

The Unpopular Half.

There is one unpopular coin issued by Uncle Sam. It is the half dollar, and it has a tendency to work its way back into the treasury vaults, where it isn't wanted. As money nobly objects to the half, but the popular fancy is for the same value in another form. That is, the average citizen prefers to have two quarters. They are a trifle more convenient. If he wants to pay out half a dollar he can use the half or the two quarters with equal convenience, but if twenty-five cents is to be paid out the quarter is far the handier coin.

This may not seem to be a very important matter, but it counts in the long run. Little by little the halves find their way back to the government vaults, and there they stay, like poor relations. In fact, so far as coming home in disgrace goes, the half dollar is the prodigal son of the mints.

A very large proportion of the \$20,000,000 of fractional silver on hand at Washington is made up of halves. This is the lot which Secretary Foster was so anxious to get rid of, and about which he talked with the New York bankers when he made his visit here. Nobody then manifested any wild desire to take the secretary's load off his shoulders.

It is probable that a good many of the halves stored up in Washington will be recoined into quarters and dimes. In that way they will be more convenient for popular use.

Of course lots of halves are used, and will continue to be used. Their coinage will be kept up, and nobody will have any more difficulty in getting them than usual. But the proportion of other coins will be increased because the people like them better.

The New York subtreasurer has his share of halves on hand, and the other day it tried to work off some of them. It was a day when pension checks were being paid, and nearly every one was cashed partly in halves. Before the close of the day a good many of the halves were back in the subtreasurer. And they are there yet.—New York Times.

To Set Stray Letters Aright.

The dead letter office of the postoffice department has just published a large volume of nearly 800 pages which is expected to reduce the number of letters which go to the dead letter office because of imperfect addresses. The volume is entitled "A Street Directory of the Principal Cities in the United States." A great deal of time and patient attention to details have been expended upon the collection and systematic arrangement of the contents of the book.

All the streets, avenues, squares, "lanes," "roads," etc., of the same names in the nearly 500 free delivery offices of this country are grouped and so displayed as to facilitate search. The highest and lowest numbers on each of these streets are given to assist postmasters in correcting imperfect addresses where the street named is found in more than one town. This directory is furnished to postmasters at the free delivery offices for use in perfecting the addresses of such letters and parcels as may reach their offices, though manifestly intended for delivery elsewhere.—Washington Star.

A Museum of Decorative Art.

It is proposed to establish in the lower part of New York city a museum of decorative art, where artisans and designers for the various manufactures can find specimens of the best work of all ages, together with suggestive books, charts, designs, etc., that will help them to produce something out of the beaten track. It is proposed to connect with the museum a school that will teach drawing and give instructions by letters and recitations. Such a museum as this would contain models of the best work, goldsmith's work, enamels, ivory, leather, and wood carving, silverware, art work in iron, bronze, brass and other metals, pottery, and designs in silks, cretonnes and other textile fabrics, wall papers, painted tapestry, etc.—in fact, examples of every possible form of art as applied to the industries. Speaking of industrial museums, we wish to note that a very complete little museum of industrial art exists in the Pratt institute, Brooklyn, being created as a part of that beneficent enterprise.—Decorator and Furnisher.

Profits of Fruit Culture.

Few people are aware of the enormous profits realized by the successful fruit growers of California, and yet fortunes are being made in this industry. A notable example of this fact is A. T. Hatch, whose success has been little short of the marvelous. On his fruit farm in Solano county he has 400 acres of full bearing trees and 400 acres of trees that are still too young to produce even a small yield. Last year from the 400 acres, after paying the expenses of the entire orchard, he realized a net profit of \$109,000. The cost of caring for the young orchard was nearly or quite \$10,000, so that his actual profits were a little more than \$200 per acre. Prices were unusually high, but the yield of this year is so much greater that he expects even larger returns.—San Francisco Call.

The recent improvements in photography and its use in astronomy has proved most valuable to the study of that science. A dry plate can be exposed for a suitable length of time in the telescope, and the image thus obtained will contain the details of a nebula, even where the amount of light would be imperceptible to the naked eye, thus producing an image far more useful and accurate than could ever be obtained by a drawing.

Singular Accident to a Mare.

