

It will be observed that the Atlanta protests against kissing do not come from the girls.

We presume that at that vegetable dance in New York the german was led by saur kraut.

A freethinker has been sentenced to a week's imprisonment in Australia; but won't this make him think more freely than ever?

Siloli, the great successor to Paderewski, wears no mane, so his success cannot logically be called a case of capillary attraction.

As a pleasure investment a boy may at first think coasting down hill all right, but eventually the returns are unsatisfactory.

H. C. Frick, who attained some uneven viability during the big strike in Pittsburg a few years ago, has just paid \$100,000 for a picture.

Maybe the habit of girls marrying veterans to enjoy a pension as their widows comes under the head of all being fair in love and war.

Geographically the Chinese queue is located in the same direction as the British Lion's tail, but the powers take care to handle it in a different way.

That New Jersey man who has tried seven times to commit suicide and failed might do worse than to visit Skagway this spring wearing a sack coat and a silk hat.

The San Francisco Examiner prints an account of several men being carried over Willamette Falls in a boat, under the caption "Sweet to Perdition." Why take so gloomy a view of it?

A Lockport (N. Y.) paper says: "Miss Minnie Powers of this city is eight feet tall, lacking one inch." That young woman evidently stands very high in the estimation of all who know her.

"Why," asks the New York Evening Sun, "will a woman wear a feather boa around her neck and run-down heels to her shoes?" Because there is no better place to wear either a feather boa or run-down heels.

It is now claimed that all the cheap comic valentines in this country are made in a small town in the interior of New York. In order to save the place from total and instantaneous destruction, however, its name is not given.

A London scientist says he has carefully studied 500 species of microbes, and finds that only forty of them have vicious tendencies. "On the whole," he says, "the microbe helps to make life pleasurable." The carbolated rosewater will have to go.

A pink-tinted note from "Alys" brings the information that she has "composed about twenty poems on spring and kindred subjects," and asks: "Shall I consult an editor about this, and if so, how shall I go about it?" It will not be necessary to consult an editor at all; just consult a physician.

The American navy has a glorious past, traditions rich in valor and genius. We have the same valor, equal genius, but while we are boasting of our better tools of warfare we seem yet to be inadequately possessed of the gift of using them. We shall learn, but it seems that the schoolmaster is charging a mercenary price.

Some doctor has discovered that women who wear low shoes are in grave danger of having their feet made flat and unshapely by the lack of support for their ankles. That explains, of course, why women of times and countries in which only sandals were worn or the feet were left unshod furnished so many beautiful models for painters and sculptors.

The Attorney General of Massachusetts has suggested that trials for certain criminal offences be held in secret, thus shutting out prurient idlers and making it difficult for cheap newspapers to gather the filth on which they fatten. In such an event, the criminal would miss his notoriety, the loafer his scandal and the newspaper its "sensational"—but to decent people the aggregate of all these losses would be a great gain.

The railroads of the United States expend in a year a sum more than \$100,000,000 in excess of the total expenditures of the United States Government, and this computation does not include nearly \$250,000,000 paid in the form of interest upon railroad bonds or guaranteed stock and from \$80,000,000 to \$100,000,000 paid in the form of dividends to stockholders. The railroads, indeed, are the great disbursing agencies of the country, handling never less than a billion dollars in a year and disbursing it all, or practically all, for railroads as a rule do not keep large bank accounts, and do practically a cash business, turning money rapidly.

It is neither the ease which wealth gives—for riches as often bring carking cars with them—nor yet asceticism, nor yet athletics, which enables men to reach advanced years. While the controlling influence is so obscure that we may not confidently assume to point it out, we think it will be found that the possession of a clear conscience goes as far as anything to prolong a man's life. The worries of life, which

wear out nervous force, lose their grip upon one who is at peace with his conscience, and as a general thing those who live the longest have possession of this vital resource.

The trading-stamp usually buries in its patrons both the sense of humor and that of proportions. A woman recently stopped a street car after paying her fare, and took a return car home to get a forgotten trading-card before making some trifling purchases. The price of the extra fares exactly balanced the value of the "gift" on five dollars' worth of goods. The law against trading-stamps may be unconstitutional, but it is a moral protest against the habit of trying to get something for nothing. Moreover, considering the real value of the "gifts," the something is usually less than nothing.

