

He tests at court plasters who never tried to shave himself.

Any woman who is not an anarchist has a perfect right to talk in this country.

"A California Chinaman has invented an odorless onion." Then it isn't an onion.

"Just you wait," says the pessimist, when he is reminded that his prediction was wrong.

"Why American Mothers Fail," is the heading of a magazine article. But they don't.

When a man with a wife and several grown-up daughters has a despondent disposition, it's a sign that he has a pretty good income.

The "nightmare riders" would appear to be a more suitable name for those Kentuckians who are committing so many depredations.

One of the professors declares that saving money is dangerous. Perhaps the meat men are magnanimously endeavoring to protect us from danger.

The King of Italy may become the possessor of the proud right to say "our American cousin." A king, you know, may say "our" instead of "my."

The Oklahoma Legislature has passed a law forbidding eavesdropping over the telephone. Thus one of the blessings of living in the country been taken away from the dear people.

A Pennsylvania boy who recently recovered from typhoid fever now has a mania for writing poetry. Some of the after effects of that terrible disease seem to be worse than the malady itself.

The Mauretania, seen at night, is described as resembling "a city adrift at sea." Those who have beheld large communities voyaging about the ocean will have a vivid mental picture of the big liner.

Chancellor von Buelow says Germany has no desire to deprive England of the mastery of the seas. The London Times will regard this as a cunning effort to induce England to waste her resources in building war ships, thus weakening herself on land.

Ten millions growing moldy in the United States treasury suffering for an owner! What a burlesque to an overworked government to have to sit up at night and watch it, and not know to whom it belongs! For something over forty years this vast store has been gathering dust, being the proceeds of "abandoned property" captured by the Union soldiers, sold for cash and the money turned into the treasury. To be strictly accurate, there still remains, after millions have been distributed to approved claimants, \$10,028,351.88 for which Uncle Sam has never been able to find a proper owner.

Defective designing was the cause of the collapse of the cantilever bridge across the St. Lawrence River at Quebec several months ago, according to the report of the royal commission appointed to make an investigation. The designer used the standard formulas in computing the strains, but in the opinion of the commission he should have modified them, as the bridge was larger than any that had hitherto been attempted on the cantilever principle. It is easy to say this now, for all engineers know more about the subject than before the falling bridge demonstrated that the old formulas were incorrect. But it is important to future bridge builders, as well as to the public, that an adequate explanation of the Quebec accident has been found.

In advising China to accede to Japan's demands, the United States had China's interests in view. There is a strong probability that Japan would have made the Tatsu incident a pretext for war if China had not receded from its position. War would have resulted in humiliation for China, and possibly in dismemberment. The present outcome has aroused a strong feeling of hostility to Japan throughout China. At Peking the United States holds the favored place among the nations. That alliance of all the Asiatic peoples against the whites is "off." Not for years to come will the yellow peril be mentioned again. The boycott in Shanghai and the other Chinese ports against American goods, so far as any trace of the embargo is left, will be lifted immediately.

A Boston neurologist of large reputation has advanced a novel theory about nervous collapse, based upon a case in his own practice. He relates that a wealthy business man consulted his physician for relief from a nervous breakdown. He was ordered to go to Europe and rest, but it did him no good. He was sent to rest cures and sanitariums, where he was ordered to do nothing which would tire him. He was informed that rest was his only salvation. He rested week after week and month after month, and all to no purpose. At last he consulted this physician, who believed in doing something. After studying the case he decided that his patient was not in need of rest and was not in the least fatigued, but simply did not have enough to do. He accordingly advised him to go to work and quit worrying. The patient did so and was cured. The remedy and its encouraging result only go to prove the truth of the old axiom that work is the panacea for all evils. Cases of overwork, so often reported, are usually cases of overworry. Care may even kill the cat which has nine lives to man's one, but hard work without worry never killed any one. Work with worry may produce nervous collapse and often leads to suicide, but good honest hard work without excitement

or strain, and performed within reasonable time, is the best of remedies to guard against nervous breakdowns. It would be an excellent remedy in society, also, if society women, jaded and worn out by the incessant excitement, late hours, imprudent eating, and worries of social functions and rivalries, instead of going to rest cures, would take the broom and flannel and put in several hours of good hard work in the house. They would be surprised to find how rapidly they would recuperate and restore their wasted energies.

