

## TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

### A CHOICE SELECTION OF INTERESTING ITEMS.

Comments and Criticisms Based Upon the Happenings of the Day—Historical and News Notes.

A WOMAN never has a valise so large that it can be closed without squeezing.

HUMAN life is very expensive in Brazil. It takes about 50,000 pounds of gunpowder to kill one man.

THERE is a man in De Kalb County, Mo., who can eat dinner with a quid of tobacco in his mouth. They raise all kinds of wonderful beings in Missouri.

NO old custom can be overturned and no new one adopted in a day. Public opinion must grow, and growth is never a sudden process. He who realizes this will also realize the benefits of intelligent, not cowardly compromise—one that shall not delay his own steps, but shall lead others gently to follow them.

THERE is often a strong reason why a person prefers his own plan or line of conduct, for it may be one which he is not willing to proclaim. Twenty good arguments adduced for an opposite course may be outweighed by the one which is paramount in his own mind, yet, if he do not wish for any reason to make it public, he is open to the charge of being unreasonable. No one has a right to put another in so awkward a dilemma.

It is certainly a great feather in the cap of American railway managers to be able to say that notwithstanding the greatly increased travel during the Columbian year 1893 the number of deaths from accidents was ninety-nine less than in 1891, and 115 less than in 1890. Considering the number of extra trains and the great speed of through trains the record is remarkable, and wholly creditable to the management of the railroads.

THAT parent loves well but not wisely and is doing wrong: who gives unearned rewards to the idle and selfish boy or the fretting girl. If the boy fails to prove half spoiled on becoming a man, it is in spite of his early training. The chances are that he will be willful, besides idle and selfish. But an early environment of industry, obedience, thought, and faithful religious training can train the will in such a way as to modify natural bad qualities and reinforce natural good qualities, and lead to the acquiring of new good ones.

AS MIGHT have been expected, there is trouble in the Chaska family. Three years ago Miss Fellows, a teacher in the Indian schools, married a young Santee buck—ignorant, greasy, and depraved. She was going to civilize him and make a man of him. After a stormy married life the buck, Chaska, has deserted his wife and eloped with a squaw. No other result could have been expected of such a match. The Indian, like the average fortune-hunting nobleman, wants a wife for revenue only. She is to him a beast of burden, a hewer of wood and a drawer of water. Mrs. Chaska rebelled against this idea and her liege lord has taken a woman of his own people who will be satisfied to drudge while he snores the happy hours away in his tepee.

ANOTHER French anarchist has adopted the bomb method of social reform. He hurled the missile into a crowded restaurant and more than a score of persons were injured. Unlike his predecessor, Vaillant, he selected as victims who were not responsible for and who were powerless to change existing social and economic conditions. The restaurant in which the bomb exploded was the resort for men and women who probably found the struggle for life as hard as he did. Why they should be made even more incapable of fighting it nobody but the bare-brain bomb-thrower can tell. And if justice is given him he will not be long in a position to give the information. This would be murderer and enemy of law and order should be supplied with the same environment and accorded the same opportunity to shout "vive l'anarchie" that was given to Vaillant.

A HOST of more or less worthy imitators of Joseph Keppler, the man who made Puck, survive him, but his death leaves a vacant place in modern caricature that cannot soon be filled. Of the young cartoonists of the eastern weeklies few, if any, have the characteristics, the accuracy in drawing, combined with keen humor, that made the dead artist an example for all others of his class. Keppler was a man of strong convictions amounting at times almost to prejudice; his friendships were of a strength that time did not change; his efforts were always in the direction of his understanding of the right. Personally he was as charming a character that

even his bitterest political enemies were glad to be in his company. While his home and fortune were in New York Keppler was above the pettiness and jealousy that characterize some newspaper men of that city. He had a sincere admiration for Chicago, where, during his stay last summer, he added scores to his already long list of friends. He supported Chicago in the pages of Puck, helping to fight the battles for a successful fair with all the ardor of his warm, impulsive nature.

