

Brief But Interesting.

If capital punishment by electricity proves a failure, what's the matter with giving the elixir of life a chance?

"I can't understand all this fuss about using electricity for executions," remarked Judge Lynch, of Kansas, reflectively. "Out in our section we have used the telegraph pole for years."

As soon as the horse-cars from Cairo to the Pyramids are completed, and the work is nearly done, an elevator will be made to the top of the venerable piles, so that the ascent may be made quickly and comfortably by the modern traveler.

M. Courton, a chemist, produced recently at the sitting of the French academy of sciences a sealed envelope containing a description of an apparatus by means of which objects may be seen at vast distances, the vibrations of light being transmitted through a wire.

Many of the shade trees in Port Jervis, N. Y., seem to be in a drooping condition. The Port Jervis Union says that most of the affected trees are in the vicinity of electric lights, and suggests that the darkness of night is as noxious to trees for rest as it is to human beings.

California has no Sunday law. There was such a law, but it was repealed in 1883; yet it cannot be said that there is any less observance of Sunday since the repeal of the law. On the contrary, an investigation shows that Sunday is observed more as a sacred day the present year than it was the year the law was repealed.

E. C. Stamper, near Elmer, Oregon, cut down a fir tree on his farm. He got \$12 for the bark. From the lumber he built a house 14x20, 8 feet high; a shed kitchen 8 feet wide and 20 feet long; a woodshed 14x20, and had 500 boards 6 inches wide and 2 feet long. He also cut 334 railroad ties and 15 cords of wood—all this from one tree.

Ester L. Danforth brought suit against C. E. Harriman in San Francisco, alleging him to be her runaway husband and claiming to be able to recognize him by the scar from a wound received in the war. As Mr. Harriman was only a small boy when the war was fought and as he bore no tell-tale scar he was able to convince Mrs. Danforth of her error. She apologized in a published card.

In order to test the quality of the bayonets now being served out to the English troops a number of weapons were indiscriminately selected from among those in use by the Inniskillen Fusiliers, and some sensation was occasioned in the garrison when the report from the testing experts in London was received, declaring that 60 per cent. of the bayonets were totally unfit for use.

An interesting discovery was made recently while excavating in London Wall, in that portion known as Bell Alley. A brown glazed jug was found in almost perfect condition. It is of the Norman period, with a thumb moulding at the base. There was also found a stone Roman bell. Unfortunately it was struck by a pick and two portions of the base are gone. It is unglazed, and a light stone-brown in color.

The subject for a prize competition of essays has just been announced by the Dutch Scientific Society of Haarlem. It is a "Critical review and exhaustive description of the different kinds of bacteria contained in drinking water before and after its filtration through sand, and of the methods of determining the characteristics of every kind." The successful competitor will receive a gold medalion or 150 Dutch guilden.

When the steamship Anadyr, of the Messageries Maritimes, was sunk the other day, in collision off Aden with the Orus of the same company, she carried down into seven fathoms of water 174 cases of silver ingots valued at 650,000 francs, which were destined for the Indo-China bank; 123 cases of gold wire for Madras; 113 cases of watches, several cases of jewelry for Saigon, valuable wares of jewelry for China, 800 sacks of Bordeaux wine and 100 cases of champagne.

One of the most curious passages in Motley's very bright and interesting letters, is the account, as given by Lady Dufferin, of Mr. Disraeli's attire when she first entered London society. She met him at a large dinner party and this was his costume: "He wore a black velvet coat lined with satin, purple trousers with a gold band running down the outside seam, a scarlet waistcoat, long lace ruffles falling down to the tips of his fingers, white gloves with several brilliant rings outside them, and long black ringlets rippling down upon his shoulders."

It is estimated that over \$2,500,000,000 is invested in the dairy business in this country; that 15,000,000 cows supply the raw material; that to feed these cows 60,000,000 acres of land is under cultivation; that 750,000 men are employed in the business and over 1,000,000 horses. The cows and horses each year eat 30,000,000 tons of hay, 80,000,000 of corn meal, 275,000,000 bushels of oats, 2,000,000 bushels bran, and 30,000,000 bushels of corn. It costs \$450,000,000 a year to feed the animals, and \$180,000,000 to pay the hired help.

