

Topics of the Times

A little man imagines his contrastness is will power.

A woman's idea of a rich man is one who has everything she wants.

No man enjoys kissing a girl who has her hair done up in curl papers.

Every year of a woman's age contains from eighteen to twenty months.

It turns out, as might have been expected, that Mr. Fairbanks was born in Ohio.

The man who is always telling what a lot of good he would do if he had money never has any.

A song of peace to the accompaniment of booming cannon is funny enough to make the whole world a chorale.

Necessity knows no law, which is rather remarkable considering the great number of lawyers it is intimate with.

It is characteristic that what Tokyo calls a "sweeping defeat" St. Petersburg speaks of as a "masterly retreat."

After a man has tried to talk business to a woman for five minutes he is prepared to sympathize with dry goods clerks.

A Japanese magazine has been started. This will give the Jap generals and admirals something to do after the war is over.

The World's Fair famous Empire State Express speed record-smashing engine, "No. 986," has been canned. It now hauls a milk train.

In Japan the two political parties have united in support of the government. To hit a Russian head wherever seen is the only politics now in the island empire.

When a Japanese leader makes a blunder he commits suicide. In this country they lay the blame on the other fellow—and run for office in order to be vindicated.

No-Vacation Russell Sage should write a letter of appreciation of Judge Miller of Mississippi, who says that high wages cause idleness, because men do not have to work all the time for a living.

Some southern discussion is heard over the advisability of writing more appropriate words to "Dixie." So long as the tune makes the average audience want to get up and wave its hat and cheer, who cares what the words are?

Thornunn English, who died recently, is to be described on his tombstone: "Author, Editor, Lawyer, Soldier, Physician and Statesman." Future generations will be left to wonder, naturally, why he never studied music and china painting.

Heroes do not always wear uniforms and brass buttons. The driver of an ash-cart in New York saw an automobile come rapidly down the street. The chauffeur was paying no heed to what was ahead. Just then a 7-year-old boy rushed across the street. The asstman turned his cart directly in front of the automobile and brought it to a standstill just in time to save the child's life. He doubtless had a little boy of his own.

Once there were two little grapes. One was a good little grape and minded his mother. The other was a bad little grape. One day the bad little grape disobeyed his mother and rolled off the fruit stand. A ragged little negro boy came along and ate it, but all the little grape could do was give the little boy a stomach ache. The good little grape was eaten by a rich man, and it gave him a nice case of appendicitis. Moral: Mind your mothers, little folks.

Russia's weakness is at St. Petersburg. Her soldiers are as brave as those of other nations. They will do their utmost to uphold the cause of their country. But they can accomplish little unless they are supported at home. And they are not being supported. It is good to know that the people of Russia are feeling a sense of outrage at the inefficiency and corruption of those in high office. It may be that Japan, by defeating the Russians, will be the means of working a great and much-needed reform in the home administration. Surely the wicked, corrupt and tyrannous despotism cannot last forever.

There is a growing feeling of hostility toward users of all sorts of motor vehicles and their disregard of the safety of pedestrians. In Philadelphia recently a motor cyclist ran down a pedestrian, injuring him so that he was confined twenty-one days in a hospital. The Philadelphia court sentenced the rider to the same number of days in jail. The rider indignantly contended that the punishment was excessive. The court sternly denied his application for a reduction, declaring that "the pedestrian is still entitled to freedom of the streets and highways with reasonable assurance of safety, despite the advent of the motor vehicle, and that right must be respected." No doubt this states a plain and binding

legal principle. The pedestrian has a right in any part of the street or highway, conditioned only upon reasonable carefulness in the exercise of his right. The driver or rider of any horse-drawn or otherwise propelled vehicle has right only in that part of the street provided specially for common use. He has no right on the footways or sidewalks, which are provided for the exclusive use of pedestrians. In the use of those parts of the street where all have rights, the roadways and street crossings, all alike are held to the exercise of reasonable care. No driver of a horse or motor vehicle in a street has a right to press the vehicle to greater speed than is consistent with the safety of pedestrians, whose rights are at least equal. If horse or motor drivers wish to "speed" those vehicles they should be compelled to provide ways specially for that purpose, where pedestrians would not be endangered.

