

Topics of the Times

Any man who is master of his own house is usually a bachelor.

Even the most ardent temperance man does not want to see Niagara Falls become a dry town.

Another reason, probably, why "Mr. Rockefeller has no ax to grind" is that his ax is always in good working condition.

An average girl thinks all the young men of her acquaintance wonder if she would refuse them if they proposed.

H. Gaylord Wilshire, a Socialist, says bribery is a necessity. Probably he has been eating in restaurants and traveling in Pullman cars.

The Sultan of Morocco offers \$2 each for the heads of his enemies. It looks as if the heads of his enemies were a glut in the market.

If that New York bicyclist whose pipe was driven down his throat by a fall from his wheel had been smoking a cigarette he might still be alive.

In order that your sleep may be sweet ask yourself this question before retiring for the night: "Have I been kind to any rich man to-day?"

Many a man sets out for immortality and reaches oblivion; but he may find the road more pleasant and he may be just as happy when he reaches his destination.

Dr. Osler has come out in favor of taxing bachelors. The bachelors ought to get together now and give the doctor a vote of thanks. He might have advocated chloroform for them.

Richard Harding Davis says our postal service is the worst in the world. It is understood, also, that Mr. Machen and Mr. Beavers do not like the service as well as they did.

For the never-vacant post of "champion mean man" the Chicago husband who shot at his wife because the train she was on was 15 minutes late is an easy winner. And he blames it on dyspepsia. A dynamite tablet should be prescribed.

Andrew Carnegie says he always finds out before offering money whether it will be accepted or not. It's a wise plan. No rich man should run the risk of being humiliated for the mere sake of keeping his conscience from rocking the boat.

As all the gun foundries of Europe continue to work night and day, the peace tribunal at The Hague may as well turn off the gas, put up the shutters and post the usual notice on the door announcing an indefinite suspension of business. A peace tribunal is all right when no war is going on, but it is not even ornamental as soon as the shooting begins.

Cornelius Vanderbilt, the millionaire inventor, has been given letters patent on an improved locomotive boiler, which, it is claimed, will make a great saving in fuel to the railroads. This is the second or third time that young Vanderbilt has made a successful appearance at the patent office. Cornelius Vanderbilt is the eldest son of the late Cornelius Vanderbilt, and should have inherited the major portion of his father's vast estate and the leadership of the house, but because of his independence in marrying the woman he loved against the wishes of his father he was passed over and the Vanderbilt cash and honors went to his younger brother Alfred. Cornelius fell heir to a million or two, and his independence, which was worth more to him.

It would not be surprising if there was a revolt some time against the retired list of the army and navy. Through recent legislation and rapid promotions the retired list has become top-heavy. There are now three lieutenant generals, 20 major generals and 250 brigadier generals on the retired list of the army. In the navy of the three highest grades there are 123 rear admirals, 18 commodores and 54 captains. The act of Congress two years ago raised many men on the retired list one rank if they had seen service in the Civil War and had not been advanced a grade on retirement. This swelled the list of brigadier generals a great deal, but 250 brigadier generals on the retired list is entirely out of proportion to the size of the army either now or what it has been during the past 40 years since the close of the Civil War.

We are living and have been living in a period of wealth-developing, of money-making, of industrialism and commercialism in which have grown up colossal fortunes through the devel-

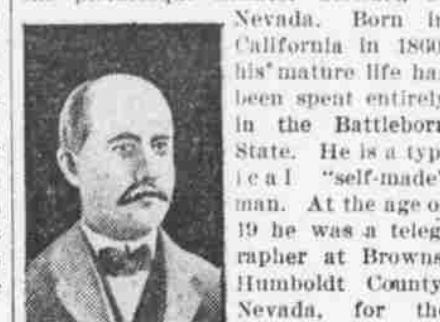
opment of the enormous natural advantages of this wonderful country. In such a period of industrialism success is apt to be measured by individual wealth or earning capacity. But we shall come more and more to understand and appreciate the true standard, to estimate men, not in dollars and cents, but according to their real worth. The world's greatest benefactors have been men who lived and died poor in material wealth. The scholar, the patriot, the statesman, the artist, the scientist, the teacher, the moral exemplar, these in the greatness of their work make the mere money grubber seem meanly small. There is too much worship of wealth, but it is not universal.