We are apt to laugh at Russia for so long persisting in the use of the antiquated calendar which was prescribed by Julius Caesar, and which is now twelve days behind the calendar in use by other civilized nations, but Russia is now going not only to fall in line with the rest of the world in her mode of reckoning time, but to take another important step in advance—a step from which America, progressive in most other things, shrinks with all the timidity of a child urged to take his first dip in the ocean. Russia has decided to adopt the metric system of weights and measures, thus leaving the United States and Great Britain the last of civilized nations to retain the old-fashioned arbitrary method of weight and mensuration. It has taken Russia 316 years to adopt the Gregorian calendar; let us hope it will not be quite so long before the United States adopts the metric system.

The candidature of Prince George of Greece for the governorship of Crete is a striking illustration of the personal relations of the reigning houses in Europe. He wrote a letter to his cousin, the Emperor of Russia, asking him to support his claims. The Emperor at once adopted him as the Russian candidate. They are not only cousins, each being a grandson of King Christian IX. of Denmark, but are also intimate friends of nearly the same age. They were companions in a journey around the world, and Prince George, by his coolness and courage, had saved his cousin's life from an assassin's attack in Japan. A personal appeal for support could not be disregarded. The governorship of Crete has remained an unsettled question since the war between Turkey and Greece. The European powers, while pledged to protect the island, and to reform its government, had been unable to agree upon a candidate for governor. One name after another had been proposed, only to be rejected. The wily Sultan objected on general principles to every candidate. When Nicholas II. ordered his ministers to propose Prince George's name, the significance of the nomination as the personal choice of the sovereign was perceived throughout Europe. France, as Russia's closest ally, at once supported the candidature. Lord Salisbury seconded it gladly, especially as the Prince was the nephew of the Princess of Wales. Italy acquiesced. The attitude of the Kaiser is not yet fully known. Greece had plunged into war in order to liberate and annex Crete, and had been disastrously defeated. The appointment of a son of the King of Greece as governor of Crete would be a considerable victory for the prostrate little kingdom. The Sultan refused to consent to it, and appealed to the German Emperor. Russia at once applied pressure by demanding the payment of arrears of interest on the unpaid war indemnity contracted by Turkey in the campaigns of 1877-8. Whenever the Sultan is obstinate, he is forcibly reminded that Turkey owes Russia a great deal of money. This candidature, which will at once do much to retrieve the fortunes of Greece, and will offer a practical solution of a troublesome question of European diplomacy, is the outcome of the intimate relations of the two cousins, who were together in the far East. In the same way the German Emperor, in entering upon a diplomatic and naval campaign in China, commissioned his brother to visit Queen Victoria at Osborne. Prince Henry is a favorite among the Queen's grandsons, and in consequence of his visit more friendly relations between England and Germany have been established. Whatever may be the rival policies of Russia and England in China, the family relations of the two courts tend to promote compromise and peace. Nicholas II. has married a granddaughter of the Queen, and is strongly influenced by his mother, who is a sister of the Princess of Wales.

Rest in Change.
The next best thing to taking a summer or winter trip is to change the aspect of one's home twice a year. Such change does not imply a domestic upheaval involving great work, family discomfort and general wretchedness for a week or more. It simply means what any woman can accomplish with ease, taste and tactfulness, supplemented by ordinary "general cleaning day" effort on the part of the housemaid or maid-of-all-work.
No woman who has not tried it can conceive of the rest and pleasure resulting from such changes. Monotony is deadly to bodily and mental health; possibly to spiritual well-being also. A change of environments, even if to others less attractive, is beneficial, simply because it is a change.—Woman's Home Companion.

Killed in Railway Accidents.
The proportion of killed to the number of railway travelers is in France one in nineteen million, England one in twenty-eight million, and in the United States one in two million four hundred thousand.

COLUMBIA'S GREAT LIBRARY.

College Will Contain a Collection of About 1,200,000 Volumes.

Columbia University Library is situated in the architectural center of the university site at Morningside Heights in New York City. Seventeen other buildings are planned to surround it and to serve for various purposes. It is a noble structure, consisting substantially of four buildings, each 110 feet in length and 45 feet in depth, placed about a hollow square, which is roofed over and surmounted by a dome. The central space under the dome serves as a reading-room, and is, from floor to ceiling, 106 feet in height.

