Topics of the Times

A poor man does not need to be a poor sort of a man.

Small men do not gain great truths and great men do not retain them.

The Baldwin flying machine lighted in a tree. The only genuine and original flying machines also light in trees.

Abram Fried and Etta Fisch secured a marriage license in Chicago

English women universally condemn the American short-skirt habit; so would the American women if they had the English feet.

The New Orleans Picayune says: "The Standard Oil Company bows to public opinion." Does it? How much is public opinion taxed per bow?

A Pennsylvania man has applied to the court for a guardian to protect him from guileful women. Why doesn't he marry one with a projecting chin?

Nikola Tesla has emitted the statement that the New York subway is nothing but an elevated road stuck into a hole in the ground. What is he going to do about it?

A man of the name of Letters has been appointed postmaster at Putnam, Conn. It is only fair to suppose that he will find life to be one continuous joke during his term of office.

Which way is the sun moving?-Rev. Dr. Parkhurst. Alas that our lamented friend, Rev. John Jasper, of Richmond, Va., is not alive to welcome the latest recruit to his cosmic theory!

The study of the westward movement of the geographical centers of American activity is highly interesting. The movement has been steady and natural. The centers of population, of manufactures, of farm values and areas of the productivity of the have all moved westward. The Mississippi Valley is now the center of the nation's wealth.

As if the eye were not a weapon with which every young woman is al- and full of kinks and trickery I want ready expert, certain rules for an eye to know all about his parents before I drill have recently been promulgated. pass judgment. When my boy hit the orbs lies not so much in their shape and color as in the way she uses them. Hence a long list of directions for rotating them so that the muscles may coming his way? Not a bit of it. He be best trained. Man never knows looked me in the eyes like a little man

accidents on British and American and we'll be partners as long as God rallways is startling. On British railways only one passenger in something less than 200,000,000 is killed, while on American railways the fatal casualty is one in less than 2,000,000. One in less than 100,000 passengers is injured on American railways to one in more than 1,600,000 on British. An eminent railroad president explains this by saying that "under certain conditions the human brain refuses to work." And we seem to have the conditions.

Members of one religious denomination in the United States decline to vote because the name of God is not big buttons and stood up in front of mentioned in the constitution. In Italy the Roman Catholics are forbidden to vote because the secular government has seized the city of Rome and the papal states and deprived the Pope of temporal power. It was thought by some persons that the new Pope would not insist on the order issued by his predecessor, but a cardinal has assured the Associated Press that special attention is to be called to the order shortly before the approaching general election in Italy. Less than one-half of the Italian Catholics have in the past respected the wish of the Pope in this respect.

A hundred years ago the manuscript of Milton's "Paradise Lost" was worth about \$100. To-day it is priceless and Mr. Morgan, the present owner, is said to have paid a quarter of a million for it. There are pieces of tapestry in the possession of rich New Yorkers for which they have paid \$100 a square inch. Millet's "The Angelus" is said to be worth \$150,000 and there are hundreds of pieces of canvas scattered over Europe and America worth quite as much. When a Stradivarius violin is sold at public auction in London for so great a sum as \$3,500 the fact is deemed worthy to be cabled to the ends of the earth. A railroad is sold for a billion or a corner lot in Manhattan for the revenues of a principality and nothing is said. These baubles, though of great price, are common enough. But a Strad! In all the world there are scarcely a dozen of these precious old fiddles and all the add to their number.

As a general rule, woman becomes efficient in business in proportion as she can lay aside the peculiarities and prerogatives of her sex and become to all intents and purposes masculine. This is not said in mitigation of the obvious truth that indiscriminate contact with men in employment tends to unsex woman or in ignorance of the other fact that in many pursuits the feminine equipment fits its possessor no good.

for a finer type of service than most men can reach. But whenever an employe's relationship to the work becomes complicated with the question of her sex, then there is friction. waste and an impairment of availability. The moment that the business of an office has to be conducted on the plan of a soiree there is an end to plain speech and quick work. It is not enough that a woman can do the same work as a man; she must be amenable without friction to the same rules, discipline and direct method as a man. Otherwise she stands in her own light.