To one sweet soul who lived among us too short space the panorama of life and its living was spread in a fine and true light. He saw, through much pain and many struggles the things that endure beyond those of this world. In that brief "creed" of living which has come to us from Robert Louis Stevenson are set the guideposts to a finer conception of life and its duties than is contained in many a bulky book. To some it is a part of what they know and love; to others it is unknown. What is it to you? "To be honest, to be kind. To earn a little and to spend a little less. To make, upon the whole, a family happier for his presence. To renounce when that shall be necessary, and not to be embittered. To keep a few friends, but these without capitulation—above all, on the same grim condition, to keep friends with himself. Here is a task for all that a man has of fortitude and delicacy." Here is material for a year of writing and a lifetime of thinking and doing. For it is, in truth, a mustard seed of happiness and helpfulness. The art of living is of all human subjects with which we have to deal the broadest and most beautiful. It is well for men and women to dip into it as deeply as their mental equipment and the stature of their souls will allow. It is an art too much neglected in these hurried days. The tendency toward material gain, the craving for position and personal place, the increasing appetites for fame and fashion, are all more or less hostile to its development and growth. Deserving of the highest and most prominent place in the catalogue of human attainments, it is often made secondary to those far inferior. To "get along" in the world seems the shibboleth of the newer generation, rather than to live nobly and well. This is not strange, neither is it a phase of the times to be greatly feared. As with most things of the sort, time is needed to right it—time and the work and words of those who see above the mountain tops of materialism into the clear sky of common sense and the spirit. Out of this marsh may grow and bloom the best flowers of the future. The mistakes of to-day are the foundations on which we build the lasting towers of to-morrow. As with honesty, kindness loves most to dwell in little things. Both are like the notes of a great organ, honesty the bass and kindness the treble. We can not see the player—and his name is legion—but out through the aisles and nave and transepts of the world floats the music. In perfect harmony they gladden and soothe, their fair melody drowning many discords and marking time to the march of our better selves.

STEWART'S SUCCESSOR.

Rise of George S. Nixon from Telegrapher to Senator.

Essentially a product of the West is Hon. George S. Nixon, who succeeds the picturesque Senator Stewart, of Nevada.



GEORGE S. NIXON. Railroad and three years later a bookkeeper in the Washoe County Bank at Reno. Here his business career began; in a short time he organized the First National Bank of Winnemucca and he is now the controlling factor in a half dozen banks, President of the Lovelock Land and Development Company, which has reclaimed by irrigation 30,000 acres of wonderfully fertile land near Lovelock, Nev. He is also largely interested in the cattle and sheep business, while his mining interests in the gold districts are of numerous value. Aside from the exalted office he now occupies the only other official position ever held by him was member of the Nevada State Legislature during the session of 1891, but he has always taken an active interest in politics and has been a strong and active leader in State affairs.

After a man passes sixty, the number of times the hero saves the heroine in the book doesn't count for as much as the size of the type the story is printed in.

PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

THE PATRIOTISM OF PEACE.

By Joseph W. Folk, Governor of Missouri.



JOSEPH W. FOLK.

However great in natural resources, however potent in material achievements, Missouri's fairest and dearest possession is her own good name. This name she has treasured and defended and faithfully vindicated before the people of the world. We have what is called the "Missouri idea"—the idea that citizenship in a free country implies a civic obligation to enforce the performance of every public trust and holding every public official to strict accountability for all official acts. Missouri took up the fight against civic

wrongs. A dormant public conscience was aroused. The realization came to the people that if all official acts were for sale free government would no longer exist. From Missouri the idea spread from State to State until from ocean to ocean the fight was waged against evil.

The Missouri idea means the enforcement of law and that if the law be bad the remedy is to repeal, not to ignore, it. There is entirely too little respect for law in America. Disregard of one law breeds disrespect for all law. "It is the law" should be sufficient for the law abiding. Good men will observe even bad laws, but bad men will break even good laws.

There are many who thrill with patriotic fervor at the thought of going to war and risking their lives for their country, but who forget to vote on election day. The patriotism of peace is just as necessary as the patriotism of war. The patriotism of the ballot is even more necessary in a free country than the patriotism of the bullet.

The government never neglects the people unless the people first neglect the government. No government, city, State or national, was ever better than the people made it or worse than they suffered it to become. The people are the ultimate source of governmental power. The people are the State, and the public life of a nation is but a reflection of its private life. Good citizens may make good laws, but no law can make good citizens.

