of the House of Representatives, in a letter written from Washington, D. C., gives his endorsement to the great catarrh remedy, Peruna, in the following words:

"Your Peruna is one of the best medicines I ever tried, and no family should be without your remarkable remedy. As a tonic and catarrh cure I know of nothing better."—J. H. Bankhead.

There is but a single medicine which

is a radical specific for catarrh. It is Peruna, which has stood a half century test and cured thousands of cases.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case, and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, O. All correspondence held strictly confidential.