

FACTS AND FANCIES.

BY ALLAN D. MAY.

A man never again becomes as proud as he was the first time he was put on a committee.

Did you ever think how much undue importance is sometimes attached to the word "foreman?"

Our idea of a real brave man is a telephone lineman.

A mean man started a report that a certain preacher had gone to the circus. The preacher saved himself only by proving an alibi. He was at prayer meeting that night and proved it by the other man who was there.

A friend asked us if our little son was a "bouncing baby." Don't know. Haven't dropped him yet.

If they move the Missouri Pacific depot up town, will they move all the surroundings too?

What changes may have come to pass,
A hundred years from now;
When you and I lie 'neath the grass,
A hundred years from now;
The broken walks shall disappear,
The arc lights all burn bright and clear
And that division may be here
A hundred years from now.

Man's fondest wish may be obtained
A hundred years from now;
The bottom lands may all be drained,
A hundred years from now;
Floods deep enough to float an ark
No more shall reach high water mark—
This town may have a city park
A hundred years from now.

Suppose a mob should come to your house tonight, take you out and tie you to a telephone pole and tell you that you would be burned to death unless you repeated the ten commandments, would you live to tell the story?

Our idea of a real rich man is one who would be able to build a fine house and have the interior wood work all done in pyrography.

We pity the man who has a St. Louis longing and a Salem chautauqua income.

Lives of some men oft remind us
We can angle all we wish
And returning leave behind us
Any quantity of fish.

If a man could understand the language of tom cats, what an extensive vocabulary of choice cuss words he could acquire!

Did you ever hear a man give a satisfactory reason for drinking whiskey?

You don't know what real vindictiveness is until you have heard a tailor cuss the maker of hand-me-down clothing.

When a man has the barber's itch it is mighty hard for him to convince his friends that it isn't small pox.

A certain man says he will not vote for Burkett because some of

the garden seed sent out by him wouldn't grow. A congressional investigation would likely show that the seeds were planted in the wrong sign of the moon.

I want to be a farmer
And with the farmers stand
Until I'm called upon to pay
The taxes on my land.

We do not believe that the women exchange "slips" from their house plants as much as they used to.

Sometimes a man who never before faced an audience in his life is called upon to make an address of welcome on some particular occasion. Before he gets through he makes it plain to his hearers that he wishes they were all a thousand miles away and yet he expects them to feel welcome.

The boy stood on the burning deck
Undaunted—unafraid,
Although the mercury had reached
Ten thousand in the shade.

Another ship went sailing by
And o'er the waters blue
This cheering wireless message sent,
"Is it hot enough for you."

Strawberries.

We receive the finest of fresh strawberries every morning direct from the gardens.—D. W. Sowles.

The usual services will be held in the M. E. church Sunday morning and evening. Wharton B. Alexander, the pastor, will preach at both services. The evening address will be to the young people, it being the fifteenth anniversary of the Epworth League. Anna Donington and Simon Davies will sing. All are cordially invited.



IS THERE A GRADUATE

at this season's commencement whom you wish to present with a watch, chain, brooch, ring, fine umbrella or other desirable gift? We have many suitable articles, either elaborate or inexpensive, but nothing "cheap"—all of excellent quality, no matter what the cost.

Our consistent prices should attract you if you want good value for your money.

A. E. JAQUET

The Old Reliable Jeweler



DOES YOUR HOUSE NEED PAINTING?

No matter where you have been buying, come to us this time and let us figure on the job. Let us show you our latest designs and newest combinations. We will gladly be of service to you in the selection of your Wall Paper if you desire. We can furnish you the Plate Chair or Photo Rail Room Moulding and Beading to match our Papers.

We also carry a full line of Mixed Paints, Lead and Oils, Glass, Varnishes and Brushes.

White's Wall Paper Store

Falls City, Nebraska

CLEVER BIT OF MECHANISM.

The Iris Diaphragm Attachment for Camera Lenses—Manner of Its Construction.

By the recent death of its inventor attention is directed to a convenient attachment sometimes made to cameras and microscopes called the "iris diaphragm." An ordinary diaphragm, or stop, is a thin metal plate with a round hole in the center. Light is admitted through the aperture, and, as it is often desirable to vary the amount of light, it has been customary to equip cameras with several adjustable diaphragms, each having a hole of different size from the other. To remove one diaphragm and substitute another is a bothersome task. In an iris diaphragm the size of the hole can be varied at the will of the operator, and without altering its shape. This, whether large or small, remains round, just as the pupil of the eye does, whether shrinking or dilating. The latter is a hole in a little membrane called the iris, and is controlled automatically. But a diaphragm is composed of metal, and its imitation of the action of the iris is truly wonderful. The expansion and contraction is very much more extensive with this piece of mechanism than in the eye. The hole may be reduced to a diameter of a sixteenth of an inch and enlarged to a whole inch (in the stage of a microscope), and even to two inches in large cameras.

The precise manner in which this mechanism is constructed cannot be explained readily. It may be said, however, that the diaphragm does not consist of a single plate, but something like 20. These overlap each other and can be moved simultaneously by pressing a tiny lever or by the employment of other means. Each of the plates is pivoted out near the circumference of the brass

tube in which they are mounted, and the pivots on which they move are placed at equal intervals all the way around the circle. The movement is either toward or away from the center. No one who has ever inspected the device has failed to experience delight over its smooth working and ingenuity.

The inventor was John Henry Brown, an Englishman. He died at Hove in December. A friend of his, Dr. Hollis, writes to Nature as follows:

"In the early 70's he took his home-made model to Smith & Beck, the predecessors of the well-known firm of opticians in London. This model he showed me, many years ago, and, although roughly constructed, it differed in no important detail from the type of apparatus at present in the market. As he did not patent the little contrivance he reaped no pecuniary reward for his ingenuity. Although frail in body and physically somewhat infirm, Mr. Brown by indomitable energy made and retained for many years a large practice as a dental surgeon. He was a fellow of the Royal Astronomical society and died at the age of 67, much respected."

Intoxicated Wasps.

Wasps have a great fondness for overripe fruit, especially pears, plums and sweet apples. The sugar of these fruits has a tendency to pass into a kind of alcohol in the ordinary process of rotting, and after imbibing large quantities of this liquid the wasps become outrageously intoxicated. They crawl away in the grass in a semi-somnolent condition and remain till the effects have passed off, when they will go at it again. It is while in this condition that they do their worst stinging. A person receiving a sting from one of these intoxicated wasps will suffer severely from nerve poisoning for days.—Nature.