In his address to the 527 graduates of Cornell University President Schurman departed from the beaten track of commencement day advice long enough to register an earnest protest against bachelorhood. "He who deliberately leads a single life, whose social circle is the club, and whose religion is a refined and fastidious epicureanism, is not a man," declared Dr. Schurman. In elaborating his idea as to the duties and obligations of manhood President Schurman explained that while it was the primary duty of every young man to earn a living this could not fulfill the world's reasonable expectation of him. He has a higher duty to humanity and the State, which requires that he found a home and provide for a wife and family. Ir Dr. Schurman had pronounced a sweeping and unqualified condemnation of bachelorhood he doubtless would have laid himself open to much criticism. But it is to be noted that his protest was aimed at the college graduate who "deliberately elects bachelorhood." His purpose manifestly was to rebuke the young man who carefully and designedly avoids the responsibilities of our civilization, chief among which is the founding of a home and the rearing of a family. In these times of rapidly changing industrial and social conditions, when so many thousands of young women are rushing into all lines of wage-earning employments and making themselves independent of the young man who has a matrimonial proposition to present, it would be a venturesome man indeed who would utter a sweeping and unqualified condemnation of bachelorhood. Investigation beneath the surface would reveal the fact that it is a condition that confronts the bachelor, not a theory.

Founding Cripple Creek.

About a dozen years ago, a weary, plodding man with hammer in hand left Colorado Springs to look for gold. He was a poor man, and on this trip he had been grub-staked—that is, some one had lent him enough money to pay his expenses, with the understanding that if gold was found the man who lent the money should receive a certain proportion. This weary plodder had trod those mountains for years. He knew every canyon, every peak, every crag, and after all those years he was poor in pocket, but rich in experience.

It was on the morning of a bright July Fourth—Independence day—that he looked into a wild basin lying between the mountain peaks. Far away to the west he saw Pike's Peak piercing the clouds, but the grandeur and wildness of the scene were nothing to him. He was thinking of the day—Independence day—and wondering when his day of independence would come. Within twelve hours it came to him, and Winfield Scott Stratton found the great bonanza that Fourth of July, and he called it "Stratton's Independence." Thus he founded Cripple Creek, and from that time he has taken the wealth of a Midas and Croesus three times over.

From the mining camp of Cripple Creek millions in gold have been taken.—Four-Track News.

High Times These.

References to Hamlin Garland's Mexican gold mine and to Irving Bachelor's prospecting trip in Mexico started a discussion the other day concerning the pecuniary success of the modern author.

"All the boys are buying estates or swapping mines or traveling in Europe," said an irreverent publisher. "There's Dicky Davis keeping up his own golf links and kennels and stables at a fine piece up the Hudson, and Garland and Bachelor playing craps for gold mines, and Winston Churchill with manorial halls that out-English the English up in the Green Mountains, and Tarkington wandering around Italy with a retinue."

Thomas Dixon owns a Virginia plantation and a yacht, and Lew Wallace draws about \$50,000 a year in royalties.

"Even the women are having trouble keeping their bank accounts down. The publishers are the only literary folk who eat cheap table d'hote dinners nowadays."

Suicide Strews Bed with Flowers.

A stranger who had taken lodgings for the night at a hotel off the Rue Traversiere, in Paris, committed suicide by taking poison.

He had covered himself with a large quantity of roses, and in a note left on the table begged to be buried with the flowers, adding:

"I am a mystery, come from mystery, and return to mystery. I have come to Paris to die there, unbeknown to my family. It is love that kills me."

Sometimes the proof of the pudding is the undertaker's bill.

EDITORIALS

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

The Ministry.

OF the 20,000 men and women who graduated from our universities and colleges last month only 1,500 aspire to preach the gospel. As there are some 74,000 engaged in preaching in the United States this contribution is insufficient to keep up the supply. Here and there are men and women who have never had a college or theological training who are discharging the duties of the pulpit, but they are few compared to those who have had those advantages, so that virtually the number of aspirants is a correct measure of the extent of the ministerial ambition.

The principal reason why the number of candidates for the clergy is growing less relatively year by year are that congregations are getting more exacting, that the pay is small and the occupation the least attractive of the professions. This is the selfish point of view. Then, the conscientious student who may be religiously inclined and who sees great opportunities for doing good in the calling, sometimes is deterred because he cannot satisfy his conscience of the truth of some of the doctrines of Christianity. Sooner than preach something which he cannot believe in he turns his talents to another calling.

