



EDITORIALS



OPINIONS OF GREAT PAPERS ON IMPORTANT SUBJECTS.

Woman and the Home.

MUCH is heard of the widening of woman's activity and "sphere," of her emancipation, of the broadening of her interests and horizon. Let us be thankful for it in moderation. The growing capacity of woman to make her way in the world in spite of the distressful strokes of adverse fortune, her independence, her business ability, are all admirable; the elegance of life, the interest in art, society, sports and games are cause for thanks; but if they permit the obscuration of that other greater interest, the training of human beings to a sound family life, the gains are overborne by the losses. There is something wrong in our perspective if we get to the point of paying tremendous attention to the choice of the tailor, dress-maker and caterer, while we permit our children to be trained and nurtured by the first vulgar and ignorant creature who comes to hand; and we are cultivating an oblique and distorted vision when we fail to see that one of the greatest of deliberate aims in life should be the rearing of strong and conscientious human beings and the building of that sane, moral and inspiring homestead which is alone the proper nursery for sound, beautiful character.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Era of Fast Railroad Travel.

THAT the efforts made to reduce the running time between New York and Chicago will cause a general agitation of the question of railway speed seems certain. Ten years ago an eighteen-hour schedule between these cities would have been considered hopelessly impracticable. The Pennsylvania train which left Chicago Sunday afternoon made the trip with apparent ease in 17 hours and 57 minutes. The west-bound sister train leaving New York the same day made it in 17 hours and 58 minutes. In the course of the 905-mile run several speed records were broken. At one point three miles were covered in 85 seconds, or at the rate of a mile in 28 1-3 seconds, or more than 125 miles an hour.

With these "flyers" in successful operation on the Pennsylvania and Lake Shore railroads a new era in passenger travel may be considered to be opened. If the new schedule is found practicable the effect of the innovation will be to raise the standard of speed requirements everywhere. By comparison the twenty-four-hour trains, once thought very fast, will seem slow. While other railways covering equally long distances in other parts of the country will not have the incentive to high speed which the well-patronized Eastern lines have, they, too, will feel the influence of the new schedule.—Chicago Daily News.

Will the Panama Canal Pay?

WILL the Panama Canal, when completed, earn as much as the Suez Canal is earning? Will the waterway across the American isthmus command as much business as does the canal across the Asiatic isthmus? Mr. Frederick Courtland Penfield discusses these two questions in the North American Review. While his figures are disquieting, his conclusions are encouraging.

The Suez Canal shortens the distance between England and Bombay by 6,240 miles, or more than one-half; the distance between St. Petersburg and Bombay by 4,840 miles; between New York and Bombay by 3,600 miles. Naturally, England uses the canal more than any other nation, two-thirds of the 3,700 ships passing through the canal carrying the British flag.

By way of Panama the distance between New York and San Francisco and between New York and all Asiatic ports will be shortened 8,000 miles. New Orleans and every town on the Mississippi River below St. Louis will save 8,912 miles by using the canal. The conclusion is that the canal will be given largely to American business, the United States standing to the Panama Canal as England stands to the Suez Canal.

The Suez Canal was operated for thirty years before its business aggregated 10,000,000 tons. Mr. Penfield esti-

mates that six years after the Panama Canal is completed it will command a business of 7,500,000 tons, and bring to the government a revenue of \$12,750,000, or a little less than the operating and other expenses. If the business can be increased to 10,000,000 tons a year the Panama Canal will be as profitable as the Suez Canal is now.

While Mr. Penfield reaches the conclusion that for many years the canal will not pay directly, he contends that it may be made to pay indirectly by Americans entering as ship owners into competition with Europe's trading nations. He predicts that any effort on our part to create a great merchant marine will arouse the opposition of English, German and French. But he estimates that by the time the Panama Canal is opened the United States will have 100,000,000 inhabitants, and can make our commodities dictators of supply and price.

The commercial fleet at present under the American flag, it is estimated, would not pay a tenth of the canal's operating expenses. But if this is increased in the next ten years to what it ought to be, it is believed the canal will be a success from its opening.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Love in a Flat.

HAS any thinker before us found the majestic thought that love is more powerful and more self-sacrificing now than ever? Under the greenwood tree, notably in cottages, love was easy. "A girl marries for a home," and she used to get it; but now home is home no longer.

