

Topics of the Times

Farm laborers are much needed in all parts of Mexico.

In Crell's "Chemische Annalen" of the year 1784, reference is made to women students attending lectures on chemistry in Berlin.

While the Germans are paying more and more attention to the English language, there is a decline of German as a school subject in England.

Having tasted the flesh of various animals, a Northampton gentleman declares that a donkey makes the most excellent eating of any animal, the flavor resembling that of a young turkey.

In Orotava, Teneriffe, the Corpus Christo procession passes over floral carpets with which the streets on the route are covered during the festival. Beautiful tapestry designs are imitated with fresh blossoms.

As a result of the outbreak of juvenile crime German authorities have been induced to take a step to bar the American dime novel from Germany. A decree has been issued forbidding street sales of such literature.

The authorities of several States of Brazil are reported by Consul-General Anderson, of Rio de Janeiro, as making determined efforts to stamp out trachoma, the eye disease that has been rapidly spreading in that country.

The "Small Heads" belong to a South American race. The skull is peculiarly conical, and on the top is no bigger than a five-shilling piece. The three last survivors of the race are women. The brain weighs about one-fifth of the average human brain. Their height is from 3 feet to 3 feet 6 inches.

An English physician has placed on record that his instructions about the management of a sick child were departed from on the advice of a neighbor whose claims to be accepted as an authority were based upon the fact that she had "lost nine children of her own."

Among the relics of famous men in the possession of Dr. John Dixwell, of St. Louis, is Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes' shoe horn. It is an ordinary steel shoe horn affixed to a cane handle about four feet long. Armed with this the doctor could put on his shoes without stooping or wasting energy.

Pneumatic foundations and tunnels can be carried out at a depth of 210 feet below the water surface, according to Messrs. Leonard Hill and M. Greenwood. They experimented on the effect of air pressures up to ninety-two pounds by means of a large cylinder, in which they stayed under different pressures for various times.

The sacred fires of India have not all been extinguished. The most ancient which still exists was consecrated twelve centuries ago, in commemoration of the voyage made by the Parsees when they emigrated from Persia to India. The fire is fed five times every twenty-four hours with sandal wood and other fragrant material, combined with very dry fuel.

It is said that the Prince of Wales hated toadstools. A few years ago he was taking part in a shoot. Early in the day a man came up to him and said: "I've been picking up your royal highness' birds." "That's all right," answered the prince; "how many have you?" "Thirteen, sir," answered the man. "That's funny," was the reply, "considering that I've shot only eight."

The Alcaldé of Madrid, who, at least in sanitary matters, is decidedly progressive, has issued an order for the disinfection of churches. This order, which is based on a report from the director of the municipal laboratory, prescribes that all the churches of the Spanish capital are to be swept out daily with sawdust moistened with a solution of copper sulphate. All the fittings and furniture of the churches, chairs, benches, confessionals, holy water fonts, etc., are to be disinfected every day.

A new instrument for surveying deep-bore holes contains a compass, plummet, small cameras and electric light, the whole connected with a small adjustable clock, so that the light may be turned on for a given period after the apparatus has been lowered into the hole. It has been used in surveying a number of holes in South Africa and has proved very satisfactory. Both dip and deviation are recorded by means of photographs of the positions of both a plumb-bob and a magnetic needle at any desired point in the bore hole. The photographs are taken by means of two small electric lamps lighted by a time contact.

Sir Edwin Arnold was once entertaining the Duke of Connaught in Tokio. Just before leaving, the nobleman remarked to his host: "You have proved a most untrifling host, but there is one thing you have not shown me which this country is noted for, and that is an earthquake." Sir Edwin smiled grimly and was about to reply

when a violent earthquake shock actually took place, part of the building being damaged. The Duchess of Connaught came running in in a frantic state of alarm, and when the duke had quieted her fears he turned to Sir Edwin and coolly remarked: "Oh, you wonderful magician, I thought I was not asking too much of you!"

DIVING DEVICE A SUCCESS.

Inventor Walks Under Water and Boys Report Him Drowned.