Does the man pursue the woman or the woman pursue the man? That is a question which Bernard Shaw, the on a Friday. It was just the day for writer, has brought into interesting discussion. Shaw says that the idea that man is the conquering wooer is one of the absurd ideas that have come down to us from the centuries. Men believe it because it ministers to marry a certain man that man's doom | describable ennul. is sealed. Permitted to think he is the inveigled, charmed, captured and domesticated under the impression that POWER OF CIRCUMSTANCE IN LOVE AFFAIRS. we, Lords of Creation, have done this thing? You that know, please tell us. It would be more to the point, however, if some bright woman, experienced in Cupid's way, would tell us the truth. It is noted that the champions of this new sex philosophy, thus far, are men. Tell us the secret, O woman.

"I'd like to preach a sermon on reoriginal cussedness any more than I whether his temperament is such that cordial liking for, Paris, even murder, believe in infant damnation. If a boy grows up mean and selfish and snarly hammers do you suppose that I came home to find him hiding in the cellar, scared to death of the licking that was and confessed his fault and promised to try to think in future. He under-The comparative rate of deaths and stood me just as I understand him, lets us live. I went over to buy his winter outfit. His mother generally does that, and you would have thought we were going to a circus, he was so tickled to be with me. He skipped along the street and whistled and frolicked and told me about what he would do when he got big and went to the store with his little boy; and I sort of swelled up as I looked at his brave young face, and hoped that people would know that he was my boy. He picked out his clothes. He knew what he wanted, and when the clerk had him togged out in a blue coat with the mirror he grinned so you could almost see that smile from the rear. And then there were other fixings and a pair of nobby shoes, and while we were waiting for my change boy snuggled up to me and said, 'You're awful good to me, papa. There ain't a boy on our street fixed up for winter so good as me. Thank you for being so good.' And he meant it. That came right from the man's heart in the boy's body. And I couldn't talk because I sort of choked up and thought of the many homes that might contain joy and happiness if parents only tried harder to understand their children. I've had some pretty good times in my life, but I never got more enjoyment for a small expenditure than on that store trip with my chum."

Germans Learn the Language. The German government knows by experience that the mastery of the language of the foreign country which they want to bring under their influence is an essential requisite for their representatives abroad. Because of this knowledge the acquirement of the difficult Chinese tongue is deemed obligatory for German representatives in China. With very few exceptions the German consular and diplomatic officers command the language of the foreign country in which they are lo-

Mrs. Gould, holding a gold candlestick to the mortgage and burned it.

Poor Time for a Call.

Mr. Lovett-Good evening, Tommy; is you sister at home? Her Brother-Yeh, but so is pop, an' he's got indigestion. You'd better skip. -Philadelphia Ledger.

One-half the stuff you buy does you

PERS THE PEOP

PLEA FOR THE SIMPLE LIFE.

By Rev. R. A. Walte, D. D., Calcago. Cultivate simplicity, live within and act like saue human beings inoverplayed, overdressed set we are. ceal that weariness. The modern tendency is to become enmeahed in a complication of wants, istence has become woefully comcomplexities as to rob it of pleasure and threaten it with constant uncer-REV. B. A. WHITE tainty. Our pelasures are complex.

irresistible. Women permit them to Simple entertainment no longer satisfies. The stage, the house in the parable which was builded upon sand. believe it because it helps them to press, art, fiction, and music are all in a mad rush to crecarry on the pretty game. Shaw says ate or find new sensations for restless, dissatisfied patron- WOMEN CRIMINALS WORSE THAN MEN. when a woman makes up her mind to age, burdened with many cares and oppressed by an in-

Simple, tasteful dress scarcely exists; we are an overpursuer, he is being pursued so ingeni- dressed people, ruled by the latest convention of clothesously that he does not realize the fact makers. We are mad over superfluous wants. The people until he is in the toils. And in most worry most over nonessential things. No one is any hapcases he never finds out the fact pier under these conditions. Everyone has a look of care. While woman is dragging her captive Our women are not rosy and contented looking. Our at her chariot wheels the captive young men breed wrinkles early. Men and women who thinks of himself as conqueror. He is dress to suit themselves and be comfortable are freaks. snared in his own conceit. Rafford To keep up appearances, people wear clothes which they Pyke in an article in a recent maga- have not paid for and cannot afford. To march with the zine agrees with Shaw, and says the procession, people eat food for which they have not paid dangerous and even more dastardly-poison. And now poets and novelists are all wrong in the grocer, live in houses with rent in arrears, affect a style picturing man as the successful pur- of life they have no visible means of supporting. Living at suer. Men and brethren, are these our present pace is responsible for most of our modern things true? Is it true that woman crime. From the snare of small debts, brought on by exspreads her net so cunningly that we pensive living, many a man seeks to escape by certain specnever know we are trapped? Are we ulations and finally by certain peculations.

