

If there were a "strike" at a clock factory now, one could see weighty reasons for it.

FULL many a can of purest kerosene Doth expedite the slowly kindling fire; Full many a Bridget, Maggie, or Kathleen Doth by its aid join the celestial choir.

A FEW theatrical men are talking of abolishing bill boards. If they could do away with board bills it would be more to the purpose.

BERNHARDT, Langtry, Patti, and Mary Anderson are writing books They will be offered to the soap trade at a liberal discount for use as premiums.

THE man who has the courage to fail in trying to do right, rather than succeed in wrong, is the real hero, no matter whether he wears a paper cap or a crown on his head.

THAT cloud in Europe has become so dense and threatening that there is no telling what might happen if an American rainmaker with a few bombs should go over there and begin experimenting.

PUCK has been cut off the list of papers in the reading-rooms of the Boston Public Library, because it is not considered healthy reading for the young. Boston takes life too seriously to laugh at jokes.

AFTER a five-years' term in the penitentiary, Mr. J. Finley Hoke, the thrifty bank cashier who robbed a Peoria bank of \$200,000 and fled to Canada, is now free and can go where he pleases with his money. Forty thousand dollars a year is a good salary for a man to earn in prison.

WHEN men, weary with the world's battle, return to the shelter of their own home, they need the kindness, the refinement, the high cultivation, the usefulness, the gentle pity which woman as she was meant to be knows how to afford him. The cultivation of a woman's mind cannot be a cultivation proper to her—to her constitution, her marked gifts, her work in the world.

THE latest thing is a "repairing outfit" of shoemakers' tools that enables the thrifty father of a family to do his own shoe mending and dispense with the services of cobblers entirely. The worst thing about this invention is that it seems to be the work of some experienced shoemaker who wants to get rich at the expense of his brethren.

THE numerous accidents which befall people who confide in the happy-go-lucky ministrations of boy drug clerks ought to serve as warnings, but they do not. Some additional legislation seems needed before the public can feel certain that no ignoramus or person of immature judgment will be found in the position of a dispensing clerk. Children cannot be allowed to clerk.

THE conduct of that spirited girl in a town close to New York City, who publicly horsewhipped a man because he had followed and accosted her on the streets on every possible occasion for three years, will meet with general approval. But it is too much to hope that it will serve as a salutary lesson to the race of "mashers." Those unworthy persons are possessed of such overweening conceit that each thinks such a mishap could never occur to him. Yet horsewhips are cheap and American girls are plucky.

WHAT will Stanley Africanus say to the news that Emin Pasha claims to have discovered the real and only Simon-pure sources of the Nile? There is a touch of bitterness in Emin's triumphant announcement, as much as to imply, "Oh, yes; you thought a bug-hunter couldn't find sources! But here they are, and all the others are spurious." Having thus set his trademark at the springs of ancient Nile, Emin is getting warlike, and talks of engaging the Mahdi of the moment in battle. But 'twere well to be prudent, for the Mahdi is a bad man with a bad eye, and he and his have already brought more than one white exploring expedition to grief.

THAT ancient suggestion that railway accidents be avoided by strapping a member of the board of directors to the engine might not, it appears, prove effective after all. The ex-president of the road and his wife were on the Monon train which met with a serious accident at Crawfordsville, Ind. In the reports of the disaster, which was a horrible one, the statement is made that "it was due to a loose rail, two section-hands being at work on it at the time." That the condition of the rail should have been known and still no effort made to warn an approaching passenger train is a startling evidence of the happy-go-lucky system which prevails on too many railroads.

STANLEY is lecturing in Australia, and tells an interviewer there that "Emin Pasha is an utterly indecisive man—a man with no mind of his own—a man just suited, for instance, for a lady's afternoon tea party." The fact that immediately after escaping from Stanley's janizaries Emin made his way back to the very spot in the depths of the African jungle whence he had been "rescued," while Stanley has ever since been dwelt on the table roasted.