It is well enough known that frequently human beings when bitten by dogs have died agonizing deaths. Hydrophobia or rabies is the name for the disease under which they have suffered, but so great have been the uncertainties as to the course of the disease and so poor the opportunities for experimentation that some medical authorities have held there was no such disease whatever, and that the victims have really succumbed to self-hypnotism or hysteria. The bureau of animal industry in the Department of Agriculture at Washington has had this question under consideration and has made many experiments at its experiment station at Bethesda, Md. Its chief, Dr. A. D. Melvin, now announces that he has conclusive proof that such a disease exists and that it is germ-generated and infectious. One of the instances which Dr. Melvin cites is that of a dog bitten by another dog. The bitter died of rabies. The other dog was taken away and kept under observation for two months. It then developed a well-defined case of the disease, ran amuck and bit a horse and a cow. The cow was attacked in sixty days, the horse in about a hundred days, and both died after showing all the typical symptoms. Dr. Melvin states that there are two forms of the disease—one of them dumb, the other furious. In the early stages of the dumb type a dog is dangerous, but in later stages it is not, as its jaws become paralyzed. A dog suffering with the furious type of rabies is very dangerous. The frothing at the mouth is not a fiction but a real characteristic of this type. The experience of England, which, through its strictly enforced quarantine law, has got entirely rid of rabies and kept free from it for many years, has been sufficient to satisfy most impartial observers that a genuine disease was in question. The proof that is now brought forward by Dr. Melvin's bureau should put an end to all further quips and flings about the imaginary nature of the disease. Rabies is fortunately not common, but it is terrible enough where it occurs to justify full precautions against it.

One of the most important additions to astronomical science in years was the recent announcement from the Lowell observatory, Flagstaff, Ariz., that the atmosphere of the planet Mars is very rich in vapor. This information was gained by a comparison of the spectra of Mars and the moon. Astronomers have been trying for forty-five years to settle the question.

There has recently been completed at Lorain, Ohio, a dry dock 745 feet long and 125 feet wide. This makes it the greatest fresh-water dry dock in the world, and it comes within five feet of being as long as the new dry dock of the League Island navy yard. Four vessels 605 feet long have been launched on the great lakes within the year, and it is believed that vessels 700 feet long will be built within a few years.

A curious occurrence, deemed worthy of scientific record, was witnessed by Dr. J. S. Diller, of the Geological Survey, in Oregon last September. It was a mortal combat between a salamander about inches long and a garter-snake two feet in length. The salamander gripped its foe at the base of the jaw, and hung on with bulldog tenacity. The fight lasted about three hours. At the end of that time the snake was nearly dead, whereas the salamander "seemed fresh in the enjoyment of his victory."

If the sun were blue there would be only two colors in the world, blue and black; or if it were red everything would be red or black. In the latter case there would be red snow, red lilacs, black grass, a black clear sky and red clouds. There would be a little variety, however, if the sun were green. Things that are now yellow would still remain that color, but there would be no reds, purples, oranges or pinks, and very few of those cherry hues that make the world bright and pleasant. Besides color, the temperature of this earth would be very much changed.

Efforts are being made to develop more extensively the petroleum resources of Peru. The known deposits of oil occur on a very narrow strip of land between the foot-hills of the Andes and the shore of the Pacific, and much of this is flooded at high tide. Piles of railroad iron driven in the pure ocean sand, which varies in depth from 5 to 50 feet, are used as foundations for the derricks. The shallowness of the driven wells is 180, and the deepest 1,700 feet in depth. There is very little gas, and the oil is very heavy, so that it can be put into buckets with shovels, and it is carried direct to the furnaces to serve as fuel.

