



WEST SIDE TELEPHONE.

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H. H. WELCH. PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL. -Ex-President Arthur was a member of the Thirteen Club of New York, and was the first to die.—N. Y. Tribune.

ALONG THE COAST.

Devoted Principally to Washington Territory and California. Farmington, W. T., is to have a driving park. Five persons escaped from the Spokane county jail.

The great bore in the Cascades measures about 3,650 feet. There are on the Pacific coast and inland waters, 667 light houses.

The territorial institute will be held at Walla Walla on the 9th of June. The population of California has increased about 40,000 during the past year.

Lyman Wilson was morially wounded by a blast in a mine near Wallace, Idaho. The O. R. & N. Co. will begin work on its Prescott branch as soon as the weather permits.

The new insane asylum at Steilacoom, W. T., will be ready for occupancy in June. Full-grown figs of this season's growth may be seen on a tree in San Luis Obispo, Cal.

A ring is on exhibition in Los Angeles which is said to have belonged to Martin Luther. The steamer Idaho from Alaska brought down \$60,000 in bullion from the Treadwell mines.

It is thought that Elko county, Nev., will in a year pay out \$20,000 in rabbit scalp bounties. In Washington Territory there are 985 members of the A. O. U. W.; in British Columbia, 490.

A mob drove the Chinamen out of Vancouver, B. C., destroying their tents and wash houses. An amendment to the constitution disfranchising polygamists in Nevada, has passed the legislature.

Louis Verborgan fatally stabbed Lily Forest at Sacramento, Cal., after having had a quarrel and fled. A "street car advertising agency" has been incorporated in Los Angeles, with an alleged capital of \$100,000.

There are over fifty applicants for the position of President of the Nevada State University. The salary is \$5,000. The city trustees of Carson, Nev., have been asked for permission to graze a band of sheep in the streets of that place.

Chief Justice Morrison of the California supreme court, died in San Francisco. The cause of death was a stroke of paralysis. The body of Francis Sheridan, janitor at the postoffice at San Francisco, was found in the bay. He had been missing a month.

An petition sixty-three feet long has been forwarded from Hailey, I. T., to Congress asking that the Territory be annexed to Nevada. It is stated that such sums as \$20,000, \$35,000 and \$75,000 were recently offered for mining claims in the Salmon river country.

A young man at Covelo, Cal., recently thrashed a clergyman because the church would not receive his mother as a member. A. P. Hodgdon, who had been acquitted of a charge of arson, was ridden out of town on a rail by a party of miners in a Nevada camp.

A woman of Santa Cruz, Cal., has sued her husband for divorce, the chief ground for complaint being that he neglected to say grace at his meals. The carpenters of San Bernardino have notified their employers that after May 1st they will demand ten hours' pay for nine hours' work a day.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

A Column Devoted to the Interests of Farmers and Stockmen. Hens must be kept warm and sheltered from the inclemencies of the weather if expected to lay in winter.

California the past year furnished one-eighth the entire fruit product of the United States, and one-ninth in 1885. Roots are excellent for sheep in winter and are especially important with heavy grain feeding to keep the digestive organs in full vigor.

The imports of raw wool into the United States for 1886 were 118,000,000 pounds, and for 1885 only 90,000,000 pounds, showing an increase of about 28,000,000 pounds. All giant or tall-growing celeries should be avoided; as a rule they are always more hollow, give twice the labor to work, and are inferior in flavor to the dwarf growing sorts.

A stockraiser found that by changing from soft to hard water many bone diseases were avoided and cures effected of those suffering from horn brittleness owing to the mineral matter existing in the hard water. In reply to a question as to the expediency of keeping bees over winter in the center of a strawstack, James Heddon, of Eureka, writes that they would be well protected if the straw was stacked to turn water.

No grain should be fed alone to cattle that are being fattened. A great error of many feeders is giving hay and grain separately; both the grain and hay lose a large percentage of their food value by separating them. An authority in celery growing, does not believe, with some growers, that celery blight is caused by an insect, but that the insect which appears on leaves beginning to decay are invited by the decay, and are not the occasion of it.

A correspondent states that he has had best results keeping grapes when each bunch was wrapped in a piece of paper, packed in boxes holding one bushel, and the boxes kept in a place where the temperature did not fall below 35 degrees above zero. White corn is better for feeding pigs than yellow flint. The grain is light, containing less fat-forming material, consequently it is not so heating. It makes a healthy growth of body (bone and muscle together with the fat), while the harder, richer yellow flint makes a preponderance of fat.

