

Current Topics

Andrew Carnegie's Wife.

Mrs. Andrew Carnegie, wife of the great philanthropist, has been his ablest helpmeet in all his projects to do good to his fellow men. It was, in fact, through his benevolent work that Mr. Carnegie met his wife. She was Miss Louise Whitfield, daughter of John Whitfield of the importing firm of Whitfield, Powers & Co., and she and her future spouse became acquainted through a philanthropic plan in which both were interested. Miss Whitfield was an heiress in a small way. She possessed \$50,000,



MRS. ANDREW CARNEGIE, which she was using in charitable work. She had also beauty, good humor and health. The king of the steel industry had known her sixteen years before her marriage. After that happy event Mr. Carnegie's immense fortune was at the disposal of his wife for her benevolent activities, and these, though obscured by her husband's prodigality, have been, nevertheless, useful and extensive. Mr. and Mrs. Carnegie have one pretty daughter.

The Baseball Season.

The annual parley of the baseball managers has come to an end in both leagues and within a few days the ardent patrons of the sport will be shiveringly watching the opening spring games from the bleachers. In view of the situation which developed last season, the experiences of the year should be of unusual interest as indicating what is to be the status of baseball in the future. Two leagues are again in the field competing for players, and in some cases competing also for patronage, with conflicting dates in the same cities. Whether the interest in baseball in these cities is to wane or increase would seem to rest largely upon the success with which the managers keep the clubs in those cities near the top of the list. However much the public may have come to regard any one organization as representative of professional baseball, the first consideration will be the game itself. Whether or not two leagues are desirable, now that two have been formed let the aim on both sides be to put up the very best kind of game possible. Rattling, closely contested games will accomplish more than the baseball magnates could hope to achieve by any amount of diplomatic maneuvering before the opening of the season.

Handy Bundle Carrier.

Here is a handy arrangement for the school children or even older students to and from school, and it might also be useful in carrying other articles besides books. Its principal feature is its simple method of adjustment around a package or pile of books. The device is mounted on a flat strip of wood, and consists of a metallic handle, with a rotary winding spool and a long cord. One end of the cord is affixed to the winding spool and the other end, after it has been passed around the bundle, is inserted in the aperture in the opposite end of the base. The winding spool is loosely mounted on the handle, and is provided with a ratchet device, which will lock it when the cord is wound tightly. Before finishing the task the handle is released from the end opposite the drum, and by turning it partially around, rewinding the cord a little further and then returning the handle to its socket an extra reef is taken in the cord, which affords a strong grip on the bundle.

The Kaiser in a Shiver.

Dread of assassination has unnerved many a chief of state, but the fear-some irritation now shown by the German emperor was hardly to be expected from a man of his heroic pretensions. Even if the assault which has thrown him into chills and fever had been of a most sinister and dangerous character it would have been his part to maintain an appearance of self-possession and dignity, and considering the nature of the incident it should have been ignored entirely. A boy whining over the smart of a snowball is about as impressive a figure as the grieved monarch in his present state.

California's Redwood Parks.

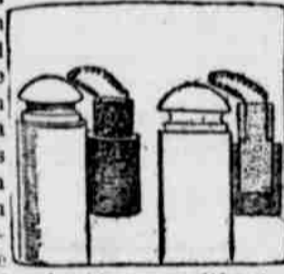
The state government of California has decided very wisely to purchase the redwood grove in the big basin, Santa Cruz county, and has set aside \$250,000 for that purpose. This grove is well located for a show place and contains some magnificent specimens of the redwood, one of which is more than twenty feet in diameter. Northward in San Mateo county there are forests of a similar character, and the work of destruction in that region and in the region still farther north beyond San Francisco Bay emphasizes the need of immediate action to prevent the complete obliteration of a splendid and unique possession which should certainly be cherished by the state.

Tramp Corporations.

A revised corporation law went into effect in West Virginia a few days ago. That state still hopes to compete with New Jersey in the business of creating large corporations for purposes of state revenue. The new law places no limit upon the capitalization of a company, but it requires the payment of a license fee and an annual tax, each of which varies from \$20 to \$1,010 on corporations ranging up to \$1,000,000 capitalization, with \$50 extra for each added million. The most undesirable feature of the law is found in the fact that the state does not hold the corporations it creates to account. It creates them and turns them loose on other states.