Uncertain.
Squiggs—Say, Squiggs, you goin' to raise a garden this year?
Squiggs—Don't know, Squiggs; I'm goin' to plant some seeds, but whether they will turn out to be chicken feed or garden it's too early to determine.—Toledo Blade.

The Real Test.
Job may have displayed great patience, but it is not written in the book that he ever had to wear a saw-edged collar.

It is always a source of wonder to a man that a woman can have so much faith in him.

Right you are, Alonzo; the fountain plays because the water works.

BOYS SAY HE CAN PROJECT POWER WITHOUT USE OF WIRES.

Harry M. Grout, a high school boy of Spencer, Mass., says he has discovered the secret of transmitting electric waves through the air without the aid of wires. He has been studying electricity for five years and has already become an expert operator with wireless methods of communication, according to the New York World.

He now lights a dozen incandescent bulbs in different rooms in his house by merely pressing a small lever in his room and projecting the electric waves. There are no connecting wires between these different lights and the machines which he operates. Each light is merely connected with a small battery of its own.

Just how the electric power which the hundred-odd batteries in the operating room produce is made to travel through the air young Grout as yet refuses to disclose. He declares that he can now cause this wireless electric power to be projected several hundred feet and he further insists that when he is able to own a dynamo and produce sufficient electricity at once he will cause it to perform all the maneuvers of customary operation from the shore or from his own room.

He asserts that when he has accomplished this he will apply his tests to torpedoes. The young inventor is now in communication with a United States weather observatory official in Haddam, Conn., who has been studying along similar lines with Grout and whose first letter to the high school boy said that the Connecticut man believed the two together would be able to communicate with the planet Mars. Young Grout admits that he believes such a thing possible, and he also is convinced that it can be accomplished from what he has already discovered, providing power enough can be obtained to send the force waves such a long distance.

Many electricians have visited the boy and have satisfied themselves that he is actually causing electric power waves to travel through his home by merely turning on and off the lever.

The young electrician said: "I am merely in the experimental stage of my work and now, of course, am not willing to explain just how I can light the electric bulbs in my house without wires. It is sufficient to say that I do hope to do something more practical with these power waves before spring. I can operate a motor at 900 feet and feel sure that I shall soon be able to put a motor boat through all kinds of paces from the shore within a short time. When I have accomplished that of course the way will be open for sure and safe propulsion and operation of other craft of greater or less size and also of torpedoes in time of war from the land."

Grout is only 18 years of age. He became interested in electricity at high school and immediately branched out beyond the routine work of which his courses consisted. He has charge of the electric equipment of a large manufacturing concern in Spencer.

LEARNING TO SWIM.

Persistence in undertaking is a laudable virtue, but it can be a bit overdone sometimes, as in a case described by Y. L. Molloy in "Our Autumn Holiday on French Rivers." Mr. Molloy and his friend, longing for a good dive, went to a swimming school on an island in the Seine. They donned their rented costumes and were preparing for the plunge when a man with ropes came along and insisted on tying them about their waists. It was according to police regulations, and although they made an indignant protest, they were obliged to submit.

While we were dressing, says Mr. Molloy, we asked the two swimming masters for an extra towel. "Pardon," they replied, "we must attend to our monsieur."

Then we saw that there had come upon the platform a short and absurdly fat man, dressed in bathing costume, swimming sandals and oiled cap. "Let's see him go in," said we. "What a splash he'll make!"

The swimming masters received the new arrival at the middle of the platform. There he balanced himself on his stomach on a wooden stump two feet high. The masters seized him by his hands and feet, and with slow and deliberate movements made him strike out with the action of swimming. They kept this up for a quarter of an hour, and the perspiration rolled off him in great drops.

"He'll be awfully hot to go into the water after that," said I.

But he did not go into the water. The swimming lesson over, he moved toward the dressing room, saying: "I have done better to-day."

"Ah, yes," answered one of the masters. "Your progress is admirable."

The fat man beamed with complaisance, and went in to dress.

I called the swimming masters aside.

"Does your monsieur practice often like that? He must have great perseverance."