Old Furniture Restored.
Cracks in furniture may be filled with Indian red or burnt umber to get the desired shade. When dry it will take on equal polish.

outlook for celebrities, or chasing the almighty dollar to its lair in the lecture bureau, suggests that the pseudo-American explorer is snapping and snarling at the heels of a great man.

NEW SOUTH WALES is fortunate in the possession of a jurist who for a clear insight into the principles of justice out-Daniels Daniel. The biographical encyclopedia dodge for making money out of the vanity of men is as popular in that antipodean region as it is here. Into the court of this worthy judge came the publisher of "Australian Men of Mark," suing a subscriber. The defendant pleaded that he had subscribed for the work on the representation that it would contain his biography, but found it did not and refused to accept it. The judge, however, took a comprehensive view of the case and ruled all contracts for the work void on the ground that its title "Men of Mark" was a humbug and a fraud, as the biographies were those of nonentities willing to pay the price. Carried to its logical conclusion that decision would make life miserable for the managers who advertise competent actors and clever comedies.

WHILE the horrible and criminal railroad slaughters of late are receiving such universal condemnation, there is another matter directly connected which should be denounced, and for which prompt remedy should be provided. Immediately after the disastrous rear collision at Hastings, word that it had occurred flashed over the country, and thousands, whose relatives were imperiled in the accident, were eager to learn the fate of their loved one. Many of those who came out of the wreck alive hastened at once to telegraph assurances of their safety to those so anxiously awaiting it. But the operator at Hastings would receive no such telegrams. He coolly and unfeelingly refused them, saying that it was in accordance with orders from headquarters. Fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, were at home stricken with fear, and enduring the agony of terrible suspense, but no word of comfort could be sent them. The railroad company had ordered otherwise. Had the wires been burdened with messages for surgeons, medicines, nurses, and other means of relief, there might have been some excuse for the cold-blooded order, but no such explanation is offered. When a corporation becomes thus soulless, some way should be found to force upon it a semblance of feeling.

WE have been inclined to give Dr. Leslie E. Keeley no small credit for the good he has apparently done in curing thousands of inebriates of the disease of drunkenness. It makes no difference whether his remedy is truly bi-chloride of gold or permanganate of potash; it does the work he claims for it, and thousands testify to his sincerity of purpose. But there must be something malevolent in the man's make-up, after all. He announces that he has been highly successful in the prevention and cure of the grip, and, unlike his attitude on the jag specific, he is willing to disclose to the public the remedy he uses. But horrors! It's assafetida! The Miantonomoh's complement during her cruise consisted of eleven officers and 132 men, but only five of these officers and sixteen men were required in the actual working of both batteries; the guns and turrets were forced to shut down for want of the water wherewith to make steam, and at least one explosion was reported as a direct result of the inadequate supply. The hotels and restaurants found it impossible to meet the bilious and lavatory requirements of their patrons, hundreds of residents had to go without coffee for breakfast and use snow water for washing, if they washed at all.

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Fortunately the deprivation did not interfere with interior transit, as the cable-house reservoirs had a sufficiency on hand for the emergency or made arrangements to haul water from the lake. But at the Stock-Yards there was a serious suspension of activity, and many of the animals suffered intense thirst.

Chicago gets her water supply from cribs located a considerable distance out in the lake, and the trouble was at these cribs. Ice formed in the port-holes, completely blocking up the passages through which the water normally flows into the intakes. It may seem strange, and the result of gross carelessness, that such an accident should be permitted to occur at a comparatively mild temperature when several severe winters without any annoyance from that cause have been passed through. But the fact is the city had the extraordinary experience of eighteen days of consecutive frost, and, worst of all, the water in the lake is phenomenally low. It is said to be a foot and a half below city datum, the latter being regarded as the minimum when it was taken as the standard, about forty-five years ago.

THE SPEAKER'S WIFE.

A Life with Much of Romance, More of Worry and Most of Success.