By Holen Oldfield. There is nothing in the conduct of life to alter cases" applies more forcibly than to love still less of another, and none can gauge correctly the depths of another's heart. They who drawn in the agony of pain, the throes of the dying. ask advice concerning the course to be pursued makes chums of his dear ones. "I've er he will be safe in marrying a woman who he is reasonably

and a firm faith in, his wife can fill the place of genuine, permanent love, in case love declines to follow in their for the pole. In the Peary ship, the wake. He must take into consideration that sweetness is your means, follow your own tastes, cloying when not desired, and question himself closely as to whether the demonstrations of a love which he does not stead of the crazy, jaded, overworked, share may not prove wearlsome beyond his power to con-

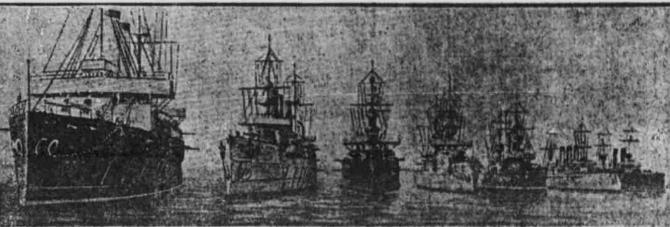
There are not many women to whose hearts true and carnest love cannot find its way sooner or later; few who necessities and confusions, like a fly are proof against a loyal and loving lover. Which fact, in in a web. The mere struggle for ex- view of the insurmountable law that a woman cay not a double course of five-inch planking choose, except from among those who choose her, is unplicated. Business has taken on such doubtedly a merciful dispensation of providence. The love which lasts must be founded upon the rock of mutual respect, else, when the storms of adversity come and the floods beat upon that love, it will fail and fall like the

By Goorge Clarette.

Crime and criminal women have always been of the greatest interest to the vulgar herd. Last year it was the Humbert affair; this year it is Italy which, in the person of the Countess Bonmartin, runs in close rivalry to France. Certain crimes, which had grown rare of late years, have brusquely reappeared. Poison has become fashionable once more. For crime has its fashion; now it is the revolver, now vitriol, now poison. The dagger has been cast aside for a weapon as unerring, but more rumors of poisoning cases are becoming more and more frequent. A few months ago Mme. Galtle, at Lectoure, and Mme. Massot, at Marsellles, were accused of polsoning their husbands, and at Rouen Mme. Bonroy is being tried for having killed her husband in the same way.

A poisoner has the maddened thirst of a drunkard, with this difference, however, that she pours out her beverage for others. She has visibly her hysteria. This refinement of cruelty, this sort of pernicious daintiness in crime, is a malady like any others. In certain women this hysteria will turn into a need of lying, of inventing extraordinary which the trite old saying that "circumstances tales. In others it becomes a passion for writing unsigned letters, often addressed to themselves; in othes still, it is affairs. No one is altogether sure of one's self, the madness of crime, the impulsive, irresistible need of killing just for the pletasure of killing, to see the features

Now we are having a little epidemic of poisoning. But in the dilemmas of love are usually ill advised. a noticeable feature is this-all these crimes take place in Such problems are of those with which no one the provinces. It would seem as if a Parisian woman, in sponsive children," said the man who should intermeddle. The man who wishes to be told wheth her feverish existence, in her whirlwind of a life, has neither the time nor the quiet mind necessary to set upon always had a notion that pretty nearly sure loves him, but with whom he is not in love; a woman a victim with the same cold slowness, the same daily feroclvarious leading crops of the country all the mean streaks in a boy were whom he likes thoroughly and of whom he cordially ap- ty. When a Parisienne does revenge herself upon some caused by something his dad had or proves; must in all kindness and justice to himself and to body, she uses her revolver, in between two calls, or two had not done, and I don't believe in her decide the question for them both. He only can judge outlings in her automobile. Everything goes quickly in



ENGLAND.

A few months ago the United States Bureau of Intelligence made some valuable comparisons, in one of which the navies were compared on the basis of the number and displacement of warships actually completed on Jan. 1, 1904, and the other on the basis of the number and displacement both of the warships actually completed and of those under construction at that date. It should be noted that in these estimates no account is taken of gunboats and other vessels of less than 1,000 tons displacement, nor do they include transports, dispatch vessels, converted merchant vessels

UNITED STATES, GERMANY, RUSSIA. ITALY. JAPAN. FRANCE.