"Perseverance! He has worked like that for five years, and he has never been in the water!"

Not on the Level.
First Legislator—I don't like the way that subway contractor goes about things.

The Only Way.
There goes a man who made a fortune writing poetry.

Misinformation.
Clubman—I understand, sir, that you began life as a newsboy.

Sermons of the Week

A living faith makes a live church.—Rev. T. H. McConnell, Presbyterian, Chicago.

Men of power are always men of prayer.—Rev. E. L. Powell, Christian Church, Louisville.

Every phase of the life of Jesus is an open book for every man.—Rev. A. W. Hodder, Baptist, Brooklyn.

In this day of crime God is looking for men and women who will stand out for Him.—Rev. J. O. Boswell, Evangelist, Pawtucket.

The modern methods of business and politics throw men in the way of temptation and deceit.—Rev. J. H. Larry, Congregationalist, Providence.

There is less graft, in proportion to the opportunity, in Roosevelt's time than there was in Washington's.—Rev. R. S. MacArthur, Baptist, New York.

Great wealth has kept more young men away from a pure life than ever has the want of it.—Rev. William Edward Biederwolf, Evangelist, North Camden.

It is not always safe to take a man's profession for his standing, but to measure him by the cause he champions.—Rev. Charles G. Kindred, Disciple, Chicago.

Each soul must pay its own debt. Each man must save himself in the same manner in which Jesus rose to a mighty saving relation to the world.—Rev. William Forkell, People's Church, Aurora.

To be good when it is impossible for us to do wrong, is no honor to man, but to do good when on every hand there are opportunities for wrongdoing is Christ-like.—Rev. L. M. Zimmerman, Lutheran, Baltimore.

The strongest woman in the world is not the richest, the best educated, the most graceful nor the one endowed with the greatest physical beauty, but the purest woman.—Rev. P. W. Snyder, Presbyterian, Pittsburg.

No man can be a mighty man for God or for humanity who has not seen God, who has not touched God, who has not come in contact with the Eternal One Himself.—Rev. W. P. MacLaurin, Congregationalist, Brooklyn.

No matter how much you think, or in what fields of research, you have not done your duty as a thinker, if you have left unexamined and unconsidered the great Christ problem of the world.—Rev. J. W. Francis, Presbyterian, Parkersburg.

Jesus demands of every man that he utilize all the thought, every capacity, every potentiality he possesses, and that he put down the lower, selfish nature and exalt the divine and the noble that is within him.—Rev. M. Le Roy Burton, Congregationalist, New Haven.

A beautiful house may shelter evil people. The chances are that bad people in the tenderloin would be no more plous if they were suddenly lifted into palaces. It is the individual life and heart that must be changed.—Rev. B. Mitchell, Methodist, Cleveland.

The richness of the intellect and the affections of the heart that should be spent in meditation upon a better and a higher life and in love for God and the Christ are wasted upon worldly lusts and the things that lead to ruin.—Rev. G. H. Rowe, Christian Church, Aurora.

It is evident that the desecration of Sunday is on the increase, for we are told that nearly fifty millions of the American people never enter a church on that day. It, therefore, behooves the Catholics of the republic, by word and example, to insist upon Sunday observance.—Bishop McPaul, Roman Catholic, Trenton.

Do not think for a moment that a man who has enlisted under Christ will have no more battles, or that the first battle will be the only one to be fought. It will be a fight all along the way, but he will be under a captain that has never lost a battle, and victory will surely follow.—Rev. G. Campbell Morgan, Evangelist, at Hartford.

The great blessing of forgiveness of sins which are past and even the blessing of being awakened from the sleep of death would profit mankind but little if the arrangements of that future time—the millennium age—were not on such a scale as to permit a thorough recovery from present mental, moral and physical weakness.—Rev. C. F. Russell, Congregationalist, Cincinnati.