Such substances as apples, potatoes and turnips, being small, round and smooth, should be cut into halves before feeding to a cow. But beets should never be cut at all when fed to any animal; a cow, horse or sheep can slice of a beet to perfection, taking at a bite just as much or little as they want. A. T. Hatch, of Suisun valley, owns the largest orchard in California. It comprises 767 acres, containing about 80,000 trees. To take care of this immense orchard the labor of 60 men is required during the winter, and 200 men are employed during the picking season.

Nut-bearing trees should be planted on all the hill slopes of the Coast range, and instances are cited where they have yielded \$500 per acre annually. These trees are also less liable to the pests that are found so troublesome and destructive to some fruit trees. Nitrogenous manures cause a rapid growth, but they should never be used where the highest flavored fruit is desired. The choicest wine is made from grapes grown on poor, rocky hill-sides, and when it becomes necessary to use a fertilizer the next crop is made up and sold under an assumed name, lest the brand be brought into disrepute.

The acreage devoted to wheat-growing in England and Wales decreased more than seven per cent. last year, and the total yield was diminished by 2,173,451 bushels. Within the past fifteen years the wheat acreage of Great Britain has been reduced from 4,000,000 to less than 2,500,000 acres, and the prospect is that the diminution will continue. A fruit grower at Belmont, Cal., says he has found that pasturing sheep in his orchard during the fruit season did much to rid his trees of that dreaded pest the codlin moth. He says that his plan was to shake the trees every day. Most of the infected fell to the ground and were greedily eaten by the sheep, which, he says, do quicker and more effective work than hogs do.

A most curious production of the vegetable is on exhibition at Petaluma, Cal. It is in the shape of a large mushroom measuring fourteen inches in circumference. On the top or crown of this is another mushroom measuring six inches around. The stem of the latter is directly in the center of the larger mushroom, where it had taken root and grown as though imbedded in rich soil.

ANONYMOUS LETTERS.

Why, as a Rule, a Wise Man Will Not Entirely Disregard Them. We may, as a general principle, speak with very great and deserved scorn of anonymous letters; but, as a rule, a wise man will not disregard them. I have heard a public man declare that he always threw anonymous letters into the fire without reading them. I think he made a mistake, and that it might be possible to get some good out of them.

The many anonymous letters received by leading statesmen may serve to indicate the drift of popular feeling and opinion. At the present time the police take the liveliest interest in anonymous communications, and at no time indeed have they disregarded them. A good many of the letters are obviously written with the deliberate intention of setting the police on a false scent. But without doubt a great deal of valuable information may be obtained this way. The case is very conceivable where a man may be willing enough to do a service to the cause of justice or preservation of life, without putting himself into a dangerous position by turning public informer. Many hints have been given which have resulted in important consequences; arrests have been made, crimes have been prevented, lives have been saved, by anonymous writers. The letters which have seemed the least noticeable have had the most important results. From the time of King James and the Gunpowder plot, there have been some of special use this way. Anonymous letters proceed from persons who are willing to do a good turn or to do a bad turn, as the case may be. Letters of this sort from people willing to do a good turn are in an inconceivable minority as compared to letters from those willing to do a bad turn. If a man has got into a very serious trouble at some time of his life, and has gone away to begin a new life in a new place, how often it happens that the old story is raked up; the dastardly anonymous letter has, assassin-like, followed him to his new friends or his new employers. Harry gets an anonymous letter asking him if he knows all about his Harriet's previous engagement to young Dunderhead, and if he knows how it came to be broken off. A man of business gets a mysterious communication asking him if he knows that his most esteemed customer has made an application for a loan and been refused. Few persons could have known about the engagement or about the fruitless application, and one of these persons must have been the writer of the missive. It may not have been possible to find out who has been the writer of the anonymous letter—often, no doubt, the person least suspected. The secret is perhaps revealed at last, and too late, long after the mischief has been done, and perhaps when both the mischief-maker and the dupe are alike equally remote from these sly sublimity interests.—London Society.

PITH AND POINT. -There are two sides to every question, but a bullheaded man will always bet that he is right.—Chicago Ledger. -The pin seems to be the lode-star of woman's existence. It's hair-pin, rolling-pin or pin-money that she's reaching out for continually. -A prominent mathematician's wife has presented him with a pair of twins. He has now attained the full sum of human happiness, with two to carry.—Chicago Tribune. -"Mother" avers in the Boston Globe, in reply to another correspondent, that "a sixteen-year-old girl can soften and whiten her hands by soaking them in dish-water three times a day."