A singular accident occurred to one of the equine species in Lake creek Thursday night. A mare owned by G. W. Young, while eating corn from a wood trough, in some way fastened her tongue in a crack. In her efforts to free herself she pulled her tongue out by the roots. She can still eat her food, and the prospects are favorable for her to survive this heretofore unheard of accident.—Egg-

The Tonic Sol-fa System.

The present year will witness the fiftieth anniversary of the tonic sol-fa system, which has done so much, and, we may safely say, will do so much more in the future, to spread the knowledge and the love of music among the people. Mr. Spencer Curwen, son of the inventor and most energetic propagator of the system, seizes the opportunity for a very interesting review of its history and characteristics in Good Words. Colliery received, disparaged and even derided in many influential quarters, it is now able to confound its opponents by the incontrovertible evidence of its fruits.

As Mr. Curwen observes, in this jubilee year there are hundreds of musicians who have successfully climbed the ladder his father placed for them—bachelors and doctors of music, fellows of the College of Organists, associates of the Royal Academy of Music, vocalists and performers of repute. Mr. Ben Davis, not many years ago, was singing in tonic sol-fa choirs, and he constantly advises opera singers who wish to read at sight to learn the system.

A doctor of music who graduated the other day at one of our universities testifies that without the tonic sol-fa system he does not think he could possibly have done the work. Such authorities as Dr. Helmholtz, of Berlin; Sir John Herschell, Mr. Bosanquet, General Thompson, Dr. Bridge, Mr. Henry Leslie, Lord Rayleigh, Mr. A. J. Ellis and many others not less noteworthy have given their sanction to the system.

In a Den of Copperheads.

John Saley, a deaf and dumb boy of Pittsburg, went out with the intention of picking raspberries. He had about filled his pail, when his attention was attracted by an unusual motion in the bushes near him. A moment later a monster copperhead snake appeared from under a bush. Before the lad could move the snake had coiled itself and leaped at him. The stroke was short, but some of the green poison from its fangs fell on Saley's trousers. The boy became paralyzed with terror. A moment later the reptile had formed its deadly coil again, and once more leaped forward to strike. It measured the distance with fatal accuracy, for the deadly fangs were buried deep into Saley's right leg. The pain aroused the boy from his terror and he jumped back. The snake strove to hold on to the leg. Then the boy fainted from fright.

Neighbors ran to the spot just in time to prevent the copperhead from striking again. One of them seized a club and with a blow broke the snake's back as it was recoiling. The reptile measured eleven feet. A physician cauterized the wound, but the poison had penetrated the boy's system. Investigation showed that young Saley had wandered into a den of copperheads.—Cor. Philadelphia Press.

Chinese and Their Burials.

The Chinese of this city and New York, it is said, will hereafter bury their dead in Cypress Hills cemetery instead of in the cemetery of the Evergreens, as has been their custom. This action is said to be taken because the Evergreens cemetery officials have increased the price of graves from ten to twenty dollars each. They have purchased an acre of ground in Cypress Hill cemetery for \$1,000 and will have cheaper rates in the future. The Chinese allege that twenty dollars is too much to pay for a grave which is tenanted for only five or six years, as every Chinaman makes a contract with the company that employs him under which the company agrees to send his body back to China. This transmigration of bodies takes place once every five years, the skeletons being packed in tin cases when the proper time comes. The last shipment was made only a short time ago. The skeletons then came from some of the old graves in the cemetery of the Evergreens.—Brooklyn Eagle.

The Graduates Didn't Understand.

There are many persons who think it about time to conduct the commencement exercises of Harvard university in English instead of in Latin. The continuance of the ancient custom caused much amusement for those present, for when President Eliot closed his Latin remarks by inviting the senior class to mount the platform to be presented with their degrees, not a man stirred. When the invitation was repeated, Chief Marshal Cunnock started up the platform steps, but a pull from behind, given by a less sanguine classmate, was too much for him, and he turned to go down again. A broad motion of the hand from President Eliot (given in English) finally induced him to continue, and thus the class followed to receive their degrees.—Boston Saturday Gazette.

A Book Agent's Suit.