People live in hotels, apartment houses, flats, tenement houses—one rose of many petals. The individual cell is gone. The beehive remains. Well, to accustom oneself to this conglomerate and noisy existence; to consent meekly and dutifully to be cabined, cribbed, confined; to hear the banging of many pianos, the sound of many solos, the ineffable toot of the man who plays the flute, the irritating murmur of many voices; at morn the clatter of dumb-waiters, the yells of grocery boys and milkman, at night the loud laughter of the hired girl, puellae risus ab angulo; to smell a hundred cookings; to battle with the agent and the plumbers; to bear the bellboy's insolence—she who does this for a Mere Man loves indeed.—New York Sun.

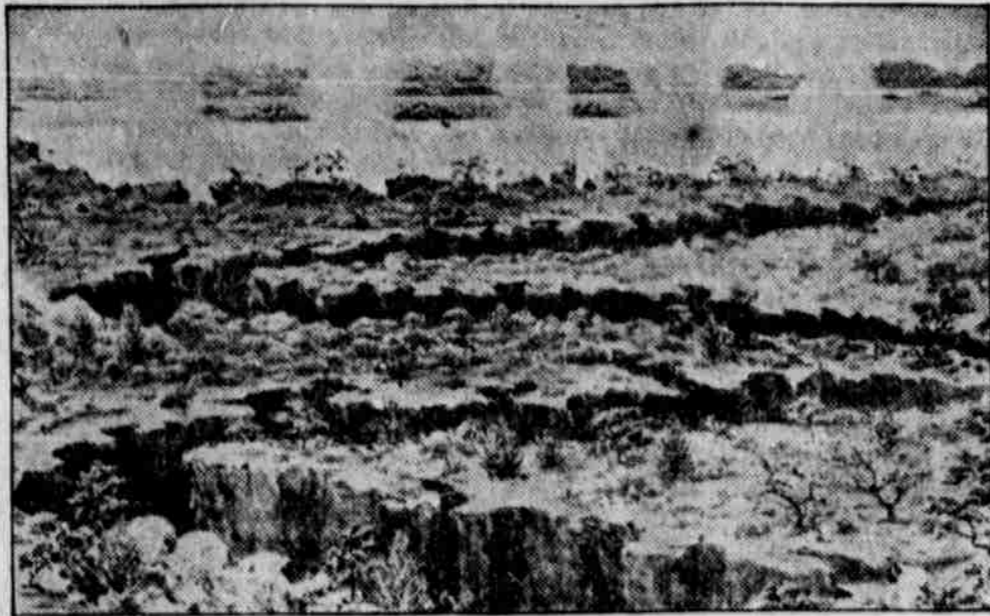
Luxuries of Rural Life.

THE rural town is fast becoming a city in its general appointments, accommodations, manners and style, and it is the means of disseminating the latest ideas and conveniences among surrounding farms. Through investments and improvements, the country is getting nearer to the city, nearer to the myriad advantages of comfort which human ingenuity is devising. The present is an era of luxury. Every urban home has the investiture of a palace in a former period; in fact, it offers, with the common exception of size and yard area, more and better facilities for easy living. Every country home is comparatively as well furnished. Almost all the comfort which is found in the city home can be installed and enjoyed in the most isolated farm houses lying in an out-of-the-way locality.—St. Louis Republic.

Punishing the Rich Criminal.

THE way of the high-bred transgressor continues easy in the Fort Leavenworth penitentiary. A visitor reports that Bigelow, the Milwaukee bank embezzler, is having a more comfortable time than the majority of men who are at liberty and working for a living. He wears no prison garb, does not consort with the vulgar, "common" criminals of the place, enjoys his meals at a special mess table, in company with the other aristocrats of "bankers' row," and what work he is required to do is at light and agreeable tasks. And yet learned counsel are soberly arguing that the penalty of five years' imprisonment at hard labor for bank embezzlement is a cruel and unusual punishment for soft-handed bank men.—Boston Herald.

THE WATER-SAW ON THE ZAMBESI.



The picture shows the water-worn gorge crossed by the new great bridge on the Cape to Cairo Railway. Below the Victoria Falls the Zambesi winds with endless twistings through the gorges here depicted. Through this passage the waters pour with a terrible deafening rush. One of the most singular features of the Falls is the spray, which rises continually in huge steam-like columns. It was Cecil Rhodes' picturesque desire that the windows of the railway carriages as they crossed the bridge should be dashed with the spray of the Falls.

adjusted to sound the tones which correspond with the open strings of the instrument. In order to bring a string to the proper pitch the operator sounds the string by bow or by hand, and when the corresponding reed over this string vibrates sympathetically with the string, then the latter is in proper tune, and if the reed does not vibrate it is necessary for the operator to either stretch the string more tightly or to loosen the same, so that when next sounded the corre-

sponding reed vibrates in sympathy with the sounded string. When this takes place the string is properly tuned. This operation is repeated with each of the strings of the instrument, and then the tuning device is removed. It will be seen that when the operator brings a string to the proper pitch the corresponding reed vibrates with it, and consequently the operator can see at a glance that the string is properly tuned without depending on hearing the sound itself.