The position of the wife of the Speaker of the House of Representatives is very near the topmost niche in Washington's social structure. She who now holds that place is a most interesting and lovable woman. The wife of the Speaker is one of Georgia's daughters born at Ellaville, Seely County, near where she has spent most of her life. She was educated at Wesleyan College, Macon, Ga., where she remained until she had reached the interesting age of 18. She then returned to her home, entered society and met the young lawyer, Mr. Crisp, who had just been admitted to the bar.

It seems to have been a case of love at first sight, as only a short time elapsed before the young couple decided to elope and get married, since the parental approval was entirely wanting. They accordingly went to a neighboring village, where the ceremony was quietly performed at the house of a friend. The astonished parents, who had no substantial reason for their opposition, promptly forgave the young people and the incident was soon forgotten.

Mrs. Crisp is a blonde, tall and slender, with a sweet and sympathetic face, upon which one can see the lines that denote physical suffering. For eighteen years the wife of the new Speaker has suffered untold agony from her attacks of inflammatory rheumatism. Of late years she has been quite unable to make any calls, and her circle of friends consists generally of the wives of members who live in the same hotel.

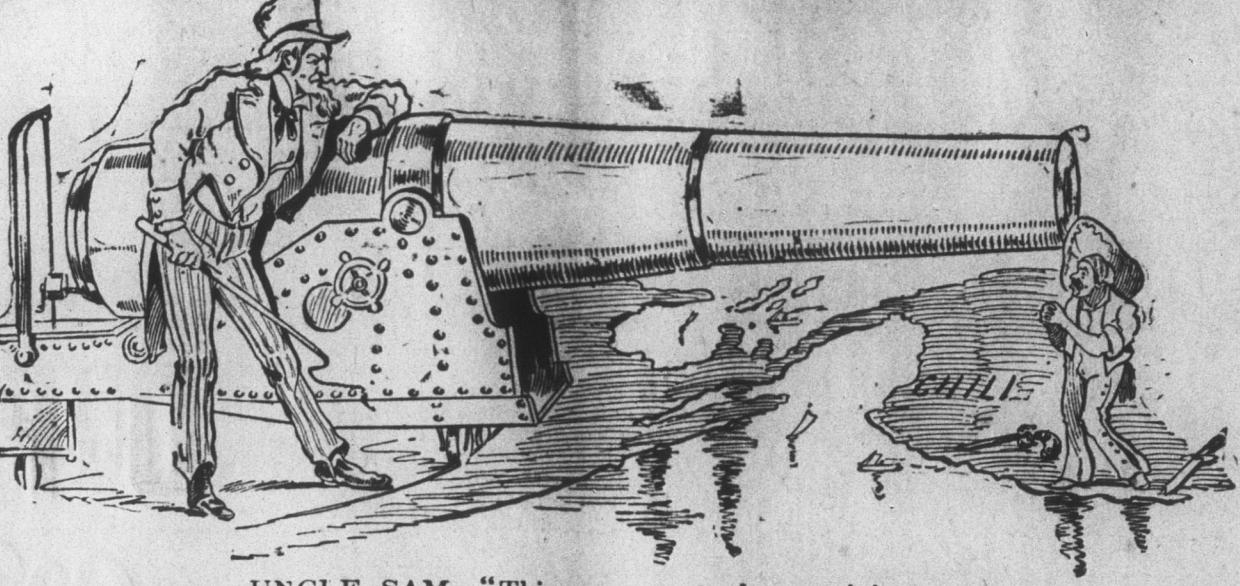
Mrs. Crisp spends most of her leisure

Scrubbing Brush for Potatoes.

It is next to impossible to wash potatoes perfectly clean by hand. The use of a little scrubbing brush, such as may be purchased at from 5 to 10 cents, will soon make their jackets fresh and clean, so that they will be fit to be brought on the table roasted.

