

Topics of the Times

Now let Wizard Burbank invent an odorless moth ball.

Every old settlers' meeting demonstrates one thing, namely, that there are more young ones.

All the world asks of a man is for him to do his best. If that doesn't suit him he can get out.

In the meantime President Roosevelt does wish those Panama canal builders would ginger up a little.

Seal, sable and mink furs will be more popular than ever with the ladies. Prices have increased from 60 to 80 per cent.

"It is a good thing to let your wife be boss," says a New York judge. The question as to whether it is a good or bad thing does not alter the fact any.

Vienna has named a street after Roosevelt in honor of his part in the peace proceedings. Evidently there are no makers of 5-cent cigars in Vienna.

The man that robbed Jesse James, Jr., of \$300 probably is the descendant of some man with a long-standing account against the James family, and is trying to get even.

Some professional charity workers do not seem to believe in the assertion of Bulwer that "when a man is down in the world an ounce of help is worth a pound of preaching."

After a while it will be possible for an American traveling in the Old World to find a Roosevelt street in every town of any consequence, outside of Japan—and possibly Spain.

A small boy in East Orange, N. J., has been arrested for sending infernal machines by the half dozen to a fau- cied enemy. If the police look him over they will probably find "Made in Russia" stamped on him somewhere.

A man matched silver dollars in a saloon until he lost \$275 without winning once. He then became suspicious and quit the game. One of Artemus Ward's stories tells of a man who was confined in a loathsome dungeon for sixteen long years, when a happy thought struck him—he opened the window and got out.

Since the beginning of the war Japan has increased her debt from about \$290,000,000 to \$981,000,000, but of this amount she has on hand perhaps as much as \$175,000,000 unexpended. In the same time Russia's debt has increased from \$3,282,000,000 to about \$3,700,000,000. Japan will probably receive about \$100,000,000 from Russia in payment for the maintenance of prisoners of war, and Russia must also borrow money for her immediate needs at home. Japan, therefore, seems to come out of the war in better financial condition than Russia, in spite of the latter country's vastly greater resources.

Does village improvement pay? Those who doubt it may find something suggestive in the conclusion of a man who is looking for a home in a New England village accessible from Boston. In his search he visited one town to which he had been recommended. He found the railway station shabby, the common, in sight from the station, covered with long grass, and weeds growing along the sidewalks. The whole place had a bedraggled and neglected air. The man decided at once that he did not care to buy property or to live among people apparently so indifferent to appearances as those who controlled affairs in that town.

Nuremberg, Germany, in conjunction with the Society of German Clock Makers, recently erected a monument to Peter Henlein. Four hundred years ago he substituted springs for weights in clocks, and thus prepared the way for the watch. His work also meant that clocks could be made smaller, since length was no longer required for the fall of the weight. It is probable that the first spring was not coiled as at present, but consisted of a strip fastened at one end, with a string at the other end pulled down and coiled round the driving wheel. The spring thus acted like the sapling in a noose trap. Its play was limited, and the timepiece soon ran down.

It is probably true that the theory and practice of bacteriology have been carried to absurd lengths by enthusiasts, but if the science had accomplished nothing save to control diphtheria it would justify all the encomiums of its devotees. Under the antitoxin treatment, which is the result of bacteriological work, the diph-

theria death rate in Chicago has been reduced from 13.07 per 10,000 to 10.04 per 10,000. The record speaks for itself and constitutes a sufficient answer to all the jests and jibes—some of them good-natured and others not—that have been directed at the germ theory. Bacteriology has proved its right to a place among the great sanitary agencies of the century.

