

THE BABIES OF THE WORLD.

Nearly Thirty-Seven Million of Them Appear Every Year.

It has been computed that between 36,000,000 and 37,000,000 of babies are born into the world each year. The rate of production is therefore about seventy a minute or rather more than one for every beat of the clock. With the one-minute calculation every reader is familiar, but it is not everyone who stops to calculate what this means when it comes to a year's supply. And it will probably, therefore, startle a good many persons to find on the authority of a writer in the Hospital that could the infants of a year be ranged in a line of cradles seven deep they would go round the world. We have the ingenious conclusion also that, supposing the little ones to grow up and the sexes to be about equally divided, we should have an army a hundred times as large as the forces of the British empire, with a wife in addition to every soldier. The same writer looks at the matter in a still more picturesque light. He imagines the babies being carried past a given point in their mothers' charge one by one, and the procession being kept up continuously night and day until the last comer in the twelvemonth had passed by. A sufficiently liberal rate of speed is allowed, but even with these babies in arms going past twenty a minute the reviewing officer would only have seen a sixth part of the infantile host file onward by the time he had been a year at his post. In other words, the babe that had to be carried when the work began would be able to toddle onward itself when a mere fraction of its comrades had reached the saluting post, and when the year's supply of babies was tapering to a close there would be a rear guard not of infants, but of romping boys and girls. They would have passed, in fact, out of the maternal arms into the hands of the school-teacher. Every moment of nearly seven years would be required to complete this grand parade of those little ones that in the course of a twelvemonth begin to play their part in the first age of man.

THE FRENCH EXPOSITION.

Where the Great Industrial Exhibition in Paris Is Lacking.

A writer in Science thinks the great French exposition lacks novelties. He says people walk until they are fatigued through the almost endless buildings on the Champ de Mars, and yet fail to find any great or striking object by which they would especially remember the exhibition of 1889. The place is filled with evidences of untiring industry and skill on every side, but there is a strange absence of great novelties. We believe, however, that the exhibition will be famous for four distinctive features—in the first place, for its buildings, especially the Eiffel tower and the Machinery Hall; in the second place, for its Colonial Exhibition, which for the first time brings vividly to the appreciation of Frenchmen that they are masters of lands beyond the sea; third, it will be remembered for its great collection of war material, the most absorbing subject nowadays, unfortunately, to governments, if not to individuals; and fourth, it will be remembered, and with good cause by many, for the extraordinary manner in which South American countries are represented. Several of those nationalities are beginning to put themselves forward as appreciable factors in the politics of the world, and, what is of more interest to the manufacturer, they constitute the richest and largest customers in European and North American markets. Especially this is the case with regard to agricultural machinery of all kinds, and those exhibitors are fortunate who are well represented in this respect.

SAN FRANCISCO PRODUCTS.

What Most Impressed Traveler Were the Girls and the Fleas.

A traveler just returned from San Francisco, after a considerable stay in that city, tells a Louisville Post man that what impressed him most were the girls and the fleas. Both are large in size and plentiful in numbers.

"The women are the finest-looking specimens you ever saw," says the young man. "They are well developed, healthy and handsome. Of course I was duly impressed. But next to them I think the fleas take up the largest share of attention. They have no mosquitoes in San Francisco, but the fleas—their name is legion. Here in Louisville you frequently see 'Rough on Rats' advertised for sale. But in San Francisco it is 'Rough on Fleas.' You see the sign everywhere. It is a favorite poison for disconsolate servant girls to commit suicide with. I don't wonder that desperate measures were taken to get rid of the San Francisco flea. He is everywhere—in your clothes, in your bed, in the carpet, in the furniture. He is not a pleasant object to talk about, but in San Francisco he is too prominent a feature to be ignored. The flea is one of the principal objections to the glorious climate of California."

New Style in Trunks.

Trunkmakers say that the gigantic Saratogas are "out of style," and that women of good sense are preferring to buy two moderate sized trunks, about forty inches long, with flat tops and iron bands and oak tips. Wicker trunks are also popular—both with women and expressmen.

