

A Curious Clock.

One of the most curious clocks in the world is perhaps that which tells the time to the inhabitants of a little backwoods town and which was constructed some time ago. The machinery, which is nothing but a face, hands and lever, is connected with a geyser, which shoots out an immense column of hot water every thirty-eight seconds. This shooting never varies to the tenth of a second. Every time the water spurts up it strikes the lever and moves the hands forward thirty-eight seconds.

A Scheme.

"Gracious!" exclaimed Farmer Kraft's wife, "you don't mean to say you bought a gold brick in town?" "Yep. Cost me 17 cents," replied Farmer Kraft, "but I'm tellin' everybody it cost \$1,500. You see, it folks hear o' me spendin' that much fur a gold brick I'll be able to git all kinds o' credit."—Philadelphia Press.

When people bury the hatchet they generally leave the handle at home as a souvenir.

Got Soldiers' Guns

Clever Trick Played on British Troops by Heroine of the Revolution.

"Gurdie" has not been quite fairly dealt with by history. The name is seldom heard nowadays, but it belonged to an energetic, brave woman who, in revolutionary times, had the applause of her country for cleverly outwitting a part of the British army.

"Gurdie lived at Union, N. J., in those days a place aspiring to be the capital of the state. One finds it today fast asleep, away from railroads, and even trolley cars. Her husband was known either as the man with the stovepipe hat, a mark of aristocracy then out of the ordinary, or as the man with the stumpling tongue. His most salient characteristic was his admiration for Gurdie.

When the British came up the little elevation known as "the hill" at Union and entered the precincts of the sacred First Presbyterian church, taking the hymn books and Bibles from the pews and ruthlessly tearing them to use as wadding for their guns, it was Gurdie who boldly spoke up and asked "Is that the way you're going to give us Watts and the Bible?"

The fight which followed was stiff and long; the power of the young American cannon, placed nearly opposite the church, was taxed to its utmost. To-day any one passing the spot can see this cannon preserved as a relic where it then stood, looking the very baby it is in the face of modern warfare.

The enemy proved over-strong; but winning men must eat, and of the rich farms then lying about Union, none were more likely to repay ransacking than that of Gurdie and her spouse. One of this stalwart woman's strong points was her excellent housekeeping.

Near her great brick oven stood al-

ways a huge pot of indigo ready to dye the wool from the shorn sheep. Clean, smooth and in order, the loom also awaited her pleasure at weaving. Her water from "the north side of the well" was cooler than could be had elsewhere; her cream invariably turned to butter; Gurdie could smooth out most folks' wrinkles.

When the muddy, swaggering feet of the British despoiled her polished floors she made it understood that they should rest in the cellar, where home-made wine was in casks, until she had prepared their meal.

Leading to this place was a narrow flight of steps and an old-fashioned trap-door. It was, however, light and spacious, and the men cracked many a joke over their entertainment.

At last Gurdie called to them that their supper was ready. "Leave your guns stacked in the cellar," she said; "there's no room for them above." This they did and came tumbling up the stairs.

Gurdie then closed the trap door with a spring, which only she knew. The men, suspecting nothing, fell eagerly to eating. To her stuttering husband, outside the window, she quickly passed the word; and thus a short while later a goodly number of unarmed men were carried off as prisoners by the American boys.

The signal which her husband gave about the town as he passed from man to man, and which has come down to us through history, was simply the record of his clever wife's deed: "G-Gur-Gur-Gurdie's g-g-got th-th-the gu-gu-guns."

It sometimes costs a man six months of rheumatism to catch one little six-inch fish.

Cocoanuts as Fuel

They Are Likely to Prove of Great Value in Naval Warfare of the Future.

Copra consists of dried cocoanuts. In view of the enormous tracts of land throughout the tropic zone that have lately been planted with cocoanuts, it is remarkable that copra has maintained its price.

From both coasts of Africa and from the West Indies the export has been steadily increasing, and yet, though the world seems to be easily sated with every other kind of tropical product of copra it never seems to have enough.