The material is granite for the first or basement story and Indiana limestone for the remainder of the structure. The building is thoroughly fireproof. It contains at present, besides the library and connected reading-rooms, the administrative offices of the university and the lecture-rooms and offices of the faculties of law, political science and philosophy. When fully utilized for library purposes the building will contain about 1,200,000 volumes, with reading and study space for many hundred readers.

The library dates back to the foundation of the college in 1754, but the library of King's College was substantially dissipated and destroyed when the college buildings were occupied during the war of the revolution. The present library has grown since the reorganization of the institution in 1787 under the name of Columbia College. In 1883, when a new library building was erected and occupied, the



THE LIBRARY OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

entire collection for all departments fell short of 50,000 volumes. In 1890 the number of volumes was less than 100,000. In 1897 there were about 240,000 volumes, with many thousands of pamphlets. The annual increase is 15,000 to 20,000 volumes.

The library is strong in almost all the branches of learning taught in the university. It is especially rich in architecture and art; it is second only to the library at Harvard University; it is rich in the political and economic sciences. Special collections which may be mentioned are the Avery library of architecture and are of 15,000 volumes, the Goethe collection of over 1,200 volumes and the Kant collection of about 700 volumes.

CHAPLAIN CHADWICK.

Priest Who Ministered to the Dying and Wounded of the Maine. Chaplain John P. Chadwick, of the battleship Maine, figured in the news following the disaster at Havana as a



CHAPLAIN JOHN P. CHADWICK.

good Samaritan. He devoted himself body and soul to the wounded and dying of the Maine. Father Chadwick is one of two sons of a widowed mother, to whom he is much devoted. He has a sister, a nun, Sister Geraldine, in Petersburg hospital, Canada. His father, who died just as Father Chadwick received his commission as chaplain, served with distinction both in the army and navy during the civil war. He was a builder in New York. Chaplain Chadwick said: "I have often heard our (the Maine's) officers say that they had never sailed with a crew of better men, and I firmly believe the statement. They were loyal and brave men."

Which Did He Mean?
"We have plenty of churches," said the alderman during an interview. "What we want is more public halls." The compositor, however, set it up "public halls," and the proofreader, who had once posed as a politician, let it go at that.

Returns from a Lottery.
The diary of an old woman who lately died in Vienna showed that she had spent 38,240 florins on lottery tickets, while her winnings amounted to only 5,000 florins.

Then He Sighed Again.
Softly sighing—Ah! Would I were your muf, that I might hold both your fairy-like hands.
Miss Gyett—Oh, wouldn't that be just too lovely for anything. And I've always wanted a monkey muf so much.

Probably the good dye young because early plety makes them prematurely gray.

DIE IN THE FLAMES.

MANY LIVES LOST IN AN APPALING CHICAGO FIRE.

Avenues of Escape Cut Off and Victims Leap from Windows or Are Buried in the Ruins of a Six-Story Structure on Wabash Avenue.

Terrific Scenes Witnessed.

What was probably the most appalling Chicago fire since the cold storage holocaust at the World's Fair, broke out in the Conover piano building, 215 to 221 Wabash avenue, at 11 o'clock Wednesday forenoon. The death list may reach fifteen and the number of mangled and wounded is twice that. Within half an hour after the sheet of fire shot out from the top floor of the six-story building, the entire structure was wrapped in flames, and the crash of the huge walls as they tumbled down was heard for blocks around.

The Conover Piano Company occupied three floors of the building, including the ground floor. The remaining tenants of the building were the National Music Company, the Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sweet, Wallace & Co., photographic supplies. The fire started on the floor occupied by the photographic supply company. The floor was stored with chemicals and the dry, tinder-like materials employed in manufacturing photographic supplies. It was among this inflammable stuff that the fire started. The flames quickly spread to the floor beneath, where the National Music Company had tons of song sheets packed away upon counters and shelves.