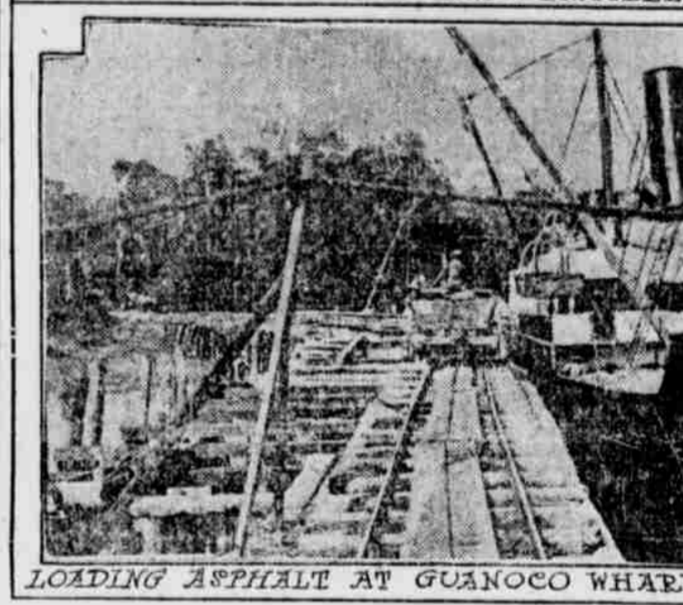
Permanent success in any undertaking is conditioned upon working with God. In every department of activity, certain laws prevail which must be obeyed in order to insure success. These laws are all God's laws. The physician must understand and observe the laws of health to cure his patient. The Christian is the one who undertakes to conform to the laws of God in every department of his life so far as he understands them. Just so far as he does that, he is a co-worker with God.—Rev. J. P. Roberts, Baptist, Providence.

Religion is a life, and not an opinion about life. Redemption is a new and divine spirit, and not a definition of redemption. There is a new theology and there are always will be one. God, love, redemption, remain unchanged. The definition of those things changes. Doctrines are like the leaves on a tree. The kindly autumn comes and kills them off. If it does not, but shows the old, withered leaves clinging to the branches, it is dead. Doctrines should be evidence of a living spirit. Doctrines die, but the truth does not die. It lives on.—Rev. Dr. Eakin, Episcopalian, Toronto.

In Cincinnati a man recently took seventeen wives in one day. He's a biographer.

Women with natural curls are apt to have a few kinks in their dispositions.

ASPHALT WORK IN VENEZUELA IS A BONE OF CONTENTION.



BERMUDEZ PITCH LAKE, VENEZUELA.

OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK AND BERMUDEZ CO.

LOADING ASPHALT AT GUANOCO WHARF.

PREDICT WAR WITH AMERICA.

Venezuelan Officials See Only One Outcome of Asphalt Row.

War with the United States over fifty miles of swamp land is predicted by leading Venezuelan officials. The strip was under control of the asphalt trust until the beginning of the long series of difficulties that now may end in a contest with America.

All the turmoil, bloodshed, revolution and international controversies have their origin in this speck of territory. Upon its proper development depends the wealth of the nation; for it is the natural outlet for all the resources of a country so rich in the earth's treasures that the dreams of a Pizarro might be realized. It was granted to the asphalt trust with the agreement that it would be developed. Canals were to be dug so that the boats could sail up the river to the gold mines, the silver mines, the oil wells and the rich coffee plantations. Railroads were to have been built. One of the Venezuelan government's principal complaints against the American asphalt trust is that it never fulfilled any of these promises.

All the trust did was to push its own boats into the pitch lakes, load them and take away the valuable natural product.

The district has remained impoverished because undeveloped. Its 3,000,000 people were poor because they could not get their wealth sold. The railroads and the canals promised never materialized into anything better than mule caravans and canoes. The customs which composed the chief income to the national treasury fell off, for the asphalt was free of duty.

Then the temper of this mixed race of Spanish, negroes, and natives reached the boiling point. They hated these 4,000 white men and their trust greed. They made life dangerous for the foreigners. Suits were filed in the shabby courts of the country to try to get back the asphalt wealth given away. Castro found he was fighting the most expert tricks besides those of the courts. Revolutionary leaders took advantage of the turmoil to start internal troubles. Everybody in Venezuela believes that the Matas rebellion was financed by the trust—and all Venezuelans insist that it was Castro's duty to the people to dispossess the trust.