Former Judge Reuben P. Lawton, of Geneseo, a retired lawyer and politician, appeared one day last week in his bathing suit on the shore of Silver Lake, says the New York World's correspondent at Geneseo, N. Y. Three small boys playing on the shore were the only spectators. The judge bore in his hand a fish pole with a small flag at one end. He waded out to the depth of his neck and then turned and said: "Watch the flag, boys!"

The bather continued walking out into the water until he was completely submerged. The flag remained above the surface for some time, moving slowly along, and then flag and pole both floated away and drifted toward the shore.

There was no reappearance of the judge and the boys became alarmed and hastened for aid. The cottagers at first doubted their story, but the lads were so persistent that Frank Lawton was summoned from the village, three miles away, to learn of the disappearance and supposed untimely end of his father. When told of the circumstances he questioned the boys somewhat closely and then began making remarks of such a facetious nature that the spectators, who thought that he ought to exhibit more delicacy of feeling, became incensed at the heartlessness exhibited and rebuked him sharply. When the discussion was at its height, Judge Lawton rejoined the crowd, emerging from the cottage of his son.

The spectators then turned in indignation upon the astonished boys, who could scarcely believe their own eyes, and Judge Lawton was compelled to come to their rescue by saying that the boys were all right and that he had been under water forty-five minutes. He explained that he had walked beneath the surface of the water by means of an invention that he has just completed after five years of study and experimentation.

To convince the skeptical he agreed to give another demonstration, and taking the same pole and flag he again disappeared. This time he did not drop the flag, and its course could be followed as it moved in a line parallel with the shore. He merged in about five minutes, and then his son gave a similar demonstration.

When Judge Lawton reached his home later in the week he was besieged by curious inquirers. He stated that the reports were true and not in the least overdrawn, but as yet he will allow no one to see his contrivance.

To a representative of the World Judge Lawton said:

"I have been at work securing the protection of patent rights and my invention will not be stolen from me if I can help it, but just at present it is best to keep the affair a secret, and I will not give out a description of it. I will tell you this much, though, it is very simple and does not involve any new principles. I had long thought that if frogs and alligators could live under water there must be some reason for it other than the ones given in the books, and I worked to find out what it is and to arrange for man to use the same device. I think that I have succeeded in a measure, although not so well as I had hoped. My device does not fit over the head, but is adjusted to the face, and weighs less than a pound. I cannot at this time give any less vague description.

"No, I don't breathe through the pole that I carry. I use that simply as a guide to those on shore to follow my movements and, in fact, when I first walked in public, in Silver Lake, I allowed the pole to get away from me many minutes before I came ashore. I expect that my device will be found very useful at fires, when the firemen adjust it and enter buildings filled with smoke. The present smoke masks are not nearly so easily handled nor so satisfactory in their work. I think that my invention will prove of vast benefit on such occasions."

A Truth Brought Home.

"After all," said the moralist, "the almighty dollar is man's greatest enemy. It—"

"If that's so," interrupted old Roxley, "I guess that young wife of mine loves me for the enemies I've made."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Sometimes Meet.

"What sort of a man is Skimmings?" "Oh, he's one of those people who have too much brains to be a fool and not enough to be really sensible."—Washington Star.