Elevators became unserviceable, stairways filled with stifling smoke and all exits save by the windows were cut off. There were nearly 400 persons in the building, and to the windows they rushed on every one of the upper floors. They crawled out on the cornices and down the fire escapes like flies. They poured out of the exits over one another. Men and women leaped from the windows. Some were caught in the arms of bystanders and in blankets, escaping with their lives. Others fell to death.

The street was packed with people. The flames reached a store of varnish and chemicals on the third floor. There was an explosion, and the front wall was blown out. Plate glass windows across the street were shattered. Scores were burned, and many more were struck by the flying debris.

The throng in the street became seized with a panic. The people started to rush along the thoroughfare. Men and women fell. They were trampled upon. In a solid mass the crowd pushed on. Huge burning brands dropped on their heads. Teams from the cross streets plunged into the struggling mass. Neither horses nor people stopped. Some of the horses reared and struck out, wounding men and women. Ambulances were called out from all stations in the city to care for the dead and wounded. The financial loss will exceed \$1,000,000.

RUSH TO THE FROZEN NORTH.

Many Klondike Prospectors Reach the Pacific Coast.

Over 5,000 prospectors have passed up the Straits of Georgia since the season opened, bound for Alaskan ports, according to a letter from Consul Smith, received at Washington. Mr. Smith writes:

The advance division of the army of prospectors bound for the Klondike gold fields has arrived on the Pacific coast, and in even larger force than was anticipated so early in the year. At least four-fifths are Americans, though many come from England and also from various British colonies. That more have not gone is due to the lack of room on the boats, although there are at least fifty steamers and schooners constantly and solely employed in carrying men, stock, horses, dogs and provisions up to the still frozen region of the north.

Most of these are from the Sound, and, contrary to the general rule in the waters of the Pacific, the majority are American ships, manned and owned by Americans and displaying the stars and stripes. A list just published shows that forty-two steamers and twenty-four sailing craft are now engaged in this trade between Puget Sound and Alaska, Skagway, Wrangell, and other Alaskan ports. About one-third of the American steamers touch at Victoria on their way north. In addition to this fleet, twelve British steamers and several schooners sail from this port as often as they can make the trip, which is every two or three days. Several Alaska steamers leave this port every day. Many old hulks that have been idle for years have been overhauled, repaired, equipped and pressed into this service, and all go loaded to their utmost capacity. As a natural result, the price of passage has already been advanced 25 per cent., and strikes frequently occur among the men employed on the steamers.

This congestion will inevitably be much relieved when the ocean steamships now on their way here arrive, which will be next month, unless, indeed, the throng increases as the days lengthen. The dangers of the route, which is every day becoming more and more hazardous, do not hinder the legions to the frozen North. In consequence of the immense increase in the coasting trade, pilots have to be occasionally employed who are not familiar with the many reefs and rocks of the archipelago of islands through which the channel to Alaska lies, and already two steamers have been wrecked, and each proved almost a total loss. But as long as there are letters received like the following addressed to a resident of Vancouver: "We have struck it rich on an unexplored creek across the border in Alaska, never before seen by man. In the crevice of the rocks in one day we picked up \$30,000 in a course gold. Sell your business, or give it away, and come quick with you men"—as long will the crowds go north, regardless of snow, ice, storms or wrecks.

The exciting trade is the scene of fierce competition among the different cities of the coast. It has given new life to all and caused material prosperity, such as they have not known for years.

Telegraphic Brevities.
California's petroleum trade is booming. Thirty-two new wells have been sunk since March 1.

Reports from various points in Nevada show that the cotton mill strike will soon end.

The convention of cattle raisers at Fort Worth, Tex., raised a subscription for a monument to the dead of the battleship Maine.

At Holly Springs, Miss., little May Briggs, the 4-year-old daughter of James Briggs, swallowed a button and choked to death in a few minutes.

Rain has fallen abundantly all over Kansas, and stock water, which was scarce, is now plentiful, and pastures and wheat are much benefited.

PROCTOR TALKS PLAINLY.

Vermont Senator Tells the Senate of His Trip to Cuba.