Meanwhile this land of wonderful wealth lies like a shining diamond in a hill of sand. Its Brazil wood, coral trees, indigo, rubber, bananas remain in the forest. Its gold and silver and copper and marble and granite are still in the earth, valueless to Venezuela and the commercial world.

SEEING LINCOLN IN 1863.

How a Private Soldier Attended a White House Reception.

It was in the spring of 1863, when I was stopping for a while in Washington, says a contributor to the Boston Transcript. I attended, one day, a reception at the White House. The rooms were, of course, crowded with officers of the army, legislators and representatives of foreign courts in great abundance. Mr. Lincoln held his receptions in the blue room, opposite the main entrance. For a long time the passage to him was crowded, but later the crowd thinned out about him, so that he had short spaces of rest. I had been wandering around, and at last found myself close to the main entrance. Soon I saw a common soldier come up to the hall. He was an exceedingly rough looking specimen. His clothes were worn and soiled, his boots outside his trousers, dirty beyond degree. You could hardly conceive a more unfit person to enter that great crowd. He evidently had a great desire to see the President, but knew his unfitness to enter. But it was not long before he mustered courage to push his way un-

HOW THE PITCH IS TAKEN FROM THE LAKE.

FREP. CASTRO OF VENEZUELA

MEN OF EARLIER AGES.

Were They the Mental Peers of the Men of Today?

The general idea that our enormous advances in science and command over nature serve as demonstrations of our mental superiority to the men of earlier ages is totally unfounded. The evidence of history and of the earliest monuments alike goes to indicate that our intellectual and moral nature has not advanced in any perceptible degree. In the second place, we find that the supposed great mental inferiority of savages is equally unfounded. The more they are sympathetically studied the more they are found to resemble ourselves in their inherent intellectual powers.

NOT MERELY IDLING.

Wherein the Writer Resembled the Man on the Buoy.

"That writer," said a publisher, referring to an author who seemed to be idling away his time, "is in reality trying hard to work, to get his ideas flowing, but he is stuck."

"He said to me himself that he resembled a man who made a bet one summer day at the shore that he would swim out a mile and a half to a certain buoy. The bet was accepted, and the man stripped and plunged in. His friend retired to the hotel to watch his progress from the window."

"From the window with a field glass the friend saw the swimmer reach the buoy in due course, draw himself up out of the water and sit down comfortably, with his legs dangling over. So far so good. Evidently he was resting well pleased with his feat."

"Some minutes passed, and the swimmer had not moved. The watcher turned to his book. But every now and then he looked up, and still the swimmer sat in the same position on the buoy."

"An hour, two hours went by. Still the swimmer remained. A white, slim figure seen against the oncoming dark, he sat on the buoy's edge. His feet dangled in the sea. He seemed to be musing."

"Finally it began to grow quite dark, and, thoroughly alarmed at last, the watcher got a boat and a couple of barges and rowed out to his friend."

"Out there the mystery was soon explained. The man was stuck fast to the buoy, which had been freshly tarred that morning."—Washington Star.

He Was Particular.

One day the mistress of the house had some special delicacy on the table, and she thought came to her to share it with her landlady, whose day it was at the house. So before the latter went home she packed a box carefully and took it to her.

"I want you to take this with you and try it. We consider it unusually nice. I thought perhaps it would save you some work in cooking when you get supper tonight."

The woman received the parcel in the spirit in which it was given, saying, as she received it:

"Thank you, ever so much. I know Mr. — will enjoy it. He's just as particular about his vittles 'ez though he can't 'em."—Boston Advertiser.

Discarded Hats.
Bacon—I see it is said that rats are Judges of music.

Maple Syrup.
Maple syrup which has fermented and become sour can be freshened by heating to the boiling point and adding a little soda. Stir thoroughly, then strain.

When a wise man is too tired to think his talk is sure to sound foolish.