-A crazy Pennsylvania girl who talks constantly in rhyme, has been sent to an asylum. This is a very good beginning. Now why not tackle some of the others who are still out?—Somerville Journal. -A Philadelphia savant has discovered that the wrinkles on a cow's horns indicate her disposition instead of her age. Nevertheless don't buy a cow with thirteen wrinkles for a four-year-old.—Detroit Free Press. -Any one who has ever heard a woman talk about a tooth she has just had pulled, while she displays the interesting souvenir to her friends, will be willing to admit that men are not the only or the best stump orators in the world.—Albany Journal. -An exchange tells "how men should eat who can not exercise. We have never had any experience with men of this class, but should suppose they ate with a knife and fork. The laws of polite society can not be altered to suit any particular set of men.—N. Y. Graphic. -Once there was a hired man who was constantly astonishing his employer, a farmer, by doing strange and unexpected things. One day the farmer went into the barn, and found his man had hung himself. Looking at the dangling body a few minutes, he exclaimed: "What on earth will that fellow do next?"—San Francisco Argonaut. -The Burlington Free Press says: "Mighty poor dogs sometimes make fine sausage-meat." This shows how far the education of the dumb brutes has advanced within the past few years. We have no doubt that in time dogs can be hired to perform many of the menial duties for which we are now obliged to pay high wages.—The Judge.

THE RELIC CRAZE.

A True Incident Which Sounds More Absurdly Strange Than Fiction. Pottery reminds me of a phase of the relic craze which presented itself to my attention the other day. A lady, who has passed the summer in Europe, sent for an artist who has done some admirable and successful decorative work and informed him that she wished to give him a commission. She then had a servant bring in what seemed to be about half a bushel of bits of rock, cement and similar rubbish, with two or three pebbles neatly wrapped in paper.

"These," she explained to the astonished artist, "are the relics I gathered abroad. They are all labeled and came from famous places. I worked so hard for some of them! That stone came from Salisbury Cathedral. It was inside an iron fence, and I had to attract the guide's attention to the tower by asking him the measurements of some of the ornaments. Then I stood on the foundation of the fence and leaned over—and I give you my word I was lame for weeks from those dreadful pickets!—and hit it with my parasol till I could reach through and get it. And this—"

And so she ran on, while the other sat silent in sheer amazement, until she said: "Now, I want all these worked into some beautiful design, something symbolic, you know. You do make such lovely things; and they can all be set in cement or something. These pebbles," she continued, unrolling one of the packages, "all come from Abbotsford, and these I shall have set into stucco in the shape of a heart—for 'The Heart of Midlothian,' you know—and hang it up in the library." The unlucky designer stammered he knew not what, but something which he said probably endangered his future welfare, since outwardly he lied and inwardly he cursed; while the lady, saying small heed to him, opened with an air of the utmost reverence a small box and took out something wrapped in tissue.

"This," she said, "this should be the center, for this is the most precious of all." She unrolled the tissue paper and disclosed a fragment of coarse, modern, brown pottery, at which she gazed with a reverent air. The artist bent forward and regarded it also, endeavoring in vain to guess why it was so choice and rare.

"What is that?" he managed to ask at length, divided between amusement and impatience at her folly. "That," she answered, "that is from Shakespeare's tomb." He started at it and at her, more puzzled than ever.

"Shakespeare's tomb?" he repeated. "Yes," she explained with an air of restrained triumph. "When I was there a workman was doing something to the wall, and he had a big pitcher of water with him. Somehow or other it got knocked down, and this piece fell exactly beneath the bust of Shakespeare. Quick as thought I put my foot over it, and when he picked up the pieces he didn't see this, and I secured it. Did you ever know any thing so lucky?"

Now, this is one of those things which are more absurdly strange than fiction, and very likely nobody will believe it; but it happens to be a fact for all that.—Boston Cor. Providence Journal. -"Did you whip Johnnie as I told you to?" asked a Chicago father of his wife. "Certainly I did," she replied. "What did you whip him with?" "My slipper." "Great heavens, woman! I didn't tell you to murder him."—N. Y. Graphic. -You would hardly notice the similarity between them, and yet the only difference between a little bird and a ward politician just before election time is that the little bird pipes his lays while the politician lays his pipes.—Somerville Journal.

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