Old Furniture Restored.
Cracks in furniture may be filled with Indian red or burnt umber to get the desired shade. When dry it will take on equal polish.

CHILI WILL APOLOGIZE.



UNCLE SAM: "Things seem to be comin' our way."

TESTING BIG GUNS.

Recent Trial of Those on Our New Ironclad Monitor.

The recent test of the big ten-inch guns of the double-turreted ironclad monitor Miantonomoh attracted great attention in naval circles, and seems to have been satisfactory so far as definite results were reached. The tests were made in Gardiner's Bay, where there is a clear range of over ten miles, and were at first somewhat interfered with by rough, unfavorable weather.

The trial was the more interesting from the fact that it was the first time in the history of the navy that immense rifles like those mounted on the Miantonomoh had ever been fired on a coast-defense vessel.

There are four of the ten-inch guns, three of which were made in England and one in Bethlehem, Pa. The Bethlehem gun, which is mounted in the after turret, is one foot shorter than the English gun, but has the same caliber as the others. The difference, however, of a foot in the length of the gun makes a difference of one ton in its weight as compared with the others. The English gun weighing twenty-seven tons, and the Bethlehem gun weighs only twenty-six.

The armament of the Miantonomoh, says Frank Leslie's, is not confined to these great guns. She carries a secondary battery which is inferior to none in the service in point of efficiency, consisting of two three-pounder Hotchkiss rapid-fire guns and two thirty-seven millimeter revolving cannon. There are also two of the new Driggs-Schroeder rapid-fire guns. It is stated, as illustrating their destructive power, that these guns throw a shell weighing six pounds four times a minute, these shells being filled with high explosives, and having a range of three miles. At the range of a mile their effect on the decks of a thickly peopled man-of-war would be simply terrific.

The Miantonomoh's complement during her cruise consisted of eleven officers and 132 men, but only five of these officers and sixteen men were required in the actual working of both batteries; the guns and turrets were worked by hydraulic machinery—the guns are depressed, loaded, elevated and run out, and the turrets turned by machinery, and the firing is done

in preparing a scrapbook of newspaper clippings concerning her husband's doings. If she ever leaves the house it is to go to the Capitol to hear and see Mr. Crisp at his work. As a young lady she was an excellent musician, but her serious illness compelled her to drop all practice and study in that direction.

TWAS A DRY DAY.

Chicago's Water Supply Cut Off for Over Eight Hours.

Chicago went dry one day recently. With her 1,800 saloons and a body of water like Lake Michigan in close proximity, the statement may seem somewhat remarkable, but it is true nevertheless.

It is now more than twenty years since Chicago had a like experience. The great fire crippled the water-works and for several days

ice as to increase the difficulty, and permitted the laborers to contend to better advantage with that already accumulated. The deprivation was so short-lived that comparatively little harm was done by the failure of the pumping-engines to do their usual work, but it was a pretty bad scare while it lasted, not the least element of uneasiness being the dread of fire breaking out while the water was shut off. The city was entirely without water for over eight hours.

SHADES IN FALSE TEETH.

It is a fact that is not generally known that false teeth have to be made to suit the complexion if satisfactory results are desired. A dentist walking on Chestnut street called attention to this fact as he passed a lady who in smiling showed a beautiful set of the whitest teeth. "Those teeth are too white," he said.

"She is a blonde and ought to have bluish-white teeth. A brunette can wear clear white teeth, but blondes should have bluish or cream tinted." Then he mentioned that a friend of his had put in a set of perfectly white teeth for a lady who is very fair. He did it against his own judgment and only after the lady insisted strongly on it. She wore the set a few days and went back, saying the teeth were too conspicuous. She took a dark set the second time, and they cannot be told from natural ones. In all dentists have as many as thirty different shades in false teeth, and have to exercise much care in the selection.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

CHILI'S BATTLE FLAG.

Is Strikingly Resemblance to That of the Late Confederacy.