Mrs. MYRA BRADWELL of Chicago, is dead at the age of 63, the last three years of her life having been passed in suffering to which she slowly succumbed in spite of the best medical and surgical skill in this country and Europe. She had been a prominent character ever since the outbreak of the war of the rebellion, during which and for several years after her husband was Judge of the County Court of Cook County. She took a leading part in the work of providing for the needs of the soldier in the field and hospital. She was a member of the associations of ladies who conducted the Soldiers Home and the two Sanitary Fairs in that city. On the return of peace she devoted herself assiduously to the study of law, and soon began the publication of the Legal News, which she had edited ever since with marked ability. She will be long remembered for the ability and zeal with which she conducted her fight to obtain recognition of her claimed right to become a member of the bar and practice in the courts. She led the way in which others have since traveled, and her victory was all the more notable as she did not care for the practice of the law after her right to practice was conceded, but employed her energies and talents in work for the paper, which stands in the front rank of law publications. She was content and pleased that other women reaped the fruits of her struggle to establish the equality of the sexes in the legal profession. She was a most genial lady, to know whom was a privilege, and few names of women will survive longer in the memories of the people than that of Myra Bradwell, while none will be more highly esteemed.

By the death of Hans Guido von Bulow one of the greatest of modern German musicians has passed away. He has been an invalid for some time and his nervous system was so shattered that he had long been on the verge of insanity. He has held an important position in the musical world through his intimate association with Liszt and Wagner, both of whom at one time were his teachers, as well as by his own accomplishments. He was an ardent advocate of Wagner's music-drama and so honest in his advocacy that even when Wagner so poorly requited it as to take his wife (Liszt's daughter) away from him he remained true to the music of the future. Von Bulow has held many high and honorable positions in the Berlin Conservatory, as the King of Bavaria's Capellmeister, and in the same situation at the Hanoverian and Sax-Meininger courts. As a composer he has not held first rank, but as a conductor, and particularly as a concert pianist, he has made a world-wide reputation. As a pianist he was a classical purist in the highest degree, and made the world acquainted with the works of Beethoven and others as they were written and as the composers intended them to be interpreted. His genius as a pianist was recognized everywhere, and his remarkable performances in this country will be well-remembered. One of his most valuable legacies is his editions of the works of the classical composers for piano students. In this direction his labors in music and he was a prodigious worker, have been of the highest value.

Can't Miss a Rattlesnake. The writer saw an Indian kill a rattlesnake in a peculiar manner recently. The rattler was about ten feet from the Indian, who was resting the rifle on his knee, apparently taking aim. Whenever he moved the weapon a few inches the snake would move around and get exactly in line with it. Then, to show how the thing was done, the Indian moved about the snake in a circle, and the reptile moved as if his tail was a pivot, always keeping his head and body in line with the gun. The Indian then agreed to bandage his eyes and shoot the snake in the mouth. The writer bandaged the Indian's eyes, and, nodding the gun at arm's length, the latter pulled the trigger and the tail entered the snake's mouth. "How did you take aim?" was the query. "The snake he take aim," was the reply. We have talked with an old hunter on this proposition, and he claims that a rattlesnake will always range directly in line with a gun or stick pointed at it. It makes a banker as mad to go behind his counter as it does a groceryman to take an apple.

## OUR RURAL READERS.

### SOMETHING HERE THAT WILL INTEREST THEM.

"Small Fruits as Mortgage Lifters"—Wheat as a Side Product—A Harness Horse—Convenient Milk-Room Device—Substantial Farm Gate.

#### A Milk-Room Device.

What housewife has not had trouble again and again to tell just how old is the milk in each pan in her milk-room? When the same number of pans are used at each milking, and these can be always placed in regular order upon the shelves, there may be little danger of getting Tuesday morning's milk mixed up with that of Monday night; but sometimes there is room for only a part of the pans upon one shelf, and so some must be placed out of order or an unequal number of pans may be used; and in these ways uncertainty often arises as to the age of the milk. The trouble may be



MILK PANS FOR MILK PASS.

obviated by the device shown in the illustration, which is from the American Agriculturist. Slips of wood, narrowed at one end and having a slit just large enough to slip upon the edge of a pan, are made as shown in the sketch. Let there be a sufficient number so that as many may be marked "Monday morning" as would ever be wanted to accompany a single milking, and let an equal number be marked "Monday evening," "Tuesday morning," and so on through the days of the week. By this means a house-keeper can always be sure before she disturbs a pan whether it contains double or triple cream.