Katherine Cecil Thurston's "The Masquerader" is to be translated into Swedish, Norwegian and Danish.

The public which objected to the taking off of Sherlock Holmes in Dr. Doyle's first series of tales, objects also to his retirement on a bee farm in Kent. The author is said to receive many letters petitioning for "more."

A reviewer of "Miss Bellard's Inspiration," W. D. Howell's latest, "perpetuates" a singular simile: "Mr. Howells walks delicately, like a cat over a breakfast table, along the little bursts and turns of women's moods and fancies."

Mrs. Kate Douglas Wiggin, whose "Penelope" books paved the way for "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm" and whose "Rose o' the River" recently came out, has bought Quillcote, the summer home on the banks of the Saco, near Hollis, Me., that she has so long occupied.

"There goes a man with a very interesting history," remarked the bookseller reminiscently, as he watched a picturesque-looking old bookworm leave the shop. "Indeed," put in a casual customer. "How do you know that his history is so interesting?" "I just sold it to him—Macaulay's."

Mrs. Alice Hogan Rice, author of "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," has organized in Louisville, Ky., a new national bank with a capital stock of \$250,000. Associated with her is her husband, Cale Young Rice, W. O. Head and L. M. Rice. What position Mrs. Rice will hold in the new financial concern has not been decided, though it is said that she will have some responsible post. Who wouldn't like to be the owner of such a productive "Cabbage Patch?"

James Lane Allen, criticising E. U. Valentine's "Hecla Sandwith," says: "The story in the novel is a great story. It is an American story of the first magnitude. Thomas Hardy, had he been an American, might have been glad to come upon it. George Eliot, had she been an American, could have built upon it one of her masterpieces." * * * A careful reading of the book makes it plain the author took a broad and deep view of the elements—American and human—that entered into the greatness of the theme.

"Mrs. Essington," the story of a house-party in which a little live drama is played between a widow and a man some years younger whose career she has practically made, is having a deserved success. It is the work of two sisters, Esther and Lucia Chamberlain, natives of California. Their first work together was "The Blue Moon," a novelette published in Ainslee's. Miss Esther was one of the first women in New York to make a profession of supplying illustrative advertising matter. Miss Lucia took to authorship, and wrote short stories and poems for the magazines. They began to collaborate in the spring of 1904.

"SKINNING" IN BUILDING.

Crafty Practice of Some Architects to Catch Business.

A certain church organization decided to erect a new church edifice. After carefully studying the resources and canvassing the question generally, the parties authorized to act decided to invest \$100,000 in the new church and advertised for competitive architectural plans on that basis. Of those submitted, one set of plans threw the others altogether into the shade, easily surpassing them in many regards and presenting a most alluring bait. Having seen exactly the "right thing," it was hard for the committee, the congregation, and, above all, the rector, to accept anything that fell short of the ideal that had been presented to their minds. But one result was probable—the alluring plans were accepted, and that although there must have been some doubt, notwithstanding the reassuring protests of the architect, that the hundred thousand dollar limit would not be exceeded.

The illusion vanished when bids for erecting the church were asked for. Some of the bids received were as high as \$250,000, while the lowest was \$223,000. This ought to have put a quietus on those particular plans, but the drawings had produced a profound and lasting effect, that could not be easily shaken off. Consultations with the architect, followed, in which he succeeded in convincing the church authorities that, while his estimates had been a little faulty, he could make certain reductions and alterations on the constructive parts of the church, that, without detracting from the grand effects that had constituted the catching bait, would bring the total cost within the limits of \$140,000. The good rector and his

friends and advisers do not seem to have been familiar with the mode of "skinning," and failed to realize that it is difficult to buy a two-penny cake with two farthings. Under the bewildering glare of the fascinating design they yielded to the glib assurances of the man who had already deceived them. The stated amount was \$40,000, very possibly more than that, in excess of what they could afford to pay, but the edifice would be such a grand affair, while the portions subjected to the "skinning" process would be hidden from view. The architect who was able to combine elegance with economy and architectural effects with perfect safety and endurance, rose greatly in their estimation, and they marveled how ordinary and unresourceful architects could do business at all.—American Contractor.