Charles W. Dumont, the general agent for the Encyclopedia Britannica, commenced suit against Joseph M. Hawthorne, the West side attorney, to recover \$5,000 damages for an alleged illegal restraint of liberty. It seems that Mr. Dumont sold a set of the Encyclopedia to an attorney who has desk room in Mr. Hawthorne's office. The payments not being made Mr. Dumont went after the books, but was informed by Mr. Hawthorne that the attorney owed him, and he intended to keep the books to secure himself. When Mr. Dumont undertook to leave the room the door was locked. Mr. Dumont thereupon fired the books through an open transom and squeezed himself through after them. Hence the suit.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Last year the total receipts of the New York postoffice were \$6,386,520.24 and the total expenditures \$2,476,358.61, including \$1,121,034.29 expended for free delivery service, giving a net revenue of \$3,910,161.63, and exhibiting an increase in the total receipts of the office over the previous year of \$359,538.13.

Don't persist in repeating "Phew! how hot it is!" Everybody, including yourself, is aware of the fact, and you should avoid trite utterances which are inevitably erroneous, besides being indications of a weak mind.

Twelve judgments for entry on the judgment docket is on file in the district court, in favor of Theo. Ivory vs. Noble Sewing Machine Manufacturing company.

G. W. Manley, a machinist in the U. P. Shops, was down to trade with our city merchants to-day.

The smelting works at Omaha shut down last Saturday evening, throwing 450 men out of employment. The difficulty arose in the adjustment of working hours under the eight hour law.

The young people's societies of the various churches in the city will hold a union meeting this evening at 7:30 o'clock in the basement of the Presbyterian church for the purpose of organizing a city union. All who are interested in this movement are cordially invited to be present.

The Omaha World-Herald had its usual corps of reporters on the ball ground Sunday but the report of the game failed to materialize. A representative paper, as the World-Herald claims to be, should be above such petty discriminations and deal fairly with all parties concerned, even though it may not show up well for home talent.

As Governor Thayer was finishing up his usual work last Saturday evening a person handed him an anonymous letter in which a bonus of \$500 was offered providing a certain man might be appointed to a position on the world's fair commission. The governor will endeavor to hunt down the guilty party and bring him to justice.

Estrayed from my premises this morning my bay carriage mare. Finder will please return to E. L. Siggins.

That Hacking Cough can so quickly be cured by Shiloh's cure. We guarantee it. 1-11

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Rheumatism Cured in a Day. "Mystic Cure" for rheumatism and neuralgia radically cured in 1 to 3 days. Its action upon the system is remarkable and mysterious. It removes at once the cause and the disease immediately disappears. The first dose greatly benefits. Sold by F. G. Fricke, Druggist, wt

Will you suffer with Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint? Shiloh's Vitalizer is guaranteed to cure you. 2

WHICH ONE?

One of us, dear—
But one—
Will sit by a bed with a marvelous face
And clasp a hand,
Growing cold as it feels for the spirit land—
Darling, which one?
One of us, dear—
But one—
Will stand by the other's coffin bier
And look and weep,
While those marble lips strange silence keep—
Darling, which one?

One of us, dear—
But one—
By an open grave will drop a tear,
And homeward go,
The anguish of an unshared grief to know—
Darling, which one?
One of us, darling, it must be,
It may be you will slip from me,
Or perhaps my life may just be done—
Which one? —Old Song.

A German Baby's Adventure.

A party of German peasants set out for the christening of a new baby, the baby being swaddled and wrapped in the usual manner. The way was long to the church and the weather was cold; indeed, snow lay on the ground. The anxiety of the christening over the whole party—parents, sponsors and friends—adjoined to the village inn to warm and cheer themselves with schnapps, or what the Londoner terms, "a drop of something short." They then set off on their return home lightly and gayly, and their hearts being merry within them they essayed a snatch or two of song and a step of two of dance. Home was at length reached, and the interesting christened bundle was laid on the table. The whole party—parents, sponsors and friends—stared agape and in silence; there was the pillow, the ribbons and the bows all complete, but where was the baby?
Some one ventured to raise the bundle; it was quite limp and empty! Baby was gone! Back the whole party hurried on its lonely track, and baby was found asleep in the snow, about midway between the church and the village. He was a sturdy child, and the story runs that he escaped with a violent sneeze or two, which, it is said, the anxious parents strove to allay by popping him into the oven. There can be no doubt that the German child that could survive the pillow, and the snow, and the oven must have been sturdy indeed.—Strand Magazine.

Over One Hundred and Fifty Years Old.