A Mystery Solved.

For several years boatmen and others along the Susquehanna river, between the villages of Susquehanna and Red Rock, have been interested, not to say disturbed, by a creature in the water at the latter point. The strange animal has always made its appearance at night, and an unearthly, weird noise accompanied by heavy splashing often awakened the people from their slumbers. Early after sunset a dark object has frequently been seen moving slowly across the river, and boat after boat has been upset by it. It was killed recently and proved to be a big alligator. It is supposed to have escaped from its owners years ago. The creature weighed over 500 pounds, and it took half the population of the neighborhood to kill it.

How Long to Sleep.

Up to the 15th year most young people require ten hours, and till the 20th year nine hours. After that age everyone finds out how much he or she requires, though, as a general rule, at least six or eight hours are necessary. Eight hours' sleep will prevent more nervous derangements in women than any medicine will ever cure. During growth there must be ample sleep, if the brain is to develop to its full extent, and the more nervous, excitable, or precocious a child is, the longer sleep should it get if its intellectual progress is not to come to a premature standstill or its life cut short at an early age.

Ceylon Cats.

Ceylon cats are a curious instance of what evolution has accomplished in the way of adapting creatures to environments. They have no tails, and are able, by lack of that appendage, to imitate rabbits and get them in their clutches. They are great catchers, and as such are valuable beyond all other cats in Australia. They have been introduced into this country, but whether for their hunting propensities or not is not stated. The cat family has never been utilized by man as it might be. Rat and mice catchers can also be developed into good hunters in many other directions.

A Noteworthy Invention.

An invention has been made which promises to revolutionize completely the industry of china decoration. By a process discovered it is possible to obtain in a few minutes the same artistic effects which cost the hand-painter on china days of labor. Landscapes, groups of figures, and portraits are produced by this means on vases, plates, and plaques in their natural colors, even to the most delicate shades.

An Every-Day Dog.

It was only "an every-day Georgia dog." This was the beast that plunged into the canal at Atlanta the other day and saved a drowning boy. There was no Newfoundland trace in her lineage to account for her strength and fidelity. Somewhere back in her pedigree her ancestors had been spaniels, but this was no special claim to life-saving service. Her best friends never thought of it. But here she is—a heroine—as brave as Captain Muller, who saved the whole ship's company from drowning. This is good work for "the every-day Georgia dog."

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No Musical Sense in Horses.

An interesting report regarding the development of the musical sense in horses has just been made by a committee of German zoologists and botanists. The report says: "The investigations as to the musical sense of horses have shown that that sense is very poorly developed in these animals. It has been proved beyond doubt that horses have no notion whatever of keeping time to music and that at circuses they do not dance according to the time, but that the musicians have to keep time according to the steps of the animals. Other investigations show that horses do not understand musical signals. It is only a wild or savage animal's instinct of imitation which induces horses to make the movements required by the signal, but no horse without a rider, however carefully trained, takes the slightest notice of a trumpet signal and the same observation has been made on a large number of cavalry horses without riders."

Train Talk About Tramps.

The cause of tramps is found in the absolute worthlessness of the individual. As a rule the tramp is good for nothing, made so by his own motion, for which no other man, power, corporation, or Government is responsible, in this country, since its formation, for over a century, every man in it could if he would earn enough to comfortably feed, clothe, and educate himself and his family. And if he was economical and industrious he could and would grow rich. Our past history proves this fact. No other country on the face of God's earth gives to the laboring man, to all classes, such advantages as this. No other country has shown so many who have risen from poverty to affluence. Why, then, this continuous whining? Go to work.

George Furnished the Arms.

Emma—So you're engaged to George Halby."

"Sadie—Yes. George and I came to an understanding some weeks ago. You remember the wheat corner in Chicago?"

Emma—To be sure I do."

Sadie—Well, that's the time I got caught in the squeeze."

Bright Prospects.

Visiting friend—How are you and your husband coming on?"

