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Special business notices in business columns, 10 cents per line. Regular business notices, 5 cents per line. Professional cards, \$12 per year. Special rates for large display "ads."

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

The boundaries of Scotland embrace 186 islands. London has a police army of 13,849 men. The chief has a salary of \$10,500 a year. Speaking generally, the average length of life in England is forty-four years; the average length among the upper classes is fifty-three years.

Steel-framed cars are now being manufactured in England, with a view to lightness and greater durability than if wood were used for the purpose.

Dr. Barnard's Hives in London now hold no fewer than two thousand poor boys and girls wholly dependent upon him; the most of whom would, but for their admission to these homes, have probably grown up to evil lives. More than ten thousand other miserable children have also been trained in these homes—Boston Transcript.

The British telegraph service, which is part of the post-office, does not pay expenses since the rate was reduced to sixpence per message, or about 12 cents. The deficit for the past year was \$233,000 on working expenses and \$236,000 for interest on the working capital—in all \$469,000, or \$2,750,000.

In A'geria there is a small stream which the chemistry of nature has converted into true ink. It is formed by the union of two rivulets, one of which is very strongly impregnated with iron, while the other, meandering through a peat marsh, imbues gallic acid, another ingredient in the formation of ink. Letters and other manuscript matters are so satisfactorily written with this singular natural compound of iron and gallic acid.

The English red-tape army and navy officials do queer things. Not only do they send canned meat to Australia, where the woods are full of meat; but to India and sugar and rum to Jamaica; but on a recent occasion they literally sent coals to Newcastle for some warships on the Tyne. Until very recently they used to send vast quantities of gun-dints to Quebec every year, because such gun adjuncts used to be shipped there a century ago.

The remains of a cemetery belonging to the age of the Gauls have recently been discovered in Paris, in the old Fumbourg St. G. rman, at the corner of the Rues Reroi and Bellechase. Fifty-two tombs have been found with skeletons, most of which are skeletons of women and children. Only twelve are skeletons of men. Many weapons and implements have also been unearthed—swords, lances, and bronze and iron instruments of all descriptions.—Springfield Republican.

The Parseses of Bombay have long been famous for their charitable munificence, and the example of the late Sir James Jeejeebhoy, known throughout the civilized world for his liberality, is being emulated at the present day by another Parsee, Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Pooni, sheriff of Bombay, who has just offered the Government of Bombay one and one-half lakhs (\$75,000), for the purpose of establishing a female college in that city.—N. Y. Independent.

Among the peoples who inhabit the region near Stanley Falls is one which has a very peculiar copper coinage, consisting of enormous spear-heads made out of very thin copper. One of these is valued as equal to two hundred English pounds worth of ivory. Every thing among them has its value reckoned in terms of copper spears. Tipoo-T-b, the rich and influential Arab trader whose henchmen, not long ago, captured the Stanley Falls station, has sent one of these spears to London. This tribe manufactures highly artistic metal work.—Boston Budget.

Late calculations from compared observations show that Alcyon—that one of the Pleiades around which the sun and the whole solar system were once thought to revolve—is about 954,000,000,000 miles from us, a distance that it would take light about 163 years to travel.

TAKE SIMMONS LIVER REGULATOR

For all Diseases of the Liver, Kidneys, Stomach and Spleen. This purely vegetable preparation, now so celebrated as a Family Medicine, originated in the year 1828. It acts gently on the Bowels and Kidneys and corrects the action of the Liver, and is, therefore, the best preparatory medicine, whenever the stomach may give to be. In all common diseases it will succeed by any other medicine, effect a speedy cure. The Regulator is safe to administer in any condition of the system, and under no circumstances can it do harm. It will invigorate the system, and induce a healthy action, and lead to impregnation; will promote digestion, disperse headache, and generally tone up the system. It does not displease, and is virtuous and unobnoxious. No loss of time, no interruption of business while taking the Regulator. Children complaining of Colic, Headache, or Stomachic, may give it. It will expel the poison and protect them from attack.