NAVIES OF WORLD COMPARED If All Ships Now Under Construction Were Completed.

To-day.	If all Ships now Building were Completed.
Tons. Great Britain. 1,516,040 France. 576,168 Germany 387,874 Rossia 360,391 United States. 294,405 Litaly 258,838 Japan 222,339	Tons. 1. Great Britain. 1,867,250 2. France

ORIGIN OF WORD PICNIC.

It Appeared in One of Lord Chesterfield's Letters.

"Whence the word "picnic?" asked man who is fond of the study of the meaning and origin of words, in the New Orleans Times-Democrat I do not know and have not been able to trace. My attention was directed to the matter by a recent article, in which it was stated that the derivation of the word picnic is uncertain. In London Notes and Queries of 1853 atempts were made to trace its origin. One correspondent says: 'Under a French form the word appears in a speech of Robespierre, "C'est ici qu'il dolt ma'accuser, et non dans les piquesniques." An earlier instance occurs in one of Lord Chesterfield's letters, dated October, 1784.' Another writer of the same date tries to trace the word through France into Italy. Starting with the assumption that piquenique in French implies a party at which each guest provides some special duty, he finds the Italian expression nicchia (duty) and piccola (a trifling service), and from these he Generosity of Mrs. Howard Gould. coins piccola nicchia (picnic). A French At Port Washington, L. I., a week's encyclopedia, 1843, has it that the services were held commemorating the word is compounded of the simple generosity of Mrs. Howard Gould, who English pic (to choose) and nick (in paid off the indebtedness on the First the nick of time, on the spur of the cunning of modern invention cannot Methodist Episcopal Church. In the moment). In France the term is also presence of the entire congregation used for infloor picnics. In America the word picnic is confined to out-ofin her hand, touched the lighted candle door affairs, and in the old-time meaning of the word it was a basket dinner in the woods. The word is given a broader meaning now and is frequntly used to describe the annual celebration of certain organizations,"

> Author's Daughter Sings. Miss Ethel Bret Harte, the daughter Scots, was the possessor of a skull-

to concert work. Although Bret Harte in vogue. Endless were the styles, and won a success which seldom comes to a writer as early as it did to him, he left his family in very straitened the many stanch friends in the Amerishe has made her home in Bayswater ever since Bret Harte's death, The family difficulties have been complicated by threatened loss of sight of timekeepers from the public gaze." one of the sons and he has been sent to Switzerland in the hope that a renowed oculist may perform a successful operation.

Miss Bret Harte has had a long uphill struggle in her work. She served the kind known. The watch is a small a stage apprenticeship with George oval one in a silver case, and was Edwards and D'Oyly Carte. She has made about 1625 by John Midnall of a soprano voice of excellent range and | Fleet street. sympathetic quality and her one desire is to bring it to greater perfection. Her capacity for work seems endless and her love of music is as much of an incentive as the money which she hopes the concert stage in London, where the friends of the American author his

Watches Used in Old Days. There is uncertainty as to when the portable watch, as we understand it to-day, came into use. It was probably at the close of the sixteenth century Queen Elizabeth owned a large number of watches. Mary Queen of nian life, has decided to devote herself | head" pattern was at that time much | boarders.

the comparison. The figures of the department are given here after subtracting the tonnage of the vessels actually lost by Russia since Jan. 1 and the gains by Japanese of the two purchased cruisers and the losses sustained during the fighting off Port Arthur. It will be seen that Russia drops from her position of third before the war to fourth in the first list and fifth under the second heading.

made large profits from his writings for there were watches shaped like books, pears, butterflies and tulips. The Nuremburg egg was a special shape and was first made in 1600. which give the official time in every circumstances, and if it were not for Those queer shapes of watches pre- part of the town. This is only another vented their finding a place in the can colony in London Mrs. Bret Harte pocket. When was the fob first used would often find it difficult to make in the dress of man? The German fob the Fatherland. both ends meet. With her children is "fuppe" and it is believed that it came from Europe through the puritan, "whose dislike for display may have induced them to conceal their

> This conjecture is strengthened by the fact that a short "fob" chain attached to a watch of Oliver Cromwell's in the British museum is, in point of date, the first appendage of

> > France's Money Troubles.