Mrs. Hopewell—O, he is a model husband! There is no species of vice from which he has not sworn off several times. I feel much encouraged.

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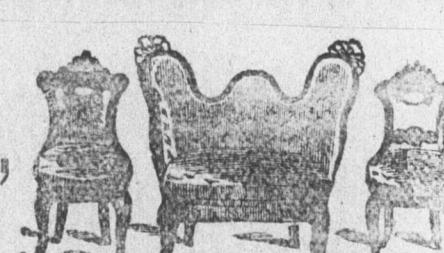
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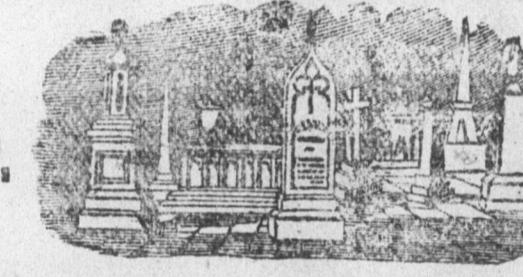
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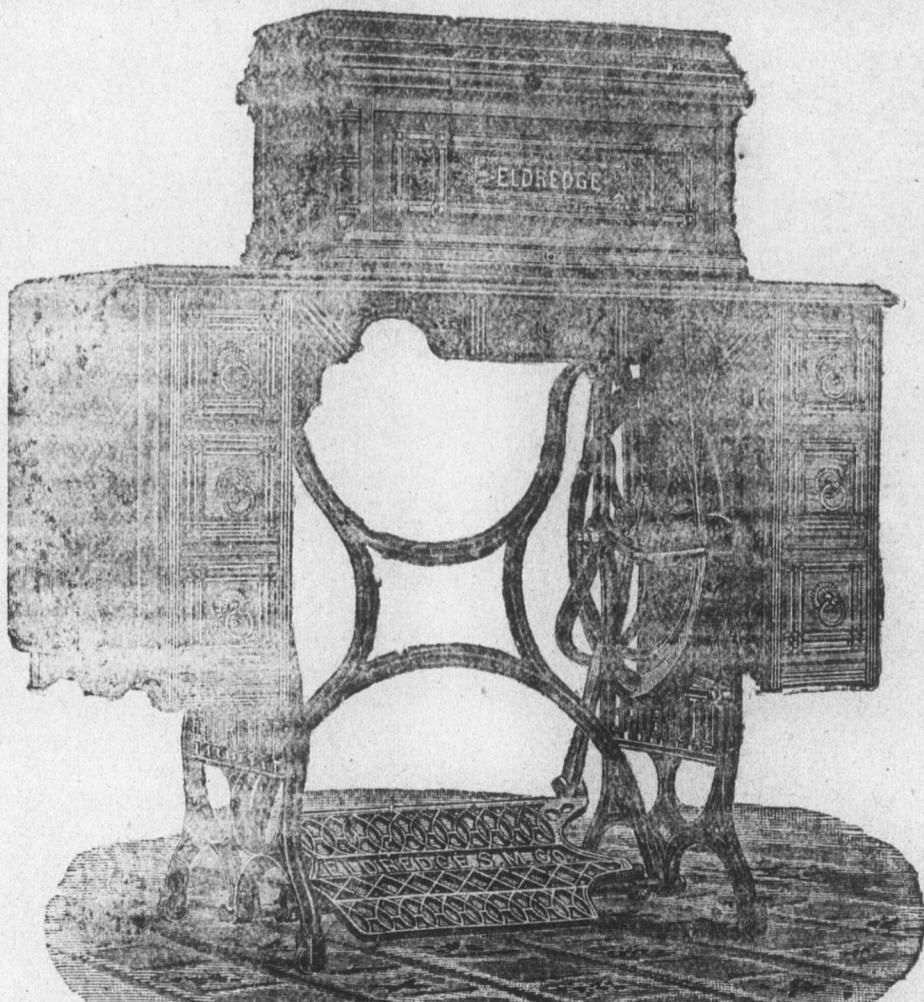
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