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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1894.

The Gorman bill placed salt on the free list and sugar on the dutiable list. The people use 100 pounds of sugar to every 2 pounds of salt. It looks like a case of saving at the spigot and wasting at the bung so far as the people are concerned.

The Democratic newspapers over the country continue to abuse Gorman, but it is to be observed that when it comes to making a nomination his man generally lands there with both feet. Gorman is shrewd enough to let his enemies have the resolutions, but he takes in the nominations.

How rapidly the heroes of the war of the rebellion are passing away. Gen. Stoneman's name concludes a list of thirteen Generals who have died this year, viz: Gens. Brooks, Richmond, Ammen, Hincks, Cameron, Otis, Slocum, Butterfield, Fry, Pleasanton Banks, Shepherd and Stoneman.

Life is beginning to dawn in Louisiana. The revolt in that State against the Democracy will probably result in the election of two and possibly three Republican Congressmen, and may be the means of securing the electoral vote of the State in 1896. Democracy is on the run even in the solid South.

The cuckoo, the crow and the Magpie bird, resting disconsolately upon the same perch and viewing the ruin that Gorman has wrought, present a spectacle in comparison with which the melancholy gloom of Poe's "Raven" seems like the sunshine of cheer and merriment. It is an apotheosis of harmony of the sort that prevails in a graveyard.

It is discovered that the salt brokers in Liverpool dictated the salt provisions in the new tariff law. They were interested in having matters so arranged that they could handle all the salt necessary for the use of the people of this county, and it appears that they were quite as successful as the sugar trust representatives in getting what they wanted, and in order to get what they wanted they worked it just as the sugar representatives did.

The Social Economist for September records its opinion that the Gorman tariff law will open our markets injuriously to foreign competition in jute, tin plates, woolens, clothing, cotton hose, iron and steel, salt and Canadian products. Its tendencies are to still further pound down our prices and wages, to increase the drain of gold, the hardships of the debtor class, relatively to the creditor, and to prolong the condition of business prostration.

Gen. Wm. SHAKESPEARE, of Kalamazoo, Mich., and the editor of the *Argus*, the Democratic paper at that city, is having a taste of Clevelandism in its purity. He has had the audacity to criticize the pension policy of the Administration and now he is summoned to show cause why his own pension should not be reduced. He proposes to do as Judge Long has done, fight the matter in the courts. It is safe to say that Gen. Shakespeare is a cuckoo.

FACTORIES continue to start notwithstanding the calamity howlers.—*Argus* News.

Of course factories are starting up, but the operatives are compelled to accept a deep cut in their wages. The glass factory hands have accepted a reduction in their wages of 22½ per cent. Iron and steel workers are working on a sliding scale based on the selling price have suffered losses ranging from 15 to 35 per cent. Indiana coal miners resumed at a reduction of 14 per cent. And thus it goes through all branches of labor.

The *Argus* News thinks the "party partial and party dishonest" issue is becoming stale. Doubtless it is becoming vapid and tasteless to the *Argus* News, but as Grover Cleveland set the pace and denounced the bill which the Democrats now support in this strong and vigorous language it is but meet and proper that they should have a daily reminder and insist on having answered the question which the President propounded: "How can we face the people after indulging in such outrageous discriminations and violations of principles?"

The report of the operations of the Tuskegee, Ala., Normal and Industrial Institute for the benefit of the colored race tells a story of decided success. At the start in 1881 it had only one teacher and thirty students, whereas it now has forty-eight teachers and 750 students. It holds property valued at \$200,000, mostly representing gifts, and its annual income is about \$65,000. The object of its system of instruction is to fit the students for the practical work of earning a living, which is the only true solution of the negro problem, and the results are in every respect gratifying and encouraging.

## MECHANICAL FREAKS.

Queer Things That Are Sent to the Patent Office.

Contrivances for Corraling Beasts and Bugs—Many Inventors After the Frisky Rodent Odd Musical Instruments.

American invention has given birth to a trend of freaks, which have been embodied at the patent office, in Washington, in order that they may not perish. Some of the queerest of them are devices for entrapping beasts, bugs, fishes and even human beings.

What, for example, could be funnier than the notion of using imitation flowers with poisoned honey to attract noxious insects? The artificial blossoms, each containing a small quantity of sugary liquid properly prepared, are to be fastened to twigs. Moths of destructive species sip the deadly nectar and die. A more elaborate device of a similar description is intended for the protection of apple trees. It is a can covered as to its upper half with luminous paint. On the outside of the lower half apple blossoms are represented with the same sort of paint. Inside of the receptacle is a small quantity of cider. The can is to be hung on a branch of an apple tree at night. Insects attracted by the pictured flowers light upon the can. The smell of the cider induces them to enter through holes provided for that purpose; they drop into the cider and are drowned.