A PRECAUTIONARY OPINION. I have been practicing medicine for twenty years, and have never been able to put up a compound of wine, but in imitating leucogel to lead to impregnation; will promote digestion, disperse headache, and generally tone up the system. It does not displease, and is virtuous and unobnoxious. No loss of time, no interruption of business while taking the Regulator. Children complaining of Colic, Headache, or Stomachic, may give it. It will expel the poison and protect them from attack.

DEMOCRATIC.

THE COTTON PLANT.

ITS NATURAL HOME IN ASIATIC TROPICAL REGIONS.

India Said to be the Most Ancient Cotton Growing Country—Cotton Found on the Western Continent—The First Sea Island Cotton.

The cotton plant is a child of the sun. Its natural habitat is in the tropical regions of Asia, Africa and America, but it has been acclimated and successfully cultivated as far north as the thirty-sixth degree of north latitude. Its cultivation covers a very large portion of our globe. In the eastern hemisphere the range of its cultivation extends from southern Europe on the north to the Cape of Good Hope on the south; in the western hemisphere from Virginia to southern Brazil. It has been most successfully cultivated, however, between the thirtieth and thirty-fifth degrees north latitude. Humboldt found it growing in the Andes at an elevation of 9,000 feet, and in Mexico at 5,500 feet. Boyle reports that it is cultivated at an elevation of 4,000 feet in the Himalaya. Such elevations, however, are not favorable to its best development. Botanically, cotton belongs to the natural order Malvaceae, genus Gossypium. Botanists differ as to its proper classification into species; some enumerating as many as ten species, others seven, and others only five, as necessary to a clear discrimination between the distinct varieties recognizable after making due allowance for differences resulting from soil and climatic influences.

Notwithstanding the proximity of China to India, it was not until the Eleventh century that the cotton plant became an object of common culture in China. The first mention of cotton in the records was 300 years before the Christian era, from the time down to the Seventh century it is mentioned as an object of industry, but one of interest and curiosity; an account of the flower and fruit of the cotton plant is given in a book written in poetry. In the Eleventh century field culture of cotton commenced in China. But owing to the opposition of the people, especially in the growing and manufacturing of wool and flax, it was not until 1230 that the cultivation and manufacture of cotton were well established.

Central and South America and the West Indies grew a manufactured cotton long before their discovery by Columbus, who found the plant under cultivation, and the people using fabrics made from the staple. He called the cotton of Cortes, in 1492, and says, "Oh, shoot the glad New Year!" Ring out, oh, trusty chestnut bell, Ring sharp and clear, and to him tell That this same tale he's told before, And bid him tell it nevermore.

With her card she tapped her snowy chin, And laughingly said: "I always win, Come and bet you all I've got in fun: 'I'll take you,' said I, and I saw her start— 'I'll raise you' one and bet my heart— 'She called' me and lost the 'job.'" Tid Bits.

He Knew Where They Had Been. De Hang—Have you anything of my slippers, Johnny? Mrs. De Hang—John Henry, mind what you say. Johnny—I ain't seen 'em pop, honest. Mamma here! my head don't pop 'em out! You'd better bet you all I've got in fun: 'I'll take you,' said I, and I saw her start— 'I'll raise you' one and bet my heart— 'She called' me and lost the 'job.'" Tid Bits.

A Dismal Failure. Sweet Girl—And so you have been on the plains for ten years? Handsome Cowboy—Yes, this is the first time I've been back into real civilization. "Now please tell me, in that lonely life, so far removed from the refining influences of civilization, you know, what did you miss most?" "Oysters."—Omaha World.

Short Smiles. "I will now quit fooling," said the physician as he wrote out a prescription, "and proceed to business." Then he made out his bill.—Philadelphia Call.

Colored Hunter—Hold on dar, Abe! You'll strain that gun fast 'n' you know, try'n' to shoot dat duck so fur off, an' de weapon neber will be no mo' 'count.—Texas Sittings.