Handicapped by a sea carriage of 12,000 miles, the South Sea island copra has always commanded a local price of from \$40 to \$55 a ton, and now that a soap and candle factory has been established in Australia, it is more likely to rise than fall.

Ten years ago most of the copra went direct to Europe on German sailing ships, which came out to Australia with a general cargo, and loaded copra in the islands. In the long homeward voyage of from four to six months the rats and the little bronze copra beetles tunnel through the cargo, destroying large quantities.

On arrival at the oil mills it is crushed by rollers, and the refuse,

after every drop of oil has been squeezed out of it, is pressed into oil cake for fattening cattle. The oil is then resolved into glycerin and stearine, from which more than half the candles and soap used in the world are made.

At first sight it would seem more economical to press the oil on the spot and so save the freight upon the waste material, but the explanation is that oil must be shipped in tanks or in casks. Ships fitted with tanks would have to make the outward voyage empty, and casks, if shipped in "shooks," require expert coopers, and when soaked in oil become a prey to borers.

It is possible that a new use may be found for copra as fuel for warships. It burns with a fierce heat. It is very easily stored and handled, and it is only one-third more bulky than coal, its disadvantage in this respect being more than compensated by its superior heating qualities and its freedom from ash.

It is expensive, but in naval warfare where quick steam is everything, the dearest fuel may often be the cheapest.—Savage Island.

A "Wildcat" Mine

Dynamite Used to Dislodge Ferocious Felines from Their Stronghold.

Several mining men who had chanced to meet in a hotel lobby in this city were discussing the various mines in a certain district, when one of them spoke of a "wildcat" mine.

A logger who was sitting near pricked up his ears at this and chipped into the conversation. He said that there was the most productive wildcat mine he ever heard of near the logging camp where he had been working on the lower Columbia. One of the mining men remarked that his idea of a wildcat mine was one that yielded nothing but assessments and asked what this wildcat mine produced.

"Why, wildcats, of course," replied the logger. He then proceeded to explain that many years ago someone had run a tunnel into the side of a hill in search of coal and had run a number of short branches and had gophered about generally in the bowels of the hill, but finding no coal had finally abandoned the workings.

There were wildcats in that section and the parties who had been prospecting for coal left several cats at their cabin. The wildcats and the

tame cats had affiliated and had taken up their abode in the tunnel and had increased in numbers.

Finally a celebrated bear hunter of that region discovered the half-closed entrance to the tunnel, and, thinking that perhaps some wild animals might be occupying the place, sent his dogs in to investigate. In a few minutes the dogs came rushing out, literally covered with wildcats and howling like lost spirits. While the fight was going on the old hunter took a hand to help his dogs and killed twenty-seven wildcats.

Dynamite was put in the tunnel at night when the cats were out seeking food and next day the fuse was lighted. As it burned some cats came out and were shot down. The shooting of the dead cats terrified those in the rear and they held back till the tunnel was fairly choked with a gurgling, squalling, spitting army of cats, and then the giant powder exploded and several tons of cats were shot out of the hole.—Portland Oregonian.

The coal miner kicks because he is kept down in the world.

Not Easily Produced.

John H. Converse, president of the great Baldwin Locomotive works, not long ago submitted himself to some prosy interviewing by one of those would-be philosophers who are fond of talking of abstract matters. Along in the course of the conversation, the interviewer inquired:

"Now, Mr. Converse, tell me—what is it you find most difficult to get out of your men?"

"A day's work!" grimly and promptly replied Mr. Converse.

Fertile Fields of Africa.

Proof of the great grain-producing capabilities of the Zoutpansberg is afforded by the fact that 40,000 bags

of mealies have been sent since October last to the military authorities in Pretoria and Johannesburg.

The Impossible.

"This young man," said the city editor, "won't do, I'm afraid."

"Why not?" asked the desk man. "He brought a good report of that convention in to-day."

"Yes, but in one place I see he writes, 'Silence reigned for ten minutes.'"

"Well, what's wrong?" "Great Scott, man! It was a woman's convention."

No, Maud, dear, you can't fill a poker hand with an ash tray.

SHE CRIED WHEN SHE PUT HER CLOTHES ON.