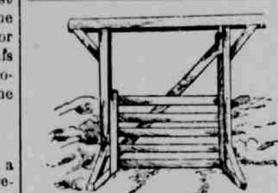
#### An All-Purpose Horse.

To the average farmer an all-purpose horse or team is an absolute necessity—economy and general utility considered. The theory that farmers must necessarily have large horses, weighing 1,600 to 1,800 pounds, had a due and impartial trial, but after due deliberation it was pronounced impracticable. Most farmers do not need or require a horse of huge dimensions, and not many farmers can afford to keep specialty teams and riding horses. The farmer usually desires a horse or team that will answer all purposes that is, work to the sod breaker, the mower, the hay rake, the farm wagon, the light or spring wagon, the buggy, and the road cart. Now, there are many who, of necessity, require all these desirable qualities of their limited number of horses. This work may be satisfactory, or it may be performed in such a way as to give only partial satisfaction, owing to the kind of horses employed. If the number of horses be limited, as is usually the case, it is easily seen that the heavy draught horse will not answer the purpose to any reasonable degree of satisfaction. This style of horse is emphatically a specialty horse; and as such, not the kind the average farmer should own.

In his special sphere the heavy draught horse is both useful and profitable, but outside this sphere, he cannot work to the satisfaction of his owner. Yet for the heavy draught horse there is a good market and a steady demand, and generally at figures that are remunerative. For the farmer the most profitable horse is neither the largest nor the smallest, but one of that weight and symmetry which will enable him to perform all kinds of work; he should weigh from 1,150 pounds to 1,250 pounds.—Tribune.

#### Substantial Farm Gate.

This gate has the merits both of a handsome and imposing appearance, and of solidity and permanent uprightness. With a frame of this sort it is impossible for a gate to "sag."



SUBSTANTIAL GATE.

or to become inclined to either side out of a vertical line, as the foot-pieces of the framework hold the frame constantly in a vertical position. Such a gate, if built of good material, and kept well painted or whitewashed, will last almost a lifetime.—Country Gentleman.

#### Variations in Plants.

Botanists generally have but a faint idea of the breadth of variation common to all plants; and can only attribute a striking departure from the "normal type"—that is to say from the specimen from which the first description was drawn—as being the result of hybridization. "Supposed hybrids" abound in botanical literature. Mr. Eugene Schieffelin of Tivoli-on-the-Hudson, has a beautiful form of the common hemlock spruce, the branches of which have a cruciate character. The leader does not drop as in ordinary hemlocks, but is stiff and erect, and it has verticils of four branches at regular intervals. Those who are familiar with hemlocks on a large scale know how wide

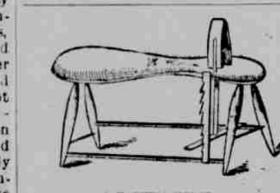
is the variation—this particular one of Mr. Schieffelin, is, however, unique. When our botanical friends get done naming and describing "hybrid" oaks, the hemlock offers a rich field for the extension of botanical nomenclature.—Ex.