It is not always easy to distinguish between a crank idea and a useful discovery. The poisoned counterfeits of flowers above described are said to work very well. Many years ago a man got a patent for a method of killing bugs on trees by inclosing the whole tree in a sort of balloon of canvas into which an asphyxiating gas was to be poured for the purpose of suffocating the insects. Everybody thought he was a lunatic; but now that his patent has run out the merits of the plan have suddenly obtained appreciation, and its adoption is alleged to have saved the orange-growing industry in California.

Several kinds of luminous bats for fish have been patented. One of these is a minnow of hollow glass coated on the inside partly with solution of gold or silver and partly with luminous paint. The result is a very brilliant object in the water, calculated to attract any predacious creature with fins. Another interesting contrivance is for making frog-bait more seductive. The jerking of the line equipped with this device causes the frog's legs to move as if he were swimming.

Contrivances for catching insects are more numerous than any others. One of them is a furnace for slaughtering potato bugs. To begin with a deep and wide furrow is to be plowed all around an infested field. Through this trench a smooth log is dragged to make the surface hard and smooth. The bugs in migrating to other grounds are unable to scale the trench and the furnace, which is a cylinder of iron filled with fuel, is drawn along the furrow and destroys them. Other odd devices are cartridges intended to be inserted in the mouths of ant holes and to be fired, thus communicating stifling vapors to the subterranean chambers; also many kinds of traps for attracting and burning up the moths of various worms in cotton fields. There is a toy pistol for insects, which sucks them in when the trigger is pulled.

An ingenious westerner has invented a trap for catching the horn fly, which is such an enemy to cattle in some parts of the country. It consists most importantly of a great frame to which brush is attached in such a manner that when the beasts walk through, eager as they always are to scratch themselves, the flies will be scraped from their bodies by the branches. Finally the frame is closed up by means of doors and the captured insects are destroyed.

Nearly everybody has heard of the gold tapeworm trap, which the patient swallows. Bedbug traps are of several varieties, all of them being intended to afford attractive hiding-places for those bloodsuckers and to be burned or sealed off afterward.

Much ingenuity has been expended in rat traps. Some of them are so elaborate that no full-witted rodent would go near them. One requires Mr. Rat to come in through a door, which drops behind him and makes him a prisoner. Seeing a bright light above he ascends a flight of little steps and trots across a small plank that is so nicely adjusted as to balance that his weight causes it to tip and throw him into a tank of water. Another contrivance consists of a double chamber. One chamber has a glass end, through which Mr. Rat sees two or three imitation rats having a nice time with a bit of cheese. Wishing to join them, he runs around the box, gets into the other chamber and is caught.

There are a number of devices which employ mirrors for the purpose of luring Mr. Rat to his fate. He mounts on top of a barrel and sees a toothsome piece of cheese. As he approaches it he beholds another rodent—in reality his own reflection in a piece of looking-glass—coming for the cheese from the opposite direction. He makes a dash to get there first, and a pivoted board drops him into the cask, which is half full of water. Rats will swim for a long time, so one humanitarian has patented a water trap with little shelves around the edge and just above the surface. On the shelves are placed small lead weights with fish hooks hanging from them. The captured rat, trying to escape, grasps one of the hooks, gets it fastened in his mouth, dislodges the piece of lead and is carried to the bottom by the latter.

Sparrow traps are of many different kinds. Most of them invite the birds to walk in through a door, which drops behind them, making them prisoners. When next seen in the restaurant they are reedlings on toast. Of greater interest are contrivances for catching thieves. One of them is designed to discourage bank sneaks. The sneak puts his hand in through the teller's window and unintentionally actuates a mechanism which causes a slide with spikes to close suddenly upon his paw and impale it. A trap of somewhat similar character is a steel shutter for a house window so disguised with covering and fringe as to look like an ordinary curtain. If a burglar tries to enter at night it shuts down upon him, the spikes hidden by the fringe helping to hold him fast.

American inventors have been fruitful of queer ideas in musical instruments. Patents have been sought for violins made of metal, of earthenware, of glass, of leather, and even of glue. Plain wood, however, maintains its place as the accepted material for this purpose. How many people have ever heard of the "doorophone?" It consists of a frame and sounding board with tuned wires and little metal balls suspended. The contrivance is hung upon a door. When the latter is opened the balls swing back and forth and strike harmonious chords.

There is a patent device for playing the banjo by electricity. It requires no skill, the instrument being operated by a sheet of paper with perforations which control the making and breaking of a circuit. Mechanical fingers thus actuated pick the strings and depress them at the frets. Another instrument is so arranged that one may play the banjo by manipulating the keys of a keyboard like that of a piano on a small scale. The same idea is varied by a combination of piano and violin, the strings of the latter being fingered by the use of a piano-like keyboard. Of course, that is the difficult part of violin playing, the handling of the bow being simple enough. The bow is held in the right hand while the fingers of the left hand strike the keys.