DROP YOUR SMALL HABITS.

By Henry Owen.



Small habits reap more victims from among the youth of our country than do the larger, more glaring ones against which are constantly hurled the warnings of press and pulpit.

The venerable minister who gave utterance to the foregoing has a life record of good work behind him, but he never said anything to which it will better pay the young man to stop and think of than this.

Small habits, the kind that are so small that no one, not even the parents of the young man who acquires them, consider them worthy of notice, are the kind of habits that spell ruin to all too many young men in this country each year.

You, Mr. Clerk, Mr. Salesman, and Mr. Worker in general, this is written at you. If you are one of that large class of American young men who work daily only to be in a position to humor their desires at night, you are a victim of the small habits. If you worry about the quality of your cigars or cigarettes you are likewise a victim to them.

Remember how these habits didn't amount to anything at all, at first? 'Member when you didn't spend over 50

cents a week at pool or billiards, and when your smoking didn't cost you much more than that? Costs you more now, doesn't it?

But that isn't all you've lost because of the habits—those few paltry dollars. You've lost your opportunities to be improving yourself, to be fitting yourself for the chance that comes some day to every man to step into a position from where the climb to the top will be comparatively easy. The young man who wants to climb has got to choose, and choose early, between these small habits and success.

MEN TO BE YOUNG AT SEVENTY.

By Prof. Harvey W. Wiley.

The time is rapidly approaching when no man should die from disease, and few men should die from accidents. The time is coming when men will die simply because they wear out, and the process of wearing out will be much slower than it has been because they will know better how to take care of themselves and will be freed from the ravages of disease.

I base my conclusions upon the wonderful progress that has been made in the last twenty-five years. Few diseases are now considered incurable. Epidemics of diseases, such as the country has known, when smallpox would prevail throughout an entire city, and when yellow fever killed off people in the Southern cities by the hundred, are now impossible. Already, the progress made by science has increased the average span of life by many years, and I am convinced that this same rapid progress will eventually eliminate disease altogether.

Twenty-five years ago it was estimated that the average life was not more than thirty-three years. I would not venture to say how much greater it is now, but it has certainly been increased by many years.

To this result various causes have contributed. One is the better knowledge of the laws of nutrition. Another the improvement of sanitation. Third, there has been a general adoption of antiseptic surgery. A fourth, and perhaps most important cause, is the discovery of preventive medicines, such as serums and toxine. Outdoor exercise has done much to improve the physical condition. The sixth cause is the realization by working people, also of all classes, that they must have recreation and amusements. Business men appreciate the necessity of rest for themselves and for those who serve them. Vacations have become the rule, because the system requires an interval of relaxation in which to recuperate from the strains to which it is subjected in business work of all kinds.

WAR'S BENEFITS OF DOUBTFUL VALUE.

By John D. Long.



The benefits from war are of very doubtful value. They are not the steady flowing stream upon which you can rely. They are rather like the torrent that destroys as much as it carries. I think we may all rejoice that our country now is in a condition of peace; that all the tendencies of our national life are in that direction. It is my earnest hope that we shall continue, and that is one of the reasons why I think we are carrying this Monroe doctrine a little too far. There is great danger that it may be carried to the point where it will result in unpleasant complications.

CENTURIES OLD.

Rock-Hewn Temple of Egypt Still a Wonderful Structure.

If by some mischance, such as a fearful pestilence, the busy millions now inhabiting this continent should be swept away, what of our history could an exploring party landing on the desolate shores a century hence for the first time glean by a study of the ruins? It is safe to venture that they would depart but little wiser than when they came. How long, for instance, would the Brooklyn bridge survive the ravages of time if no repairs were made? Suppose it lasted a cen-

as 3,000 and 4,000 years yet bear witness to the stirring events of their day, as may be read on their carved and sculptured walls by the students of the present age.

The rock-hewn temples of Ipsambul, Abu Sambul, or Abusimbel, in Egypt, are well-known examples of the fondness of ancient races for incorporating in their well-nigh imperishable public buildings all the principal events of their nation's history. These remarkable ruins are on the west bank of the Nile, 1,014 miles above Cairo and eight miles above the second cataract, and are two of the best preserved and most magnificent specimens of the kind in

at each extremity, and an asylum. The whole is apparently almost as perfect as it was when completed. This temple was first discovered in March, 1813, by Burckhardt. During his investigation of the sacred edifice he made a further discovery, some 200 feet in the rear, of the heads of four colossal statues, the bodies of which were buried in sand. These he rightly judged to belong to the finest period of Egyptian sculpture. The front wall of the temple was covered with well-executed hieroglyphics and displayed above the entrance a figure of hawk-headed Osiris surmounted by a globe, and Burckhardt predicted that the clearing away of the sand would reveal a temple to that deity.