Automatic Gas Igniter.

The illustration shows an internal and external view of the automatic gas lighter recently patented. It is very simple in its construction being formed of a mixture of bone-ash and platinum black. It is well known that platinum black ignites gas without match.



Lights gas without match. The illustration shows an internal and external view of the automatic gas lighter recently patented. It is very simple in its construction being formed of a mixture of bone-ash and platinum black. It is well known that platinum black ignites gas without match. The air, and from a stream of hydrogen be directed upon the platinum the chemical combination of the two gases takes place with sufficient energy to raise the temperature of the platinum black until it becomes red hot, or sufficiently hot to render incandescent a platinum wire placed over the slot of the gas burner. Formerly these igniters have become inefficient in a short time, on account of the atoms of one of the ingredients coalescing with those of the other, when the atoms are too closely connected to allow oxygen at the ordinary temperature with sufficient rapidity to heat the platinum wire. However, this inventor claims to have discovered a process which will overcome this difficulty. To accomplish this result the bone-ash is heated to a high temperature to purify it and is then mixed with water and platinum black to form a paste, which is subjected to a high degree of heat in a mold of the required shape. It is then ready for connection with the wire which forms the igniter.

Was a Staunch Methodist.

Rev. Dr. Arthur Edwards, a prominent figure in Methodism for twenty years past and editor of the Northwestern Christian Advocate, died at his home in Chicago the other evening. Dr. Edwards had distinguished himself as a clergyman, soldier and editor. His best years were spent as editor of the Northwestern Christian Advocate, in which capacity he wielded a wide and powerful influence in the affairs of the Methodist Episcopal church and was a potent factor in molding Methodist policy. He was a deep student, and through his early training had a much more intimate knowledge of the practical affairs of life than the average clergyman. This



DR. ARTHUR EDWARDS.

gave him a bond of sympathy with the laity, with whom he was always popular. Because of his ability and grasp of affairs he was chosen to serve as a member of the principal governing bodies of the church. His knowledge of questions of church history was profound. Dr. Edwards was born at Norwalk, Ohio, Nov. 23, 1834. When he was 7 years old his uncle, a lake captain, adopted him, and he went to live with his foster father in Michigan.

SAYINGS and DOINGS

Edmund Clarence Stedman.

Edmund Clarence Stedman, whom a literary paper has pronounced the "surest and sanest critic of poetry now before the public," is indisputably the foremost living American poet. He began his literary career as a reporter for the New York Tribune. He had already obtained his degree of master from Yale and Dartmouth. For his lectures during 1892 at Columbia that university conferred upon him its literary doctorate, and in the same year he published his able and analytical work on "The Nature and Elements of Poetry." The lectures at Columbia had been already delivered at Johns Hopkins as the initial results of the Turbulent foundation. Mr. Stedman's poetry was published at various times and in various forms between the years 1869 and 1884. His public is not so large in America as it is in England, owing to the lack of appreciation



EDMUND CLARENCE STEDMAN. In this country of that refinement of the poetical art of which Mr. Stedman is a notable exemplar.

A Plan to Starve England.

A Chicago expert in statistics sets forth the interesting theory that if England and Russia were to go to war the most important battle would be fought in Chicago. He thinks Russia would strike at England's weakest point by trying to starve out the island nation, and that this would be done, not by blockading English ports, but by cornering American wheat and flour. The British get nearly one-half their bread-stuffs from America, and if the American and Russian supply were suddenly cut off it might cause famine prices in London. The statistician thinks Russia would only have to send a few skillful agents to Chicago and to other grain centers to buy up the whole American surplus for months ahead. He admits this might run up the price to \$1.50 a bushel before the deal could be completed, but he thinks Russia could afford to buy 200,000,000 bushels at that rate and to stand the loss upon it after the close of the war. He thinks lack of food would bring England to the point of surrender in a few months.

Sanguilly an American.