#### Large Profits from Fruit.

"Small Fruits as Mortgage Lifters," was the taking title of a paper read at the Barnesville Institute by one grower. In 1880 he bought 104 acres of land that was industriously producing elders and briars. A portion of it was cleaned up and planted in berries. In 1892 the gross receipts were \$7,451, and the net receipts, after all labor and supervision were paid for, says the Hartford Courant, amounted to 18 per cent upon capital invested in farm stock and implements and no account was taken of the milk, butter, eggs, poultry, and fruit consumed on the farm, nor the food for stock. In 1893 the net receipts of the farm amounted to 23 per cent upon the capital—\$5,000—invested. As to varieties that had found favor with him, the speaker said: "We have twenty-three varieties of strawberries, but Wardell No. 2 and Bubach No. 3 for shipping, and Haverland fertilized with Enhance for home market, are the best. We have six varieties of raspberries, but Gregg, Palmer, and Ilborn are hard to excel. Of six varieties of blackberries the Snyder heads the list. Of five varieties of currants the Cherry and Victoria have given best results." The owner of the farm, Mr. Cowan, thinks that he could make twenty acres of good berry land, at \$100 an acre, pay for itself within a few years. It is his experience that berries are "mortgage lifters."

#### For Mending Harness.

The Orange Judd Farmer, in a recent issue, illustrates a device which is very useful in mending harness. The bench or main part is made from a 2-inch board 4 feet long and 1 foot wide. Put in legs, round off the edges and ends so as to form a comfortable seat. If the top is padded, so much the better. For the clamps use two pieces of 2 1/2 white oak lumber, about 15 inches long. Shape as illustrated in the illustration and fasten the end on the right firmly to the bench. Secure the other with



A HARNESS HORSE.

two hinges so that it can be moved back and forth. Pass a strong leather strap from this through a hole near the top of the opposite part of the clamp, down through another in the bench and attach to the foot lever. The piece of harness to be mended is put between the clamps and securely fastened by means of the lever and strap.

#### Wheat as a Side Product.

The wheat crop will not wholly go out of the rotation even in localities where it no longer pays directly. This grain is one of the very best to seed with, and there are many localities where the difference between a good and poor seeding of clover is more than what the farmer loses by the grain crop. Where land is most valuable the wheat straw has a market value that is greater than its worth to make into manure. Wheat straw is purchased for bedding by the keepers of livery stables. It is liked because it is stiffer than oats straw and the nature of graded-horse being mostly dry it does not adhere to the straw, which thus can be used several times before becoming badly soiled.

#### Destroying the White Grub.

The white grub is the especial enemy of strawberry growers, because the two-year-old covered, which it is generally advised to plow under for making a strawberry bed, is usually filled with these pests. The best way to get rid of the grubs is to turn a lot of young, active hogs into the patch, fencing it in so as to confine their rooting to the plot that is to be plowed. Feed the hogs some milk and wheat middlings, and then let them root for the white grubs. They will clear the patch sooner than it can be done in any other way and at less cost. We think, too, that the rooting helps to keep hogs healthy, and if they are fed as advised their droppings mixed with the upturned soil will help to enrich it.

#### Odds and Ends.

You can drive a nail into hard wood without bending them if you first dip them in lard.

Vials which have been used for medicine should be put into cold ashes and water, boiled, and allowed to cool before they are rinsed.

A LITTLE salt sprinkled in starch while it is boiling will prevent it from sticking. Before using, add a small piece of tallow, stir thoroughly.

A BEEFSTEAK cut an inch thick will be cooked rare in ten minutes. A mutton chop cut three-fourths of an inch thick will cook in eight minutes.

TO REMOVE rust from kettles or other ironware rub with kerosene and let them stand. Keep a day, then wash with hot water and soap, repeating if necessary.

## THE ILL-MANNERED SHAH.

Royalty Aghast Because Nasr-ed-Din Will Again Visit Europe.

The courts of Europe are just now in a flutter of excitement, owing to the announcement that Nasr-ed-Din, Shah of Persia, will soon descend from the peacock throne and make a tour of Europe as the guest of the sovereigns thereof. It is not as a political figure that the Shah sends a streak of consternation through European royalty, but as an offensive individual personage. The etiquette of the Persian court does not reach the standard established in the three previous visits of Nasr-ed-Din to Europe.