Another hindrance is that the religious unrest, so palpable in the world, is much more pronounced in the higher halls of learning. Here agnosticism, materialism, indifference, are at work sapping the early religious training and turning the mind in its formative stage against the pulpit. Much harm is wrought here by the scoffer and the unbeliever who are never so happy as when reviling Christianity and everything pertaining to its missionary advancement.

The world was never so generous in its support of Christian churches and charities as it is to-day and nowhere else is this extended with the generosity of that of the United States. Yet the disposition to preach is not keeping abreast of this sentiment. If it were, the candidates for the priesthood this year would number 4,000 or 5,000 instead of 1,500.—Utica Globe.

The Profit of Good Roads.

NOW that the country is measurably well supplied with railroads which haul the farmer's products to market at an average rate of a half a cent a ton per mile, it begins to be of prime importance that the average cost of hauling from the farm to the railway station, which is about twenty-five cents per ton per mile, should be reduced. The Department of Agriculture claims that this cost could be reduced two-thirds by the simple substitution of good macadamized roads for the ordinary dirt highways now in use.

Pennsylvania's new road law, which divides the cost of making permanent roads between the State, county and township, was inspired by a desire to begin the solution of this problem in a way that would prove least burdensome to the farmers themselves. So far, however, its provisions have not been taken advantage of as widely as was anticipated. It seems worth while to call attention to the fact that practically similar laws are already in operation, with excellent results, in New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, California and elsewhere. In the State like New Jersey, where the law has been in operation longest, the benefits are marked.

It is the first step that costs, however, in road-making as in everything else. When a few experimental sections of really good highways have been provided as object lessons, it is to be hoped that Pennsylvania farmers will fall in line with those of other States, where permanent road laws have been longer in force.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Our Illiterate Citizens.

THERE is food for thought in the figures of the United States census report dealing with education. We see that in 1900 there were 2,326,000 men of the age of 21 or over who were unable to read or write. This great army of illiterates constituted 11 per cent of the voting strength of the nation—an electorate in itself sufficiently strong, if suitably distributed, to determine national principles and policies. Of the total 977,000 were negroes and 1,254,000 whites, a percentage which when compared with that of thirty

years before shows up to the manifest disadvantage of the dominant race. Thus in 1870 the excess of illiterate negroes over illiterate whites was 90,000, while now, thirty years later, the latter outnumber the former by 277,000.

Nor can we justly retort that these illiterate whites are aliens dumped upon our shores through the agency of immigration. Of the total number of white illiterates only 563,000 are foreign born, while the native born number 688,000, or an excess of 113,000. Nor is this the worst of it. The report shows that the percentage of illiterates among the native born sons of American parents is nearly three times as great as among the native born sons of foreign parents. Evidently our foreign born citizens have a higher appreciation of the advantages of education than many of the native stock.

At no time in our history has the percentage of illiterates been as great as to-day. During the past sixty years the percentage of this class of citizens has increased from 6.15 to 6.00, despite our free school system and the earnest efforts to popularize education. The State having the largest number of illiterates is Georgia, as might be expected, with its great negro population and its large number of struggling whites. Pennsylvania is next, having 139,982 illiterates, as compared with 158,247 for Georgia. The percentage of illiterates among the native born voters of New Mexico is 25.—Utica Globe.

The Disappearance of the Male Teacher.

NO one will deny that many of the best school teachers in the country are women. There are parts of the delicate and highly important task of training the young which can best be done by tactful and gentle women. But it is also the serious opinion of experts that growing boys should very largely be under the care of men. There is a certain inspiration of manly leadership which a boy greatly needs, and which he can only get from a manly man. The influence of a thoroughly robust school teacher upon his class of boys cannot be calculated. He puts before them constantly a model of manliness, and high honor, and attractive industry, and clean courage, which leaves its stamp upon their forming minds through all the rest of their lives.

The generation of boys which must always go to school to women, and to no one else, will lose something very valuable out of their school-day training. They may get as much arithmetic and grammar and history and the rest of it from the women as from the men, but they can no more get the quality of manliness from women than they can get the quality of refinement from men. Our schools should be "manned" with men as well as women, and if we have permitted the financial attractions of the profession to fall so far behind the increasing attractions of competitive callings as to allow all the young men to be drawn away from this profession, we have been guilty of a serious betrayal of trust to the generation which is now growing up. Our fathers did not so misuse us—Montreal Star.

Wireless Telegraphy in War.