The meanest thing a woman can do is to give dabs. A dab, lest some man creature should inquire, is a remark implying a slight—just enough of a slight to hurt, without being sufficient to resent. The giving of dabs is an essentially feminine trait; and one woman may make another exceedingly unhappy by exhibiting it. The reason men do not give dabs is because they have been about enough to see the foolishness of it. Any woman who has been around much sees the same, for the matter of that. But fewer women have been around. Until they get around, their penchant for dabbing will remain, for getting around makes one get busy in the head. A dab is the natural output of a head with nothing more important to do. The mind must find activity somewhere, and housekeeping, or running the cook leaves a good deal of excess vitality in a woman's head. So she uses it up in dabs. Oh, yes, dabbing takes head work. Some dabs are vastly clever. But isn't it too bad to spend good life in making others unhappy? Here is the cure: Get busy in the head. As an inducement to take it—to those who need it—it may be added that dabbing ends in making the dabbler far more unhappy than it makes the dabbled. For the cordial dislike of a large collection of dabbled ones is no nice thing to encounter, and such a collection is easy to acquire, since no one is so faultless as to be undabbable. This earth is full of women with mental capacity far above their jobs. No, housekeeping cannot be successfully done by a stupid person. It takes head, undeniably. But it doesn't often take all the head a woman has. Hence dabs. Now, if you don't believe this, get in a crowd of women and listen. If you don't hear something enlightening, you've poor ears. And then, if you are a woman without sufficient mental employment, get busy in the head.

Among the other results of continued national prosperity is the increase in the number of young men who are acquiring a college education. He is a poor man, indeed, who cannot send his son to college nowadays. This is markedly true in the West, where all the higher institutions of learning report an enrollment of unprecedented size. All classes of people—farmers, merchants, mechanics—have prospered beyond expectation, and the first thought of an American in such circumstances is to give his son a college education, which is supposed to mean a better chance in life than a common school education affords. There is some difference of opinion respecting this conclusion, but most people will agree that, other things being equal, the man with a good education will have an advantage over the man with a deficient education or with no education at all. We may easily see, however, that the number of college-bred men may exceed the number of professional or business openings available for educated men. In that contingency the question would arise: What shall we do with our college graduates? It is easy enough to say that a college man will make a better truckman or hod-carrier or street car conductor than an illiterate man. But will the college man, in default of professional employment, go to work as a truckman or a hod-carrier or a street car conductor? That is the crucial question. If he will not do so what is to become of him? We cannot all be merchants or doctors or lawyers or scientific men. Some of us must be Gibeonites—some of us must do the world's hard, disagreeable work; some of us must hew wood and draw water. With the present spread of college and university education the time seems not far distant when all of us will be competent to fill the higher posts in life and very much disinclined to accept the humbler ones. When we reach that situation the question of employing our college graduates will become one of paramount importance. One solution of that question may be the reduction of the output of the colleges. It will hardly be worth while to teach a man Latin and Greek and the higher mathematics in order to prepare him for ditch-digging—especially if he refuses to dig ditches.

She Was It.

Mr. Sophist—I saw you in the restaurant where I took lunch to-day.

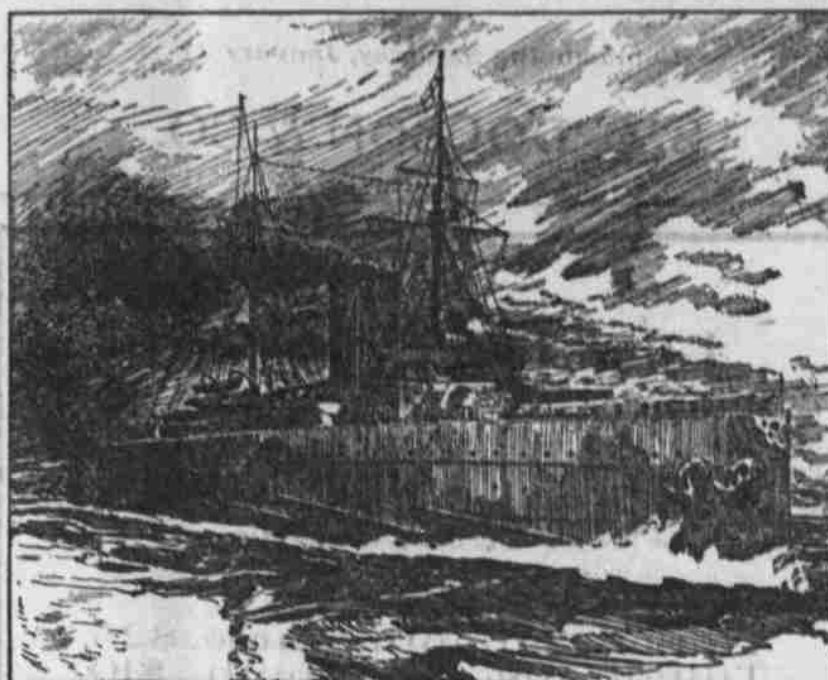
Miss Bewtie—Nonsense! I haven't been in a restaurant for weeks.