Within the last few years many musical instruments that play themselves have been invented. These ought to be a godsend in non-musical households, not to mention the saving of money for teaching and of distress to the nerves of those who are not doing the practicing. For example, there is the piano-organ, which is operated by strips of perforated paper like an organ. It is either a piano or an organ, or both together, and it plays itself much better than most people who understand the piano could play it, because the mechanical arrangements are made with a high degree of musical skill. The performer simply works the bellows. But there is a contrivance with mechanical hands which may be shoved up in front of any piano and will do the playing.

Another patent contrivance for the piano furnishes the instrument with auxiliary strings which sound in sympathy with the ordinary strings, though they are not struck. Then are turned in harmony with the primary strings, and augment the volume of tone. There is a kind of piano that holds a note as long as the finger is kept on the key; the string is kept vibrating by an electro-magnet. The Jumbo key-board is already becoming well known. Its arrangement enables the player to reach several octaves with a single hand, thus rendering certain effects of execution possible, which could not be obtained on an ordinary key-board. There are several devices by which the performer is enabled to improvise on the piano, and to have the improvisations recorded with self-inking pens or otherwise. Afterwards the record may be translated into the common notation.

Patents have been granted for making innumerable queer things out of paper, such as carpets, electric conductors, insulators, roofing material, car wheels, boats, pads, collars, brushes and combs. Mattresses are manufactured out of paper pulp and ordinary sponge, springs being imbedded in the composition. A cloth paper for banknotes has been invented, the notion being to render such money less perishable and more difficult to counterfeit. Paper is used nowadays for architectural decorations, interior and exterior. Cornices, panels and friezes are molded out of the pulp.

Musical boxes nowadays are made in all sorts of queer shapes. The glass water bottle on the dinner table plays a tune while the guest fills his tumblers. The cigar holder becomes tuneful when a match is struck upon it. Toilet sets have music boxes concealed in them. Fruit plates, when placed upon the festive board, start up with jigs and waltzes. Photograph albums become harmonious when opened. Clocks, instead of striking, emit operatic fragments every hour. Artificial singing birds, run by clockwork with bellows and whistle, carol melodiously. One may buy an imitation canary, robin or nightingale, in a cage.

One of the most successful of recent inventions is a process for making artificial straws out of paper for drinking-ice beverages. Everybody knows that real straws are apt to be defective, but the imitations are always satisfactory and never fail to draw. After they are rolled they are treated with paraffine, to render them watertight and non-absorbent. The same patent covers mouthpieces for cigarettes, which are manufactured in a similar fashion.

Medals are made out of paper and colored to imitate silver or bronze.

Cigar boxes are manufactured from the same material, flavored with cedar oil to give them the customary smell.

Hollow telegraph poles of paper pulp are a new invention. They are coated with silicate of potash to preserve them.

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## LYDIA E. INKHAM'S Vegetable Compound

Is a positive cure for all those painful

### Ailments of Women.

It will entirely cure the worst forms of Female Complaints, all Ovarian Complaints, all Uterine Complaints, Falling and Displacements of the Womb, and consequent Spinal Weakness, and is peculiarly adapted to the Change of Life. Every time it will cure

### Backache.

It has cured more cases of Leucorrhoea than any remedy the world has ever known. It is almost infallible in such cases. It dispels and expels the menses at the proper stage of development, and checks any tendency to cancerous humor. That

### Bearing-down Feeling

causing pain, heat, and backache, is caused by the use of perfumed oil. Under all circumstances it acts in harmony with the laws that govern the female system, and is as harmless as water. It removes

### Irregularity,

Suppressed or Painful Menstruations,

Weakness of the Stomach, Indigestion,

Bloating, Flooding, Nervous Prostration,

Headache, General Debility. Also

### Dizziness, Faintness,

Extreme Lassitude, "don't care" and "want to be left alone" feeling, excitement, restlessness, nervousness, sleeplessness, and backache. These are sure indications of Female Weakness, some derangement of the Uterus or

### Womb Troubles.

The whole story, however, is told in an illustrated book entitled "Guide to Health," by Mrs. Pinkham. It contains over 200 pages of medical information, and will tell every woman, married or single, should know about herself. Send 2 two-cent stamps for it. For

### Kidney Complaints

and Backache of either sex the Vegetable Compound is unequalled.

All diseases call for the Vegetable Compound, or, sent by mail, in form of a powder, or in capsules, \$1.00, or \$1.25, or \$1.50, or \$1.75, or \$2.00, or \$2.25, or \$2.50, or \$2.75, or \$3.00, or \$3.25, or \$3.50, or \$3.75, or \$4.00, or \$4.25, or \$4.50, or \$4.75, or \$5.00, or \$5.25, or \$5.50, or \$5.75, or \$6.00, or \$6.25, or \$6.50, or \$6.75, or \$7.00, or \$7.25, or \$7.50, or \$7.75, or \$8.00, or \$8.25, or \$8.50, or \$8.75, or \$9.0