Should the armies of the United States finally engage the Chilians, the veterans of '60-'61 will be startled at seeing the stars and bars once more opposing them in a desperate struggle.

The resemblance between the old standard of the Confederacy and the present banner of Chili is both apparent and real.

The Southerners at first floated in defiance a flag described heraldically as "gules, a jesse ardent, on a canton azure fourteen stars of the second." The Chilian emblem is "per jesse ardent and gules, on a canton azure a five-pointed star of the first."

In every day English the difference is this: The South bore three bars, red and white, with fourteen stars of white on a blue ground in the corner;

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TUG BEATING THROUGH THE ICE TO THE CHINE.

Michigan's Handsome Columbian Exposition Building.

Michigan's State building will be one of the handsomest on the World's Fair grounds. What it will cost the architects cannot tell, as the lumbermen of the State, determined to make a complete exhibit of their timber resources, will donate all the lumber that goes into it. The building is artistic in design. It is of the classic style and has been treated freely. The structure will be two stories high, occupying a ground area of 80 by 120 feet. A main porch leads to the grand entrance, from which the visitor passes through an arched vestibule. On one side of the vestibule is the office of the State Board, and on the other side are arranged check rooms, a post-office, club rooms, reception apartments and committee rooms. Perhaps the main features of the first floor are the recessed loggias that are so arranged as to form secluded retreats for resting places. Big fireplaces are built at convenient places on the first floor. One of these is 8x24 feet, and in cold weather logs shipped from Michigan will blaze in it.

On the second floor are two large rooms, 36x68 feet, which will be used for special exhibits from Michigan, and perhaps as assembly rooms.

THE BIG FAIR.

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THE UNRULY MAN.

A small boy made a big fat woman furiously angry and a car-load of people very merry, says the Kansas City Times. He was sitting down quietly when this portly woman came in. As nobody got up to give her a seat, she stood in the aisle at the mercy of the bumps and twists and turns of the road. The car had gone about two blocks, when the small boy got up, and in a whisper that could be heard all through the car, said: "I'll be one of three men to give the lady a seat."

A Little Child's Science.

A little child of my acquaintance was looking out of a window one bright sunshiny day not long ago. Far out in the field lay a tin can, so placed that it reflected the rays of Old Sol in all its glory.

Tugs and fireboats loaded with ice cutters and divers were hurried out through the frozen lake to remove the obstructions. Fortunately the milder weather that set in did not produce such large quantities of fresh

FUN FOR YOUNG FOLKS.

DUAIN FIGURES MADE FROM PASTEBOARD.

Sisters of Charity and Small Girls in Sunbonnets—A Pastime That Will Keep Idle Hands Out of Mischief for Hours at a Time—The Necessary Materials.

Card Board Curiosities.

Not every one is aware that the visiting cards which accumulate in most houses with such perplexing rapidity may be put to strange and pleasing uses, keeping idle hands out of mischief for hours at a time. Out of the stiff and chilly pasteboard cheery clowns and nimble puppets may be fashioned for the amusement of the small folk. Scarcely less entertaining and perhaps easier for young and impatient fingers to construct are Sisters of Charity and their little charges.

The necessary materials are within the reach of all—several visiting cards, some stiff white paper, a black pencil, a pencil with one end red and the other blue, and a pair of scissors. With these, if one is only nimble and exact with her fingers, she can make people a little world of her own, where no bugaboos are admitted, with pretty pasteboard people who will bow and scrape, and, above all things, do nothing that they should not.

Bend a visiting card in two, take it lengthwise; trace upon transparent paper half of the model represented in the first drawing, then reproduce it on one of the halves of the doubled card. The crease in the card should then become identical with the dotted line in the middle of the figure. Once the contour of this half-figure has been traced, cut the card following this contour outline, then unfold the card and you will have a figure identical with the cut. Very little remains to be done in transforming the card into a Sister of Charity.

Rebend the card once more following the middle or median line. Bring forward the two arms following the dotted