A man resides at David, in the province of Chiriqui, Isthmus of Panama, who is one hundred and fifty-one years old, according to his own statement, but his neighbors claim that he is older, and that a document is in existence which he signed 142 years ago. He works hard every day on his coffee plantation, and is in excellent health.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Swimming is a tonic and bracing exercise. It assists in the development of the muscular system, and exerts a favorable influence on the bodily functions, such as digestion, nutrition, respiration, circulation and innervation. It is excellent in getting the body, in what sporting men call "condition." Aside from the physical advantages, swimming gives moral culture.

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TIME TABLE
OF DAILY PASSENGER TRAINS

GOING EAST	GOING WEST
No. 2 5:05 p. m.	No. 1 3:30 a. m.
No. 4 10:30 a. m.	No. 3 5:45 p. m.
No. 6 7:44 p. m.	No. 5 9:25 a. m.
No. 8 9:45 a. m.	No. 7 7:15 a. m.
No. 10 10:14 a. m.	No. 9 6:25 p. m.
No. 12 8:30 a. m.	No. 11 2:25 p. m.
	No. 13 11:35 a. m.

SECRET SOCIETIES

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS Gamblet Lodge No. 47 Meets every Wednesday evening at their hall in Farnette & Craig block. All visiting knights are cordially invited to attend. G. C. Marshall, C. C.; J. H. Dovey, K. R. S.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION Waterman block, Main Street, Rooms open from 8:30 a. m. to 9:30 p. m. For men only (Gospel meeting every Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock).

A. O. U. W. Meets first and third Friday evening of each month at G. A. R. Hall in Rockwood block. Frank Vermilyea, M. W. D. B. Euersole, Recorder.

A. O. U. W. No. 84 Meets second and fourth Friday evenings in the month at G. A. R. Hall in Rockwood block. E. J. Morgan, M. W. F. P. Brown, Recorder.

ROYAL ARCANUM—Cass Council No. 1021, Meets at 6 P. M. in hall in Farnette & Craig block over Bennett & Tuttle, visiting brethren invited. Henry Herold, Regent; Thos Walling, Secretary.

CASS LODGE, No. 136, I. O. O. F. meets every Tuesday night at their hall in Fitzgerald block. All Odd Fellows are cordially invited to attend. Visiting brethren welcome. J. C. Coy, N. G. S. W. Bridge, Secretary.

PLACES OF WORSHIP.

CATHOLIC—St. Paul's Church, Oak, between Fifth and Sixth. Father Carney, Pastor. Services: 8 Mass at 8 and 10:30 A. M., Sunday School at 2:30, with benediction.

CHRISTIAN—Corner Locust and Eighth Sts. Services morning and evening. Elder J. K. Reed, pastor. Sunday School 10 A. M.

EPISCOPAL—St. Luke's Church, corner Third and Vine. Rev. H. B. Burgess, pastor. Services: 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday School at 2:30 P. M.

GERMAN METHODIST—Corner Sixth St and Granite. Rev. Hirt, Pastor. Services: 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday School 10:30 A. M.

PRESBYTERIAN—Services in new church, corner Sixth and Granite sts. Rev. J. T. Baird, pastor. Sunday-school at 9:30; Preaching at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.

The Y. R. S. C. F. of this church meets every Sabbath evening at 7:15 in the basement of the church. All are invited to attend these meetings.

FIRST METHODIST—Sixth St., between Main and Pearl. Rev. J. D. M. Buckner, pastor. Services: 11 A. M., 8:30 P. M., Sunday School 9:30 A. M., Prayer meeting Wednesday evening.

GERMAN PRESBYTERIAN—Corner Main and Ninth. Rev. White, pastor. Services: usual hours. Sunday school 9:30 A. M.

SWEDISH CONGREGATIONAL—Granite, between Fifth and Sixth.

COLORADO BAPTIST—Mt. Olive, Oak, between Tenth and Eleventh. Rev. A. Roswell, pastor. Services 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION—Waterman block, Main street. Gospel meeting for men only every Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Rooms open week days from 8:30 a. m. to 9:30 p. m.

SOUTH PARK TABERNACLE—Rev. J. M. Wood, Pastor. Services: Sunday School, 10 a. m.; Preaching, 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.; prayer meeting Tuesday night; choir practice Friday night. All are welcome.

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