The French are having a hard time with their nickels. The old ones were so much like the silver franc piece the shells are made into fertilizers, to bring into the family purse. It is that the people protested; they kept The eggs that have not yet lost their extremely difficult to get a hearing on giving a piece worth 20 cents for one virtue also have other uses besides the worth 5. At last they have changed more common ones for culinary puronly the well-known artists are invited the shape. The new nickel will be poses. It is estimated that fully 55. to sing, but through the influence of rounded with acute corners so that by 000,000 dozen are used by wine clarithe simple touch the difference will be fiers, dye manufacturers and in the daughter will have every opportunity perceptible. About twenty millions preparation of photographers' dry to make the success which her friends will, in a few days, be thrown into plates.—Brooklyn Eagle. circulation.-Brooklyn Eagle.

> Nothing Fast About Him. Gladys (sighing)-Oh, dear, he hasn't proposed yet.

Ethel-Weil, what can you expect of chap who never runs his auto over ten miles an hour! -Puck.

Some men would have no excuse for of the famous writer of early Califor- shaped watch. In fact, the "death living if their wives didn't take in

PEARY'S NEW VESSEL

Ship Which Will Suil in Quest of the

North Pole. A vessel is being built in the old yard upon Verona Island, off the coast of Maine, which is not destined for purposes of trade. She is to force her way as far as possible into the ice covered seas of the far north, carrying Lieutenant-Commander Peary in order that he may make another dash stern, stern-post, keels, keelson and frames are of carefully selected white oak. The massive frames will be only and they will be enclosed in a cage of steel made of diagonal straps and covering the inner fabric of the ship from stem to stern. Over the straps will be of yellow pine and white oak, and between these two courses will be tarred hemp or tarred canvas.

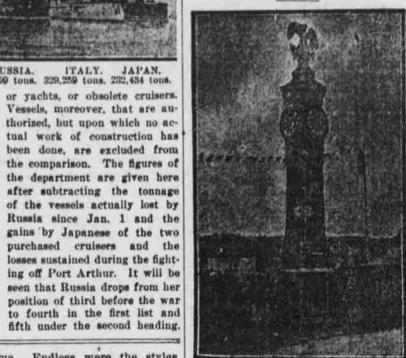
A guard strake of white oak surrounds the vessel at the level of the main deck, projecting outward for such a distance that when the ice presses against her sides and is forced upward by the resistance, the ship will actually rest upon the guard strake. More than that, should she be frozen in, it would be possible to break



the grip of the ice by the use of hydraulic jacks placed under the strake, Naturally, so important a part of the vessel's protection is securely fastened to the hull and in addition it is strengthened by an angle bar of steel on its under side.

The interior of the ship will be almost completely filled with heavy timbers. Starting at the center of the decks, these braces will extend diagonally downwards and outwards, the lower ends resting against the frames and helping them to withstand the pressure of the ice. With a hull thus filled with timbers, provision must be made for living quarters above decks and here there will be two houses, so constructed that they may be removed and set up on shore. For the rest, the vessel will be rigged as a three-masted schooner with an exceptionally large spread of canvas and will also be provided with steam power. She will be for service early next summer. It is the explorer's plan to go in the vessel to the northern shore of Grant land, winter there and make his dash for the pole during the following summer,

A MUNICIPAL CLOCK SERVICE.



THE MUNICIPAL CLOCK.

Berlin has instituted a series of municipal clocks, seventeen in number, example of the socialism on municipal lines which is practiced throughout

Where the Bad Eggs Go.

A poultry farm, whether ducks, geese, chickens or turkeys be the specialty, accumulates a large and malodorous surplus of eggs that refuse to develop into fowl. The average person would suppose that if there is anything on earth that is utterly worthless it is a rotten egg. Millions of stale eggs are used every year in preparing leather dressing for gloves and bookbinding-an industry that is largely carried on in the foreign tenement houses of New York and other large cities. They are also used in manufacturing disinfectants and in the preparation of shoe blacking, and even

Ireland's Bogs.

Sir Richard Sankel estimates that Ireland's bogs contain the equivalent of 5,000,000,000 tons of coal, and he advocates creating power for varied industries by converting the fuel intoelectricity on the spot.

If a girl has her eyes on a man, and a Hallowe'en charm says that he is to be her Very Own, he couldn't escape if Mercury loaned him his wings.