THE question of the value of wireless telegraphy in war has already been considered. Now it is supplemented by that of its legality. The Russian Government has practically served notice that it regards it as illegal. At any rate, the use of such a device at the seat of war will be treated as a breach of neutrality. Correspondents telegraphing without wires will be shot as spies, and vessels equipped with wireless telegraphic apparatus venturing near the scene of war will, if caught, be confiscated as contraband of war. So far as correspondents accompanying the Russian army are concerned, we may unhesitatingly concede the Russian the right of censorship. That is a matter of course. A belligerent power has the undoubted right to decide whether it will permit correspondents to accompany its army at all and if it does let them do so it can, of course, prescribe what matter they may send through the lines, and how. Similarly, it may exercise a censorship over news vessels entering its territorial waters, or the waters implicated in the sphere of belligerent action. But a general outlawing of wireless telegraphy in that part of the world would be a much more extreme matter.—New York Tribune.

WOODS INDIANS.

The Woods Indians, as Stewart Edward White calls the Ojibways and Woods Crees north of Lake Superior, are distinctly nomadic. They search out new trapping grounds and new fisheries, they pay visits, and seem even to enjoy travel for the sake of exploration. This life, says the author of "The Forest," inevitably develops and fosters an expertness of woodcraft almost beyond belief.

Another phase of this almost perfect correspondence to environment is the readiness with which an Indian will meet an emergency. We are accustomed to rely first of all on the skilled labor of some one we can hire; second, if we undertake the job ourselves, on the tools made for us by skilled labor; and third, on the shops to supply us with the materials we need. Hardly once in a lifetime are we thrown entirely on our own resources. Then we bunglingly improvise a makeshift.

The Woods Indian possesses his knife and his light ax. He never improvises makeshifts. No matter what the exigency or how complicated the demand, his experience answers with accuracy. Utensils and tools he knows exactly where to find. His job is neat and workmanlike, whether it is the construction of a bark receptacle, water-tight or not; the making of a pair of snow shoes, the repairing of a badly smashed canoe, the building of a shelter, or the fashioning of a paddie.

About noon one day Tawabinsay broke his ax-head square off. This to us would have been a serious affair. Probably if left to ourselves, we should have stuck in some sort of a rough handle made of a straight sapling, which would have answered well enough until we could have bought another. By the time we had cooked

dinner that Indian had fashioned another bevel. We compared it with a manufactured bevel. It was as well shaped, as smooth, as nicely balanced.

In fact, as we laid the new and the old side by side, we could not have selected, from any evidence of the workmanship, which had been made by machine and which by hand.

Tawabinsay then burned out the wood from the ax, retempered the steel, set the new bevel, and wedged it neatly with ironwood wedges. The whole affair, including the cutting of the timber, consumed perhaps half an hour.

To travel with a Woods Indian is a constant source of delight on this account. The Indian rarely needs to hunt for the materials he requires. He knows exactly where they grow, and he turns as directly to them as a clerk would turn to his shelves. No problem of the living of physical life is too obscure to have escaped his varied experience. You may travel with Indians for years, and learn every summer something new and delightful about how to take care of yourself.

COSSACKS ARE A BUGABOO.

Facts the Japanese Learned Before Opening Hostilities.

The care taken by the Japanese to make sure that they were right before going ahead is shown by the fact that, previous to the war with Russia, they took the greatest pains to ascertain the actual value as a fighting force of the much vaunted Cossack cavalry, says the army and navy register. The conclusion was, to use the language of the Japanese official from whom we obtain this information, that they were "a mere bugaboo." It was found that the custom of the Russian Government was to furnish each Cossack in Manchuria with a fixed sum for the purchase of a horse. One-half of this sum he put into his pocket and purchased the best horse he could with

the remainder. The money given for the purchase of fodder was treated in the same way and the horse left to pick up a living as best he could.

The result was shown in a serious deterioration in the efficiency of the Cossacks. Similar dishonesty was prevalent in the other departments of Russian army administration, an illustration of which is found in the story of the Russian officers found guilty of selling powder to the Chinese and putting sand in its place.

The Japanese even assert that the number of troops under the command of Kouropatkin was misrepresented, so that money might be made by drawing supplies for fictitious warriors. To make full allowance for contingencies the Japanese estimated the number of Russians they would encounter on the Yalu as 40,000 in all and sent 60,000 troops against them. It was found in the end that the Russians had only 20,000 men to oppose the crossing of the river.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Some Amusement Schemes.

