

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF.

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ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Personal and Literary.

Sylvanus Cobb, Jr., has made \$500,000 by his pen.

It is said that "Turgeneff has been forbidden by the authorities from carrying out a plan he had formed of spending the winter in Russia for the purpose of studying up the present situation.

Charles Darwin, the English scientist, has won the prize of \$1,400 recently offered at Turin for discoveries in the physiology of plants. He is receiving the congratulations of all the scientific men in Europe.

Mrs. J. W. Mackay has secured the exclusive services of one of the most celebrated modistes of Paris, in order that there might be no duplicates of her fashions and styles. She has the fame of being the most richly dressed woman in Europe.

Mr. Larkin J. Mead, the American sculptor, is married to a beautiful Italian lady with whom he could not at first acquaintances take, neither knowing the other's language. They have a charming home in Florence. Mr. Mead is one of the kindest of men and most generous of artists, always sympathetic and helpful to younger students.

Herbert Spencer, the English philosopher, is 60 years old. Having been privately educated, he was at first a civil engineer. His forehead is high and he is quite bald. His face is long, and although his features are not marked, he has an unpractical and almost effeminate appearance. His portraits represent him as resting his head against his hand, in the Washington Irving style.

Mr. W. D. Howells's home at Cambridge bears the quaint name of "Red-top." The lower story is of brick and the second of wood, entirely sheathing in California redwood shingles. In architecture it is a mixture of a Queen Anne house and a Swiss chalet. Mr. Howells's study is a large and charming room, with a window that opens out on a winter garden, under glass, opening out of it, and a ceiling divided in ancient fashion by beams.

Retence and Industry.

We sent last year to Europe 1,500,000 hides.

A toy maker of Montrose, Pa., uses 600,000 feet of bass-wood every year.

Sixteen pudding furnaces at the Altoona (Pa.) Rolling Mill are running day and night.

Seven machines in Pittsburgh, Pa., produced, last year, over 1,663,845 kegs of pins.

Chicago packed last year 5,100,000 hogs, being an increase of 10 per cent. Over 10,000 men are employed.

The grape islands of Lake Erie have 4,600 acres, and the yield in 1879 was 16,000,000 gallons. The wine production was 1,526,400 gallons.

An order that can not be filled in less than one year has been received by the Marlborough Woollen Company. The company will turn out 300 yards a day.

It is said that the adhesiveness and durability of a solution of 100 parts gum arabic in 250 water may be increased by adding two parts of sulphate of alumina.

Crosses, dried and powdered, when applied with chamois leather to nickel-plated goods, will increase their brilliancy without injuring their surface.

"Eucralite" is the name of a new red color derived from coal. It is supposed that cochineal has had its day, and that the new color will take its place.

Geese are raised for their feathers in Texas. One goose ranch in Western Texas has over 300 geese, whose feathers are plucked every two months, each one averaging a pound and a half a year.

A species of dwarf catfish, abundant in Lower California, is rich in fiber, said to be excellent for mattresses. It is reported that an experimental machine, costing only \$400, will spin raw material into white, elastic fiber with great rapidity, and promises to reduce the cost and improve the quality of such olive green material.

A fact probably but little known is that the United States nickel five-cent piece furnishes a key to metric measures and weights. This coin is two centimeters in diameter, and weighs five grammes. Five of them placed in a row will give the length of the decimetre, and two of them will weigh a decigramme. As a kilogram is a cubic meter, the key to the measure of length is also the key to a measure of capacity.

Foreign Notes.

It is expected that the Cologne Cathedral will be completed next August.

The betrothal of the Austrian Crown Prince Rudolph and the Princess Maria, daughter of Prince George of Saxony, is announced for the 10th of May.

Andaman Island widows wear the skulls of their deceased husbands on their shoulders. At a recent lecture on ethnology at the Royal College of Surgeons in London, Mr. Flower showed the skull of an Andamaner, which was attached an elegant webbed sling by which it had been suspended to the widow's neck.

At Crugan, Mayo, Ireland, when a process-server laid by one hundred police, attempted last month to serve notice of ejectment, his progress was arrested by three hundred women, armed with heavy sticks. The women were remonstrated with, but all arguments failed. At length the police forced their way through, with fixed bayonets, several of the women receiving thrusts and reaching the house where the process was to be served. Here again a crowd of women opposed, and several were wounded; the process, was, however, served.

The Austrian Emperor's whole passion is for dogs and horses. Her Majesty always rises with the lark. When the day lengthens she rises at six in the morning, and then she proceeds to the private chapel near her apartments. After the devotion of the first moments of the day to religion she proceeds to the stable and to the riding-school. Her Majesty knows well her classic step and sweet, clear voice, and nothing gives her such pleasure as when the poor animals greet her presence with a wag of the tail.

Although to-day there are as many but diamonds which many years ago were to be had for nothing. In 1870, for instance, Mr. Minnie, member for Birmingham, who did a service by procuring the Government to adopt the perforating machine in the manufacture of postage stamps. Mr. Minnie shaved his head and his brother represented him in cartoon as "a Brummagem M. P." In this portrait he carries a stout stick, which has special prominence, the reason being that an irrepressible practical joker, the Marquis of Waterford,

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