Senor Julio Sanguilly, who has suddenly changed front in his attitude toward the United States, and who now advises that Cuba yield to the demands of Congress, is an old soldier of Cuban revolutions, and one of the men whom Spain persecuted most mercilessly during the long struggle for independence. When the last revolution was threatened Sanguilly was looked upon as the probable leader of



SENOR SANGUILLY.

the forces in Santa Clara and Matanzas. His reputation for efficiency and courage, won in the former uprising, moved the Spanish authorities to arrest him on the eve of the last outbreak. He was thrown into a dungeon and was about to be tried for treason when Raymon O. Williams, American consul general at Havana, intervened, and it was only after two years of trial and appeal and retrial that he was given his freedom. Interference of American authorities was based on General Sanguilly's American citizenship.

The "Disease" of Drunkenness.

The Toledo police judge who has a sympathy for plain drunks agrees with numerous sentimentalists and pseudo scientists when he says that they are the victims of a disease. By the same token also it might be added that gamblers, thieves and thugs of all descriptions are likewise unfortunate, laboring under a severe sickness, and we believe that some of the sentimentalists and pseudo scientists accept the conclusion.

For London's Poor.



The art gallery, opened at Whitechapel in London the other day, is the latest feature of London's efforts to uplift the inhabitants of the poorer districts of the metropolis. Wealthy Englishmen subscribed \$75,000 for the erection of the building and maintenance of the gallery, and the poor of London will hereafter be able to view free of charge the same pictures exhibited at the West End galleries.

An art exhibition on a small scale has been known to Whitechapel since 1881, when the St. Jude's schoolroom exhibition was established in the district. Each of the exhibitions in St. Jude's was open for seventeen days, and in late years the attendance reached 70,000. No poor pictures were accepted, the committee in charge keeping up the academy standard. The St. Jude's exhibitions were visited by great throngs of working men and

women, particularly on evenings and Sundays, the Jews of the neighborhood being most strongly represented, and the popularity of the gallery encouraged the committee to start the fund for a new building and exhibitions on a larger scale.

The new building stands on the main road between the public library and a public house. In the academy four Presidents of the Royal Academy are represented—Reynolds, Leighton, Millais, and Poynter—and there are some excellent pictures from the Paris exhibition. Among these are pictures by Constable, Turner, Hogarth, Raeburn, Rubens, Rossetti, Burne-Jones, Alma Tadema, and Watts. Ford Madox Brown is represented by about forty pictures and sketches, and all of the leading English artists are represented by one or more pictures.—From the London News.

Russia's Internal Troubles.

The mystery which cloaks the movements of the disturbing social and political forces in Russia prevents a clear understanding of the present situation there. So far as the national censors will allow the world to know, the students of St. Petersburg have been making demonstrations of hostility to the government are not alone in their dissatisfaction. There may be no widespread and definitely formed nihilistic plot, but public sentiment has been stirred and the actual attempt on the life of Constantine Polyedonostsev, chief curator of the holy synod, shows the lengths to which the real conspirators are willing to go.

Baron Eugene De Haupick, the representative of the czar, who is investigating the oil fields of America and the American methods of refining crude petroleum, with the view to applying the information to the development of the Russian fields, in an interview in the Chicago Record says that England is supplying the money with which the uprising among the students and workmen is incited. He said: "Russian correspondents of American and European papers in writing of the outbreaks ask, 'Where does the money with which the leaders of the riots are supplied come from?' That question is not hard to answer. It comes from London. The leaders are in England's pay. She has no army to send to China and is stirring up trouble in Russia with the view to tying Russia's hands in the far east. It is not difficult to raise a disturbance of this kind in European capitals if those who are benefited are willing to pay the expense. England has worked this game more than once, and, with St. Petersburg in an uproar, she thinks the Russians will be unable to carry out their plans in the east."

A Mixed Diet the Best.

The vegetarians contend that flesh eating is a relic of barbarism. They adjure men to conquer their inherited savagery by abstaining from animal food. They argue for a vegetable diet on grounds of economy. They point to the Hindoo sage and the Chinese coolie as proofs that the highest intellectual acuteness and the greatest physical endurance may exist without flesh food. Yet the masses of mankind, unless constrained by poverty, cling to their flesh-pots.

Professor Ferdinand Hueppe of Berlin, one of the most eminent of living physiologists, in a recent paper dealt exhaustively with the vegetarian argument. He shows that a vegetable diet does not necessarily produce a mild and gentle spirit. The rhinoceros and buffalo are as ferocious as the lion and tiger. The rice-eating Chinese and the abstemious Hindoo are guilty of the most revolting cruelties, especially toward the weak. Without scruple or pity they torture women and children

against Spain eligible to the presidency was inserted through the influence of the friends of General Gomez. It is also well known that leaders who played a not very conspicuous part in the war have been plotting, for nearly two years, against their old commander-in-chief.