Not until 1817, four years later, was the sand finally removed. Excavating had proceeded to a depth of 31 feet before the top of the entrance was reached and much more had to be done before it was finished, but it was worth the while.

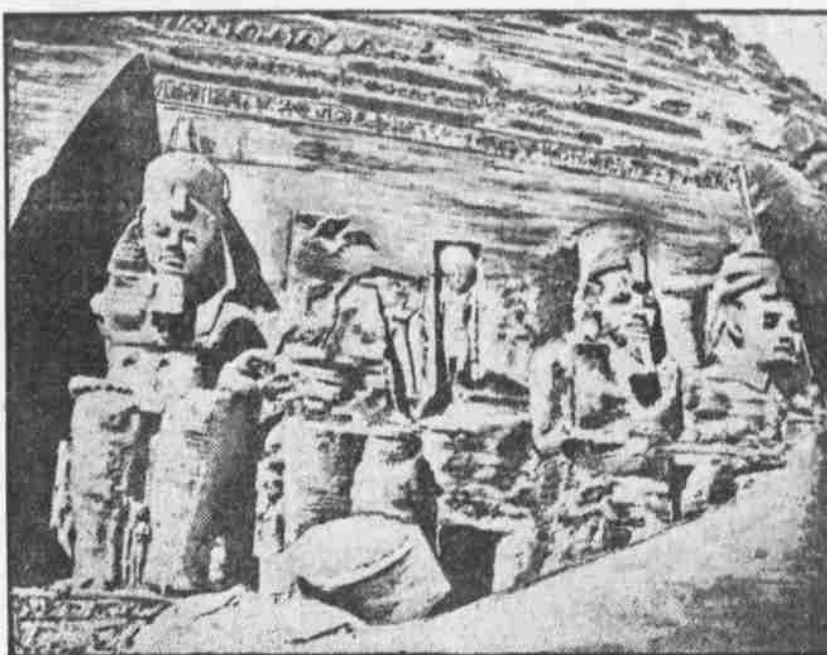
The interior of this ancient temple presents first the colonnade, the pillars of which bear figures of Osiris 30 feet high, and the walls exhibit sculptures representing battles and triumphs. Next is the great hall extending 200 feet into the rock, with ranges of massive square columns adorned with statues. Beyond are an ante-chamber and the sanctuary with several side chambers. In the background is a colossal figure seated on a bench, and there are similar statues in the side chambers. In the center of the sanctuary is a pedestal on which a sarcophagus may have once stood, and hence the argument put forth by some authorities that the monument was not a temple but the sepulchre of a king.

This interesting place, whether tomb or temple, was constructed during the reign of Rameses II, one of the most remarkable of Egypt's monarchs, who belonged to the 19th dynasty and occupied the throne during the most brilliant period of the empire of Thebes.

All of It.

"How much does it cost to keep an automobile?" "That depends altogether on how much a man is worth."—Houston Post.

Don't get too close to your friends or they may accidentally step on you.



FACADE OF EGYPT'S GREAT ROCK-HEWN TEMPLE.

tury or more, what then? Its stone and steel were wrought with a view to combine great strength with some architectural beauty—the latter being a secondary consideration only; and no thought was given to the possibility of its usefulness as a medium for the perpetuation of historical records. Had the nations of old displayed no greater sense in the construction of their public or semi-public works, there would be far less known to-day about their accomplishments both in peace and war. Instead, many ruins that have withstood the action of the elements for such long periods of time

all Egypt. Both have front walls of sandstone and their interiors are excavated from solid rock. The larger of the two has at its imposing entrance four colossal figures that were carved from the rock. Though represented as seated on thrones these figures are 65 feet high and are the largest ever found in that land of gigantic ruins.

The smaller temple, which is supposed to have been dedicated to Athes, stands 20 feet above the Nile, and has a front of 90 feet adorned with six gigantic statues. There is an interior hall having six square pillars, a transverse corridor with a small chamber