When a man becomes firmly convinced that he is a genius, it is then that the fringe slowly begins to fall on the bottom of his trousers leg.—Life.

"There is always sunshine somewhere," says an exchange. If it were not for such little bits of information as this low state, flat and unprofitable this world would be.—Boston Courier.

Lawyer—Now, you say you've known this couple for years. Witness—Yes, sir. Ever seen them quarrel? Witness—They've always lived together in unity, sir. No, sir; in Swampville; that's about four miles from Unity.—Judge.

A clergyman relates that on one occasion, after marrying a couple, an envelope was handed to him, which he supposed, of course, contained the marriage fee. On opening it he found a slip of paper on which was written, "We desire your prayers."—New York Daily News.

Tommy was taken very sick. His mother discovered that he had been eating too much preserved stuff, and while awaiting the doctor's visit, implored him to tell her the cause of it. "Mother," he said, finally, "Mother, Mamma Duffy rejected my suit, and," hoarsely, "I drove me to jam."—Id. Bits.

Pittsburgh Tramp—Mashin, if you'll fill me up with a good dinner I'll saw some wood. I'm willin' to work. Woman (shortly)—You know very well we burn wood, but natural gas. Pittsburgh Tramp—Well, gimme suitin' to eat, an' I'll turn on the gas for you.—Harper's Bazar.

OUR OWN.

The little child that sits beside our feet May rub us on our heads and feet sweet, And cause our way with curls to be sweetest, And yet we love our own.

There may be fairer lands and brighter skies, There may be friends more faithful or more wise, There may be lovers more true and true, But each will love his own. —Mrs. Clara B. Heath.

RICE THROWING AT WEDDINGS.

Origin of the Custom as Given by the Chinese.—The Wives Successors. In the days of the Shang dynasty, some 1,500 years before Christ, there lived in the province of Sianai a most famous sorcerer called Chiao. It happened one day that a Mr. Pang came to consult with him, and Chiao, having divined by means of the tortoise shell, gave him the following advice: "You had better not marry the daughter of the man who has just died, for he had six days to live. Now, however, we may trust the sagacity and skill of our family physician, who may be excused, in a matter of life and death, we call in a second doctor for a consultation, and in such a case it is not to be wondered at that Mr. Pang should require to another surgeon to attend there was no mistake. To the fair Peach-blossom went, a young lady who had acquired some reputation as a sorceress, and to the tender feminine heart unfolded the story of his wife. Her divination was the same as Chiao's, and in six days Pang should die, unless, by the exercise of her magical powers, she could avert the catastrophe. Her efforts were successful, and on the seventh day her mortification and rage, when he met Pang taking his evening stroll and learned that she lived a greater magician than he. The story would soon get about, and he could quickly put an end to his fair rival's existence his reputation would be ruined. And this was how Chiao plotted against the life of Peach-blossom. He sent a spy to Peach-blossom's parents to inquire if their daughter was still unmarried, and receiving a reply in the affirmative, he befoiled the simple parents into believing that he had a son who was seeking a wife, and ultimately he induced them to engage Peach-blossom to him in marriage. The marriage cards were duly interchanged, but the crafty Chiao had chosen the most unlucky day he could select for the wedding, the day when the "Golden Phoenix" was in the ascendant. Surely as the bride entered the red chair the spirit tried to destroy her with his powerful look. But the wise Peach-blossom, who had foreseen this, and feared not, "I will go," she said; "I will fight and defeat him." When the wedding morning came, she gave directions to her maid to throw rice at the bride, and the spirit tried to destroy her with his powerful look. But the wise Peach-blossom, who had foreseen this, and feared not, "I will go," she said; "I will fight and defeat him." When the wedding morning came, she gave directions to her maid to throw rice at the bride, and the spirit tried to destroy her with his powerful look. But the wise Peach-blossom, who had foreseen this, and feared not, "I will go," she said; "I will fight and defeat him." 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