ARIZONA PRISON IS NOVEL.

Made by Blowing Hole in Wall of Rock with Dynamite.

Out in Arizona they don't stop to put up a big pile of brick or stone and mortar when they want to build a prison, but just take a lot of dynamite and blow a hole in one of the mountains which may be handy to the town where the lock-up is needed, says the New York Tribune. The people are so accustomed to using dynamite in getting out the gold and other minerals in this part of the west that they can calculate to an ounce how much is needed to blow out a cell or a corridor.

After the interior is excavated two or three men with crowbars and sledges make the few windows and the passageway through which the prisoners are taken. Just a foot or so is sufficient for a window and it costs more to set the iron bars in the wall than it does to cut the hole through. So the windows, if they can be called such, are not much more than peep-holes.

This is the sort of lock-up which the sheriff at Clifton, Ariz., provides for the guests whom he may have from time to time. It is just a hole in the mountain, which at this place is several thousand feet high. When the railroad was built through Clifton it was necessary to make a deep cut and the rocky wall is almost perpendicular.

After tunnelling into it the prison-makers blasted out two cells, one of which is used for the desperate characters—men sentenced to death or for long terms. The other, nearest the entrance, is for the cowboys, miners and others who may get on a little spree and try to "shoot up" the town. As they generally come to their senses when they are sober, they are kept by themselves, and it is not necessary to mix them up with the worst prisoners.

When they made the prison at Clifton the town fathers decided that some sort of a portico ought to be provided, so the town mason got a contract to build a lean-to of adobe. This is roofed with corrugated iron, and is entered by a heavy wooden door. It is not considered a part of the prison, however, merely being used for the sheriff's office.

It is not necessary to maintain a guard, and the sheriff can go out and "round up" cattle or perform his other duties without worrying himself over a possible jail break. It is only necessary to feed the prisoners, and this can be done by shoving the food under the door at the entrance, as it is raised about four inches from the ground. Then the prisoners help themselves.

A Wooden Wedding.

Several friends called on a New York clergyman one evening, says the New York Sun, and were kept waiting for him for some time.

"I'm sorry to have kept you waiting," the minister remarked, as he entered his library, "but I have just had to perform a wooden wedding in the church."

"What?" said one of his visitors. "I never heard of such a thing. What kind of a ceremony was it?"

"Oh," answered the clergyman, with a twinkle in his eye, "it was the marriage of a couple of Poles."

The Real Thing.

Mrs. Ikki—I wish you wouldn't be such a tight-wad! I haven't a thing to wear.

Mr. Ikki—Blinkin' Borealis! Why, woman, you have the finest seal coat in two degrees of latitude.

Mrs. Ikki—And what of it? There goes Mrs. Blubberton swaggering around in a real sealette coat with plush trimmings.—Puck.

Suggesting a New Plan.

"How can I get the ladies of my congregation more interested in heaven?" sighed the earnest young rector of the fashionable church.

"You might intimate that things will be very exclusive there," replied the old preacher sadly. "By such means you may be able to arouse a mild interest."—Pittsburg Post.

There is one thing about a man with a gloomy disposition; he does not bore his friends to death with his everlasting jokes.

VIOLIN TUNER.

Also for Use on Guitars, Mandolins and Other String Instruments.

Very few inventions relating to musical instruments are patented, inventors in all probability finding it very difficult to make improvements in this line. A device very much in need is a satisfactory tuning fork for string instruments. It is almost impossible for an amateur to tune up a violin or guitar.



TUNED BY THE EYE, even with the aid of a piano. A Kentucky man has invented a tuning apparatus which can be used by anyone. It is made in the shape of a square plate, which is placed over the strings of the instrument close to the bridge. Pins extending downward project from the corners of this plate, these pins resting on the sounding board of the instrument and forming a clamp, holding the device in proper position. Reeds or tongues are attached on the forward end of the plate, these reeds having elongated slots for the reception of screws for adjusting them. The reeds are made very thin and delicate, in order to render them exceedingly sensitive, so that they will readily vibrate in sympathy with the sound of the strings of the instrument to such an extent that their vibration will be easily perceptible. The device is not intended to appeal to the ear, but to the eye. The reeds extend in close proximity and lengthwise over the strings, it being understood that for violins, for instance, the reeds are