The report that a "two-ton man-eating shark" had been caught at Santa Cruz, Cal., leads an old fisherman to write to San Francisco that the shark was not a man-eater, but a basking or ground shark. The man-eater seldom weighs over 1,500 pounds; but the ground shark often weighs as much as fifteen tons, so the old fisherman says, and sometimes his liver weighs two tons. They are the slowest fish that swim the seas. "No one," writes the fisherman, "need have any fear of them or anything else that carries a liver that weighs one-sixth of its body."

Among the modern "Mysteries of Paris," says the London Figaro, is a shop devoted to the sale of tea at the retail counter. The real live prince may be seen any day weighing up packets of the leaf which cheers but does not inebriate. This prince is the son of a European general, whose name is well known throughout the continent and who is related to some of the most aristocratic of the families of Paris. The "second comms," or "assistant counter-jumper," of the establishment is a baron in his own right, while the proprietor of the shop is a soldier who has served with distinction in the French army.

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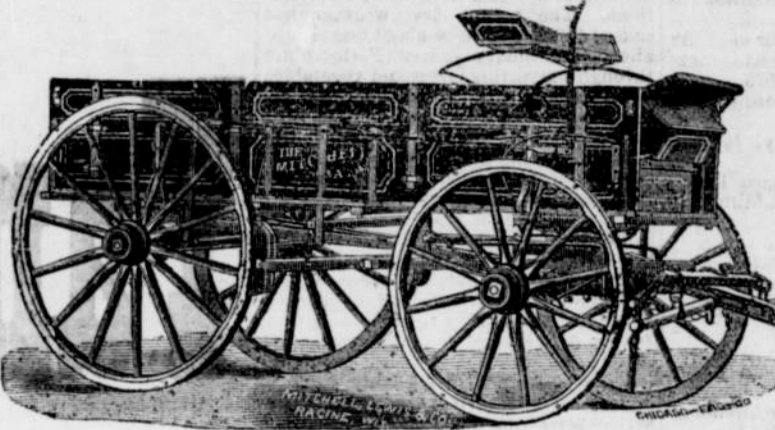
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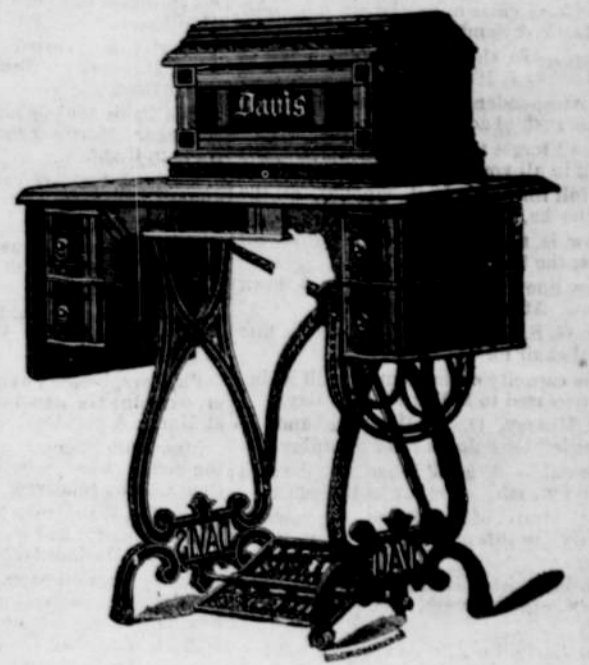
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"Oak Park Addition" adjoins the depot of the Southern Pacific Railroad, the new county court house, the elegant public school building, and is three blocks from Third street, the business thoroughfare of McMinnville. "Oak Park Addition" offers superior inducements to investors, the settled policy of its proprietors being to steadily advance prices with its growth, rendering investments absolutely safe and profitable.

"Oak Park Addition" will be planted in shade trees; cross and sidewalks constructed and streets graded. The proprietors are turning in 10 percent of all sales as a fund for this purpose. This property is being offered for from 25 to 50 per cent less than any other property in McMinnville of half the advantages. Prices of lots range from \$25 up and are sold either on the cash or installment plan.

A plat of this growing addition can be seen at Jas. Fletcher & Co.'s and J. I. Knight & Co., where all further information and price of lots and blocks will be furnished. Also at office of Barnekoff & Co., McMinnville Flouring Mills.

PORTLAND INVESTMENT COMPANY, PROPRIETORS.

F. BARNEKOFF, LOCAL MANAGER.