The railway companies of the country are engaged in all kinds of amusement schemes, with the idea of attracting patronage, and the latest innovation of this character has taken place in Cleveland, where the manager of a street railway company has organized a baseball league. Each of the towns along the line has a nine, and a regular schedule has been arranged. The railway company has supplied the uniforms and offered other substantial assistance besides undertaking to carry the players free to and from the games. The company, however, does not participate in the profits of the team, but is repaid merely by the increased business resulting from the games.

If you go around exploiting a fool belief, people will notice it, and talk about it. People who have fool beliefs are not accorded as much charity as formerly.

TRUMPET CALLS.

Mam's Horn Sounds a Warning Note to the Unredeemed.



STRENGTH is always simple. Praise searches out pride. Holiness is soul wholeness. Truth cannot be in a trust. The godly cannot but be glad. There is no forgiveness of guilt unless there is forsaking of guilt.

Every living mind must grow. Mauna is better than mammon. His fruit, ours but the faith. Impertunity leads to opportunity. Mercy is looking for merit in all. You will need faith to fight fakes. Wealth does not excuse from work. The goats do not know they are lost. Society is often a synonym for Satan. His beauty does not depend on the baseness of all others.

None of the currents that belong to this world flow toward heaven.

There never yet was an audience so small as to deserve a small sermon.

The man who makes his boast in God will never have to back down.

You will never have to love your enemies very long, the process will kill them.

When the Bible has been the guide for the day it makes a good pillow for the night.

Is it fair to expect to get gold out of a sermon when you only put copper into the service?

Some men are praying for a heavenly blessing who need to pray for some earthly brains.

Some men give their wives ten cents for the church for the same reason that they buy a lightning-rod.

Men will spend years learning a trade and then expect to pick up the art of living in a moment.

The average boy would a good deal rather carry in all the coal next door than pick up a little kindling at home.

THEIR FAVORITE DISHES.

Gingerbread for Lincoln and Buckwheat Cakes for Jackson.

Queen Victoria is said to have given mutton the preference in the line of meats, and was wisely offended if offered "the cold shoulder."

Queen Elizabeth was very fond of roast goose. She was dining on this when the good news was brought her on Michaelmas Day that the Spanish fleet had been driven back. And ever since that fowl has been to the English feast of St. Michael what the turkey is to our Thanksgiving Day.

Henry VIII. was extremely fond of beans, and imported a Dutch gardener to raise them, as in his day they were only used by the upper classes—a dish to eat before the King.

Napoleon's favorite dish was bean salad, much cheaper in his time, but equally good.

Louis XV. was "extravagantly" fond of a dish made of the eggs of various birds, which cost \$100.

George Eliot, while at Brookbank, used frequently to walk over to the farm, where she purchased her vegetables, and chat with the farmer's wife on gardening and butter making, who was somewhat surprised at the great novelist's conversation on such homely topics, and afterward remarked: "It were wonderful, just wonderful, the sight of green peas that I send down to that gentleman and lady every week." This was the summer "Middlemarch" was written.

George Sand not only liked sauces, but excelled in making them.

Lincoln, in the days when he did his own marketing, often stopped at a certain shop for his favorite—gingerbread. He used to say: "It swells up and makes me feel as if I had had something."

Stonewall Jackson delighted in buckwheat cakes—in season and out of season.

Ralph Waldo Emerson was fond of pie, especially that made of plums, which he called the fruit of paradise.

Dr. Holmes, on the contrary, said of the peach: "When Nature has delivered it to us, in its perfection, we forget all the lesser fruits, and if not found by the River of Life, an earth-born spirit might be forgiven for missing it."

Charles Sumner's private secretary tells of the statesman's sweet tooth for chocolate creams.

Andrew Jackson surrendered to ice cream, at first taste, when Mrs. Alexander Hamilton introduced it into Washington; and swore his usual oath—"By the Eternal!" he would have it at the White House, and he did—at the next reception.

Washington was noted for his fondness for hickory nuts, and the amount he could consume.—What to Eat.

Colorado Fish as Emigrants.

The streams of the Argentine Republic, South America, are to be stocked with rainbow trout from the hatcheries of Colorado. The deal is being arranged through the United States Fish Bureau at Leadville, which has obtained 60,000 eyed eggs from the Colorado Fish and Game Commissioner.

It is still a question whether things are wicked because they are nice or nice because they are wicked.

If you lend some men money they will be under everlasting obligations to you.