During the war of 1896 and 1897 Gomez was the real leader of the Cuban revolutionists. He was from first to last the central figure in the campaign against the Spaniards. It was then believed that he was the most popular of Cuban leaders, but at the close of the war, or after the occupation of the island by the Americans early in 1898, many of the officers of the Cuban army organized against him.

They carried their hostility to such extremes that he threatened to leave the island and return to San Domingo. Then there was a reaction in his favor, and he entered actively into the campaign that resulted in the election of radicals to the constitutional convention. There was bitter opposition to the clause making him eligible to the presidency, but his friends or supporters carried the measure by a majority of one.

Now General Gomez says that the insertion of this clause or the discussion of it was a mistake; that the adoption of the clause leaves Cuba open to a condition of things such as prevailed in Mexico in the days of Maximilian. He followed this by the declaration that he does not desire the presidency, and will not accept the office. This may eliminate General Gomez from the presidential contest, but it leaves open the door to foreigners more dangerous to Cuba than is General Gomez.

The warning of the old commander-in-chief of the Cuban army is testimony to the wisdom of the Cuban policy formulated by congress, claims the Chicago Inter-Ocean. If General Gomez, soldier of fortune and revolutionist as he is, can see danger to Cuba in the constitution framed by the convention, the United States is fully warranted in the measures that have been taken to protect the Cubans from themselves.

President McKinley's Tour.

In about four weeks President McKinley will leave Washington to begin the most extensive tour of the United States ever made by a president. His plan is to go first to New Orleans, thence through gulf coast cities westward to San Francisco, where he will take part in launching the battleship Ohio. Then he will visit Pacific coast cities in Oregon and Washington, returning through Montana, making a trip into the Yellowstone Park, and going to Denver and other Rocky mountain cities. The final stage of the journey may be by boat from Duluth to Buffalo, where the Pan-American exposition will be the attraction. For nearly two months the executive head of the government will be on the go, far removed from Washington, yet in constant touch with affairs at the national capital. President Washington thought it advisable that he should acquaint himself as far as possible with the different sections of the infant republic. One of his trips took up as much time as the one President McKinley is going to make, and yet it

—deeds from which the flesh-eating European generally refrains.

Professor Hueppe also shows that man has neither the teeth nor the digestive tract of a herbivorous animal. When he confines himself to a vegetable diet he is like an overheated boiler, in danger of explosion from using the wrong kind of fuel. It is practically

Thomas Cahill, who was 90 years old a few days ago, is the oldest member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery company of Boston.

King Alexander, of Serbia, is the only reigning European sovereign without a living heir to the throne. He is the last of the Obrenovitches and has not even a distant cousin to succeed him.

Some Boston ministers allow that it wouldn't be wrong to go to church on Sunday morning and play golf on Sunday afternoon. This looks like a radical step in the way of establishing links between piety and pleasure.—Ex.

An optimistic English physician says that modern life is easier, safer and smoother than life 100 years ago; that young people are healthier, stronger and better grown than their great-grandparents, and that the complaints of increasing neurotic tendencies are wholly unfounded.

Impossible for the vegetarian to both mentally and physically active. If he uses his muscles in hard work his digestive system has to deal with such a bulk of food that no energy for mental exertion is left. If he eats sparingly to keep his brain clear he has no physical strength.

Gomez and the Cuban Constitution.

It is well known that the clause in the Cuban constitution making foreigners who had served in the war

Our Soldier in China.



GENERAL CHAFFEE.

whose good judgment and soldierly conduct have won the admiration of the world. It is said at Washington that President McKinley intends to bestow higher honors in the very near future.

covered only a small part of New England. Washington had to depend on horses and his progress was painfully slow. Nothing more strikingly illustrates the marvelous changes of the intervening century than a comparison of the tours of President Washington and President McKinley.

Blinks—Lucky man, that fellow Jones. Winks—I don't see how you make it. Blinks—Why, he took out a life insurance policy for \$5,000 and died six days before the company failed.