Mr. Sophist—Oh, but you were there, all right, and they had you on the bill of fare in big type—peaches and cream.—Philadelphia Ledger.

If you do a disastrous thing carelessly, it is the same thing as if you did it on purpose.

BRITAIN TO HAVE MIGHTIEST BATTLESHIP

H. M. S. Dreadnought, 18,000 Tons, Is Planned to Be the Largest and Heaviest Man-of-War Afloat.



The British are about to begin the construction of the largest, heaviest, most powerful and most costly battleship ever built, and intend to have the pennant flying from her mast within sixteen months after the date on which the first keel plates are laid.

This invincible and invulnerable war vessel is to be named Dreadnought, and the British admiralty has designed her to be capable of equaling her name. She will mount more heavy guns than any two battleships now afloat; will be able to withstand an attack from a submarine, and if she happens to touch off a floating mine will be able to continue afloat until a port is reached. In addition to these enviable virtues, the Dreadnought will also have great speed, and, if she wants to "turn tail" her engines, developing a speed of 21 knots an hour, will enable her to outdistance any too pressing foe. Even if overtaken, the very thick armor plating will enable her to stand unusual punishment, and for dealing with torpedo boats she will have a small battery of one-pounders and six-pounders. She will also be armed with torpedo tubes, but will be unique in having no secondary battery.

No details of the armor to be placed on the Dreadnought have been given, but it is known that she will be the most completely armored ship afloat. Her armor alone will weigh about 5,000 tons. In gunpower the Dreadnought is designed to be the most formidable warship ever seen. No battleship in the world to-day carries more than four 12-inch guns, but the Dreadnought will mount no fewer than ten, or two and a half times as many as any ship afloat. This enormous battery of 12-inch rifles will have a combined muzzle energy of 480,000 foot-tons. Each of these big guns will throw a shell weighing 850 pounds, the combined battery being able to throw over four tons of projectiles at one discharge. The Dreadnought will be able to throw this immense weight of metal a distance of five or six miles, at which range the shells would pierce the armor of practically any battleship afloat.

Progress in Battleships.

There has been a wonderful advance in the development of battleships within the last ten years. In 1895 Great Britain had twenty-three armored ships, each of more than 10,000 tons. To-day, if there are included the ships being built, she has sixty. In 1895 the heaviest British battleship was the Royal Sovereign, of 14,260 tons. There were eight ships of

this type, and they were regarded as the finest afloat.

France at that time had fourteen battleships, each of over 10,000 tons displacement, the largest being the Bouvet, of 12,205 tons. There are now twenty-six battleships, each of more than 10,000 tons, in the French navy, the heaviest being the Democrite class, now building, ships of 14,635 tons. Italy, in 1895, had ten battleships ranking above the 10,000-ton class, the heaviest being the Lepanto, a 15,900-ton ship, built in 1883, and so heavily armed and armored that she almost found it difficult to get out of her own way. She is now ranked as a second-class battleship; but she is not considered fit to stand even in that line. The Italia, sister ship to the Lepanto, was built in 1890, and was for many years the largest battleship afloat. She represents an early attempt to build a monster battleship, but, apart from size, she has never been considered at all formidable. Italy now has fourteen battleships, each over 10,000 tons, the heaviest being the Regina Margherita, 13,124 tons.