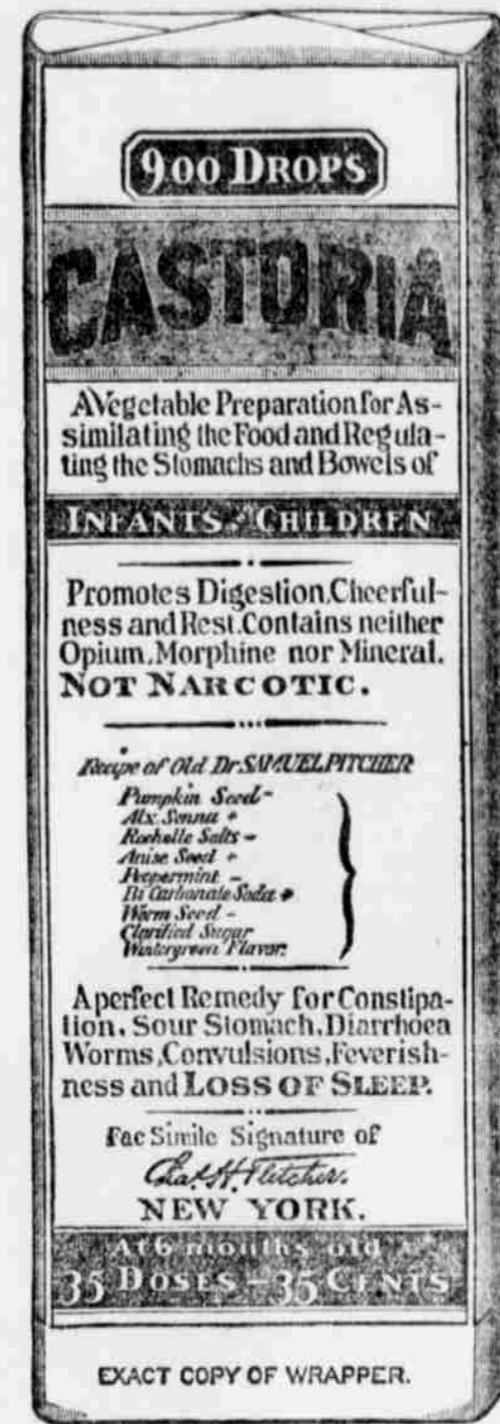
It Seems Not.

"Old Skads says he's got a rare antique up at his house he'd like to show me."

"What! Isn't that daughter of his married yet?"—Houston Post.

Physicians Recommend Castoria

CASTORIA has met with pronounced favor on the part of physicians, pharmaceutical societies and medical authorities. It is used by physicians with results most gratifying. The extended use of Castoria is unquestionably the result of three facts: *First*—The indisputable evidence that it is harmless: *Second*—That it not only allays stomach pains and quiets the nerves, but assimilates the food: *Third*—It is an agreeable and perfect substitute for Castor Oil. It is absolutely safe. It does not contain any Opium, Morphine, or other narcotic and does not stupefy. It is unlike Soothing Syrups, Bateman's Drops, Godfrey's Cordial, etc. This is a good deal for a Medical Journal to say. Our duty, however, is to expose danger and record the means of advancing health. The day for poisoning innocent children through greed or ignorance ought to end. To our knowledge, Castoria is a remedy which produces composure and health, by regulating the system—not by stupefying it—and our readers are entitled to the information.—Hall's Journal of Health.



Letters from Prominent Physicians addressed to Chas. H. Fletcher.

Dr. B. Halstead Scott, of Chicago, Ill., says: "I have prescribed your Castoria often for infants during my practice, and find it very satisfactory."

Dr. William Belmont, of Cleveland, Ohio, says: "Your Castoria stands first in its class. In my thirty years of practice I can say I never have found anything that so filled the place."

Dr. J. H. Taft, of Brooklyn, N. Y., says: "I have used your Castoria and found it an excellent remedy in my household and private practice for many years. The formula is excellent."

Dr. R. J. Hamlen, of Detroit, Mich., says: "I prescribe your Castoria extensively, as I have never found anything to equal it for children's troubles. I am aware that there are imitations in the field, but I always see that my patients get Fletcher's."

Dr. Wm. J. McCrann, of Omaha, Neb., says: "As the father of thirteen children I certainly know something about your great medicine, and aside from my own family experience I have in my years of practice found Castoria a popular and efficient remedy in almost every home."

Dr. J. R. Clausen, of Philadelphia, Pa., says: "The name that your Castoria has made for itself in the tens of thousands of homes blessed by the presence of children, scarcely needs to be supplemented by the endorsement of the medical profession, but I, for one, most heartily endorse it and believe it an excellent remedy."

Dr. R. M. Ward, of Kansas City, Mo., says: "Physicians generally do not prescribe proprietary preparations, but in the case of Castoria my experience, like that of many other physicians, has taught me to make an exception. I prescribe your Castoria in my practice because I have found it to be a thoroughly reliable remedy for children's complaints. Any physician who has raised a family, as I have, will join me in heartiest recommendation of Castoria."

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