The first of these visits was in 1873 and the second in 1879. He came again in 1881, and it was then observed that his manners had not in the least improved. He still insisted, for example, on throwing under the table his plates and other dishes as fast as he got through with their contents. Perhaps that is the approved Persian table etiquette. But in a sumptuous furnished European palace with china as fragile as eggshells and worth its weight in gold, it is, to say the least, rather trying. At his first dinner as the guest of Queen Victoria, in 1873, it is said, he thus destroyed \$1,000 worth of rare china.

At all subsequent meals a number of waiters were kept standing close behind him to snatch up his plates the moment he seemed done with them or at least to take them from his hand before he could throw them under the table. Even despite these precautions he broke several things and hit some of the other guests on the feet and shins with the dishes.

On one occasion the Shah was seated at the table next to one of the most stately and dignified royal princesses of Europe. He was helped to some asparagus, cooked in a peculiarly delicious manner. Picking up a stalk in his fingers, he sucked the end of it with evident delight. Then turning to his fair neighbor he exclaimed, "Bah! bah! How good it is!" and thrust the same stalk into her mouth for her to taste.

Nor was his conversation less embarrassing than his table manners. Talking with a nobleman of great distinction, he suddenly asked: "Is that your wife over there?"

"Yes, your majesty."

"But she is old and ugly. Why don't you get rid of her and take a new one, one of these young and pretty women?"

As he spoke in a tone perfectly audible to the lady under discussion, and indeed to most of the company in the room, the sensation produced may best be left to the imagination. Nor was the scene less embarrassing when the Shah one evening approached one of the royal princesses and began to pat and pinch her plump shoulders, saying, "Ah, you are the kind of woman I like! You are not all bones! I will get rid of one of my wives and take you in her place!"

#### Village Life in Mexico.

A great cotton hacienda in Mexico is strongly built with walls like those of a fort; the tops of the walls are often studded thickly with broken glass of a jagged and deadly appearance; for further protection, companies of soldiers are kept within the establishment.

A hacienda of this type, whether devoted to the manufacture of sugar or cotton, the raising of cattle, or mining of silver, is a complete little State, with every appliance for luxury and security. It contains within its walls hundreds of peons, soldiers, barracks, a chapel, houses for laborers' apartments for the owner and his family, and every necessary of life for man and beast.

The administrator, or general manager is the father of the great family; he decides all disputes arising between the various members of it, and if he is only ordinarily just, never finds his authority disputed, but is looked up to with much respect and consulted by the peons in all family matters.

A gentleman who was for some years administrator of an estate in the State of Coahuila told me that while occupying this position he conceived a high opinion of the simplicity, honesty, and trustworthiness of the Mexican laborer. In most of the haciendas the machinery is of a most primitive kind, modern improvements being used only in the largest establishments.

#### New Word.

When little Maud began to go to school, she was the naughtiest of schoolers. She was naughty in so reckless a way that Hilda, her sister, two years older than she, became heartily ashamed of her. Maud occasionally talked aloud in class; she made such absurd faces that even the teacher was forced to smile, and she cherished so hearty a love for recess that it was difficult to induce her to come in when the quarter-hour was over.

As she was a very little girl, and quite unused to rule or punishments, no very severe measures were taken with her. But Hilda had at last borne all she could.

"Mamma," she said one day when she came home, with tears in her eyes, "mayn't Maud give up going to school till she knows how to behave better?"

"But I hope she will learn by going," said her mother. "We must have patience, you know."

"But, mamma, she does things that are just awful, and everybody knows she is my sister, and I am so ashamed!"

"Well, Hilda, I think we must keep on doing our best, and just help her to be good."

"Oh, I'd do that," said Hilda, two tears stealing down her cheeks. "I'm not tired of Maud nor her naughtiness, but mamma, I am tired of being so conspicated by her!"

## ONE MAN'S EXPERIENCE.

### A TRUE STORY OF A FARMER'S SUFFERING INVESTIGATED BY THE JOURNAL.

Helpless for Years With Inflammatory Rheumatism—Medical Relief Could Supply No Relief—How He Was Saved.

(From the Lincoln, Neb., State Journal.)