In 1895 the United States and Germany were equal as to battleships of over 10,000 tons. Each had four; the United States had the heaviest ship in the Iowa, of 11,340 tons. Germany's four were uniformly 10,300 tons. Now Germany has eighteen heavy battleships, and six building. The United States has twelve, with thirteen building and two projected. The heaviest German battleships to-day are her 12,997-ton class; the heaviest in the United States is the Connecticut class, 16,000 tons.

The wars of the United States with Spain and Japan with Russia have not been without their lessons to the naval powers, and the tendency is to build larger and heavier battleships, so that they may carry more tremendous batteries. The determination to build these enormous ships was arrived at only after considerable discussion. It was thought by some naval constructors that more units, each of considerable power, were to be desired above a few battleships of the greatest power.

It was thought that the Dreadnought would be the last word in warship construction for many years, but now it appears that Japan is to build three battleships of 19,000 tons each. Germany is reported to be considering a 20,000-ton warship, and France next year is to lay down one of 20,500 tons. Perhaps the contest will end in universal peace, for there is a limit to battleship construction, and if it is not reached in the Dreadnought, it at least must be near.

ed another movement that proved to be a true tide, due to the sun and moon. The measurements have been made repeatedly during the month with the six microscopes of the instrument. The tidal motion is slight, but greater than the possible errors.

The "auxetophone" is an attachment for reinforcing the sounds given forth by phonographs and gramophones, invented by Mr. C. A. Parsons, the inventor of the steam turbine, and Mr. Horace Short. A small valve of peculiar construction controls the admission into the trumpet of compressed air supplied from a pump or bellows. The action of the apparatus is compared in the Scientific American to that of an air relay, whereby not only are greater power and volume imparted to the sounds, but the fullness and richness of tone are heightened. It is said that on a calm day the auxetophone can be heard distinctly at a distance of two or three miles, and that in speech every word may be clearly distinguished as much as 600 yards away.

MRS. EMMA FLEISSNER.
Suffered Over Two Years—Health Was In a Precarious Condition—Caused by Pelvic Catarrh.



HEALTH AND STRENGTH RESTORED BY PE-RU-NA

Mrs. Emma Fleissner, 1412 Sixth Ave., Seattle, Wash., Worthy Treasurer Sons of Temperance, writes:

"I suffered over two years with irregular and painful periods. My health was in a very precarious condition and I was anxious to find something to restore my health and strength."

"I was very glad to try Peruna and delighted to find that it was doing me good." I continued to use it a little over three months and found my troubles removed.

"I consider it a splendid medicine and shall never be without it, taking a dose occasionally when I feel run down and tired."

Our files contain thousands of testimonials which Dr. Hartman has received from grateful, happy women who have been restored to health by his remedy, Peruna.

The Young Philosopher.

"'Nother piece of pie, please, pa." "But you haven't finished your first piece."

"No, pa. But you know you told me not to eat fast. And if you give me a second piece now I shan't eat so fast, because I won't be afraid that the second piece will be gone when I get through with the first piece. Please, pa."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, ss.
LUCAS COUNTY.

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of CATARRH that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.
Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D., 1898.
A. W. GLEASON,
Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.
F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by Druggists, 75c.
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Strenuous Life.

"Say," roared the irate citizen as he rushed into the office of the village weekly, "where's the editor?"

"Want to see him personally?" queried the office boy.

"You bet I do," answered the l. c. "I'm going to thrash him within an inch of his life. See?"

"Oh, all right," answered the boy. "Just have a seat, please. There are three others ahead of you."



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