Senator Proctor Thursday afternoon made the strongest argument in favor of intervention in behalf of Cuba that has ever been made in the Senate. Never were the members of the Senate so deeply impressed. Mr. Proctor made no attempt for oratorical effect. He had carefully prepared his address, and he delivered it to the Senate as an official report of what he had observed in Cuba. He gave no opinion as to what action should be taken by this Government. He said the settlement "may well be left to an American President and the American people." But while he did not make a recommendation in so many words, he left the impression on all who heard him that he favored a declaration by this Government of the independence of Cuba. He declared that he was opposed to annexation, and, while many Cubans advocated the establishment of a protectorate by the United States, he could not make up his mind that this would be the best way out of the difficulty. He told his associates that he believed the Cubans capable of governing themselves, and re-enforced this statement by the assertion that the Cuban population would never be satisfied with any government under Spanish rule.

There was really nothing new in what he said. The same facts have been presented time and again by newspaper correspondents, and have been denounced as falsehoods. The point of their presentation Thursday was that they were detailed by a United States Senator as the result of his personal observations—of a Senator, too, who went to Cuba strongly prepossessed with the idea that the condition of the concentrated had been greatly exaggerated, and who came back and declared that the scenes he had witnessed were absolutely indescribable.

He said nothing about the Maine except to state that he had not formed nor expressed any opinion on the subject of her destruction, and preferred to wait for the report of the court of inquiry. Autonomy, he asserted, was an utter failure. It came too late. There were practically no autonomists. The rebels possessed the east of the island, and even in the west the Spanish army held just what it sat upon and no more.

From many view points the statement was remarkable. It had evidently been most carefully prepared. Every element of sensationalism had been studiously eliminated from it and, except so far as the facts recited were evidence of an effort to arouse the public mind, already keenly alive to the condition of affairs on the island.

HE IS A FIGHTER.

Commodore McNair, Who Is to Take Command of United States Navy.

Commodore Frederick V. McNair has succeeded to the command of the North Atlantic squadron. The position makes him the actual commander of the United States navy. He takes the place of Rear Admiral Matthews, who goes on the retired list.

The coming admiral is no tyro in the matter of naval experience. He is no



COMMODORE MCNAIR.

theorist. Rather say he is a theorist and a fighter combined. He entered the Naval Academy in 1853 and was sent to China. When the war broke out he was ordered home and served under Farragut. As early as 1861 he was promoted a lieutenant for personal bravery. He ran the sloop at Vicksburg and was conspicuous in the assault on Fort Fisher. For four years the young sailor never knew when the next moment was to be his last.



In case of war Spain will make some discoveries in America never dreamed of by Christopher Columbus.

The monitor Terror has four big guns, but the Puritan has ten. The Puritan appears to be a holy terror.

The Indiana Attorney General prosecuting the Versailles lynchings is named Ketcham—but he hasn't done it.

It now remains for Ignatius Donnelly, who has married his stenographer, to discover who is going to do the dictating.

The Ohio Legislature is wrestling with an anti-tights bill. And yet some people say the fight against rum is weakening.

The court which has decided that meat inspection by the Government is unconstitutional has had a tough subject to consider.

Speaking of the dogs of war, there is no consolation for the Spaniards in the fact that all of Uncle Sam's big guns have muzzles.

In case of war if the Spanish battleship Vizcaya should get into trouble the submarine boat Holland might be found at the bottom of it.

Somehow it doesn't seem very consistent for Secretary Day to keep anything dark longer than twelve hours at a time.

The Governor of Idaho seeks election to Congress on a no-necktie platform. Evidently it's "neck or nothing" with him.

Apparently the greatest menace to the peace of the Old World just now is Japan's impatience to try that new navy on something.

A stove trust with a capital of \$10,000,000 has been formed. This looks as though the managers proposed to make it warm for the opposition.



In the House on Friday the bill to pay the Bowman net claims, aggregating \$1,200,000, for stores and supplies furnished the Union army during the war was considered until 5 o'clock, but beyond completing the general debate little progress was made. Of the 800 odd claims in the bill all but a few come from the South, and dilatory tactics were resorted to to prevent progress. During the filibustering the House was in an uproar. At 5 o'clock, after completing two pages of the bill, the House recessed until 9 o'clock for an evening session to be devoted to pension legislation. After the evening session the House adjourned until Monday. The Senate was not in session.