If, as it is universally believed, the age of miracles in the history of religion has past, it is equally certain that this is but the beginning of the age of miracles in the evolution of medical science. No stronger proof of this could be offered than the following case the truth of which is vouched for by the Journal:

About five miles from David City, in Butler county, Nebraska, resides Mr. W. H. Kinnison, a farmer, who, for several years, has been a great sufferer from that dread source of pain and agony, inflammatory rheumatism. Within the last few months a great change has come over him. From being a bed-ridden rheumatic victim he has become a strong, vigorous man, able in every instance to labor beside his fellows. The fact of his wonderful restoration to health came to the knowledge of the Journal, and in consequence a reporter visited the residence of Mr. Kinnison. The man in question was found seated upon a cultivator in the middle of a sixty-acre corn field, and to the question, "How are you this morning?" replied, "I never felt better in my life" when, asked to tell the story of his sickness and recovery, Mr. Kinnison said: "I always had good health until about four years ago, when I was taken with rheumatic pains in my legs, arms, and hands, and it was not long before I was perfectly helpless. I think the rheumatism was the result of a case of grip I had the winter before, and I began a day's work for nearly three years until this spring. I spent hundreds of dollars on different doctors and medicines. I went to Hot Springs, South Dakota, bought electric belts and electric batteries but to no use. I couldn't find anything that would even relieve. I was all swollen up, my muscles at their utmost tension, and the pain was absolutely unbearable. I could not get in or out of bed alone, and for all those weary months I lay and suffered without any hope of recovery.

"At last, after nearly three years of that kind of life, I saw an account in the Nebraska State Journal of some one who it seemed was nearly in my own condition, and who had been cured by a medicine called Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I got Mr. J. J. Frater, of David City, to get me two boxes. As soon as I began to take them I began to get better. It was but a little while before I could dress myself and only a short time after that I was able to do all my work, and I have not lost a day since. I think that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are the best remedy on earth. It is certain they cured me of muscular inflammatory rheumatism in its worst form."

Mrs. Kinnison corroborated her husband's story in every particular, and his father also verified the main facts in the case. The Journal representative drove back to David City and called upon Mr. J. J. Frater, the druggist. Here again he heard Mr. Kinnison's story verified.

Mr. Frater further said: "I have several customers who buy very freely of Pink Pills, notably Mr. D. C. Jordan, who is also a rheumatic, and who lives in the southwest part of town."

The Journal reporter stumbling thus upon another case hunted up Mr. Jordan, whom he found to be a manufacturer. Upon inquiry as to his opinion of Pink Pills Mr. Jordan was enthusiastic as to their merits, and said: "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are for Pale People are the best remedy for rheumatism I have ever come across. I began recently to use them after years of suffering. They have given me a wonderful amount of relief. I use them in my family, too, every one of whom have received very appreciable benefit from them."

The above is a plain statement of the facts ascertained by the Journal representative, and can be substantiated by any one wishing to write to the parties named.

These Pills are manufactured by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y., and are sold only in boxes bearing the firm's trade mark, and wrapped at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50. Bear in mind that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are never sold in bulk or by the dozen or hundred, and any dealer who offers substitutes in this form is trying to defraud you and should be avoided. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills may be had of all druggists or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company.

The children of almost every family are divided into two parties—those who "feel sorry for ma" and those who "feel sorry for pa."—Acheson Globe.

#### How's This!

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O. We the undersigned have known F. J. Cheney for the last 35 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by their firm. WEST & TWINE, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. WALKER, KIRBY & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price 75c per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Testimonials free.

Some antiquarians claim that there is proof that the locomotive engine was known in China 200 years ago.

Shiloh's Consumption Cure is sold on a guarantee. It cures Incurable Consumption. It is the best Cough Cure. 25 cents, 50 cents and \$1.00.

#### A Cheat and a Fraud.

The great majority of the democrats are opposed to the demonetization of silver and to the policy of gold monometallism. It is not the policy that was promised the people in the last presidential election. The party cannot afford to go before the people avowing its hostility to silver and with nothing but a record of silver demonetization to show for the promise it has made. —Memphis Commercial.