During its session of three hours on Monday the Senate passed a considerable number of bills from the general calendar, among the number being one authorizing the construction of eight new revenue cutters not exceeding in aggregate cost the sum of \$2,025,000. A resolution offered last Thursday by Mr. Chandler (N. H.) authorizing the committee on naval affairs to send for persons and papers in the course of the investigation of the Maine disaster, was adopted. Mr. Lodge (Mass.) of the foreign relations committee called up the joint resolution for the relief of August Bolten and Gustave Richelieu. The resolution as reported from the foreign relations committee is as follows: "That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby empowered to take such measures as in his judgment may be necessary to obtain the indemnity from the Spanish government for the wrongs and injuries suffered by August Bolten and Gustave Richelieu by reason of their wrongful arrest and imprisonment by Spanish authorities at Santiago de Cuba in the year 1895; and to secure this end he is authorized and requested to employ such means or exercise such power as may be necessary."

In the House on Tuesday it was agreed to consider the bill for the relief of the legal heirs of the victims and survivors of the Maine disaster as soon as the post-office appropriation bill is out of the way. During the general debate on the post-office bill members eagerly took advantage of the latitude allowed in committee of the whole on the subject of the Union to discuss various political questions. Messrs. Griggs (Dem., Ga.) and Walker (Rep., Mass.) discussed the conditions of the cotton industry, and Mr. Tawney (Rep., Minn.), a member of the Ways and Means Committee, replied to the speech of Mr. Johnson (Rep., Ind.) made some time ago against the advisability of annexing the Hawaiian islands. Mr. Tawney strongly advocated the annexation of the islands. After the passage of numerous bills from the general calendar the Senate began consideration of the measure providing for a national system of quarantine. Little beyond the reading of the bill was accomplished.

On Wednesday the post-office appropriation bill, which was technically the subject before the House, was almost lost track of in the debate. The Cuban-Spanish question, which had been kept in the background heretofore, forged to the front. Mr. Cochran (Dem., Mo.) brought the question into the arena, and in the course of the debate that followed Mr. Grosvenor of Ohio took occasion to deny emphatically the stories allent to the effect that the President desired an early adjournment of Congress in order that he might effect a settlement without congressional interference. The subject of Hawaiian annexation also came in for attention. Mr. Williams (Dem., Miss.), Mr. Adams (Rep., Pa.) and Mr. Berry (Dem., Ky.), all members of the Foreign Affairs Committee, made speeches on the subject, the former in opposition and the two latter in favor of the proposition. Business in the legislative session of the Senate was confined to the passage of a few bills, largely of a local character. The national quarantine bill was not considered.

On Thursday the session of the House was devoted strictly to the post-office appropriation bill, which was taken up for amendment under the five-minute rule. The questions which consumed the major portion of the time related to the allowance for clerk hire at postoffices and territorial free delivery. The House increased the allowance for rural free delivery from \$150,000 to \$300,000 and defeated the proposition for increased clerk hire. Among the bills passed in the Senate was one to authorize the construction of a gunboat on the great lakes to take the place of the United States ship Michigan, and to cost, exclusive of armament, not to exceed \$220,000. Adjourned till Monday.

Notes of Current Events.
A full State ticket will be nominated by the Republicans of Kansas at Hutchinson June 8.

Electricity as a substitute for hanging is being considered by the Massachusetts Legislature.

It is finally settled that the battleship Kentucky will be christened with water instead of wine.

Heavy shipments of Tennessee marble are being shipped to the City of Mexico from Knoxville.

Nearly 60,000 acres have been reclaimed in Ireland during the past year from bog and marsh lands.

Judge John Newton, the last treasurer of the Southern Confederacy, is critically ill at his home, near Staunton, Va.

Sixteen-year-old Sadie Storer is in jail at Huntsville, Ark., together with her sweetheart and her mother, charged with the murder of her father, A. M. Storer, a prosperous farmer at that place.

California orange growers have succeeded in developing an orange tree that will withstand a temperature of 12 degrees and yet yield a sweet and well-flavored fruit.

Six thousand painters and decorators of New York will demand \$4 and \$2.50 per day for eight hours' work on April 4. If their demands are not granted a strike will follow.

A terrific hail storm occurred near Pocatello, Idaho, doing immense damage to stock. The storm was accompanied by thunder and lightning and the hail stones were as large as hen's eggs.