This is what Miss Jessie Stephenson of 30 Hartington Road, Aberdeen, says when writing to the Proprietors of St. Jacobs Oil, the remedy which cured her:

"I was very bad with rheumatism. I could not put my clothes on without crying out. I always had to have assistance to dress myself. I obtained a bottle of St. Jacobs Oil, and after its contents were used I was much better. I used the contents of two more bottles, and now I am able to do my work as usual. I will recommend anyone troubled with rheumatism to use St. Jacobs Oil."

Miss Stephenson's present condition is a very great contrast to what it was before she used St. Jacobs Oil; then she was practically helpless, suffered the greatest agony—but now she is free from pain, and able to do her work. Surely such evidence as this is most convincing that St. Jacobs Oil "Conquers Pain."

A Colorado Microbe Club.

In the little town of Berkeley, near Denver, Colo., there is a unique association officially known as the Microbe Club. Its members are "luggers"—unfortunates in different stages of consumption. The head of the club is officially designated as the "head center job," and another officer is titled the "keeper of the bugs." While not familiar with the duties of these officers, we believe that the "keeper of the bugs" will have a busy time and fully earn the honor of the position. There must be a variety of "bugs" in such a club, and looking after them should be an arduous task for a "lunger."

Was in Despair.

The wife of a journalist said to a young unmarried friend: "Fannie, take my advice and never marry a newspaper man." "But your husband is a newspaper man, and you seem to get along very well." "Every evening he brings home a big bundle of newspapers from all over the country, and it nearly drives me crazy." "How so?" "I read about the bargain sales in London, Manchester and other places hundreds of miles off, where I can't get to them."—Pearsons Weekly.

A Catch in the Back.

Grand View, Iowa, Sept. 29th.—Mrs. Lydia Parker of this place says: "I was troubled with backache all the time for years. When I would stoop over a catch would take me in the back and I could not straighten up for some time."

"I tried everything I could think of but got no relief till I sent and got Dodd's Kidney Pills."

"I used one box and part of another before the trouble all left me, but now I am well and strong and I have not been troubled with my back for some months."

"I believe my cure is a permanent one and I am very grateful indeed, to Dodd's Kidney Pills for what they have done for me."

"I would most heartily recommend them to anyone suffering with lame back, for I believe they will cure any case of this kind."

Life's failures are charged up to hard luck. The successes are credited to cleverness.

If you don't get the biggest and best it's your own fault. Defiance Starch is for sale everywhere and there is positively nothing to equal it in quality or quantity.

A woman does not object to a man smoking a cigar unless the man is her husband.

DO YOUR CLOTHES LOOK YELLOW? If so, use Red Cross Ball Blue. It will make them white as snow. 2 oz. package 5 cents.

When Cupid's arrows are jeweled, they generally hit the bull's-eye.

Defiance Starch is put up 16 ounces in a package, 10 cents. One-third more starch for same money.

Many a man who howls with pain imagines he suffers in silence.

Piso's Cure cannot be too highly spoken of as a cough cure.—J. W. O'Brien, 322 Third Ave., N. Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 6, 1904.

Wit is a sunbeam, sarcasm an icicle.

Clear white clothes are a sign that the housekeeper uses Red Cross Ball Blue. Large 2 oz. package, 5 cents.

When the clergyman goes into politics does he become a divine healer?

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c bottle.

Talk is cheap, even to those who indulge in extravagant remarks.

DEFIANCE STARCH should be in every household, none so good, besides 4 oz. more for 10 cents than any other brand of cold water starch.

A kangaroo is afflicted with spring fever all the year round.

"It was almost a miracle. Burdock Blood Bitters cured me of a dreadful breaking out all over the body. I am very grateful." Miss Julia Filbridge, West Cornwell, Conn.

A farmer's harvest lasts until the summer boarders depart.

THE BEST RESULTS IN STARCHING can be obtained only by using Defiance Starch, besides getting 4 oz. more for same money—no cooking required.

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Monarch over pain. Burns, cuts, sprains, stings. Instant relief. Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. At any drug store.

The girl with the most cheek isn't the one who is adicted to blushes.

Don't you know that Defiance Starch, besides being absolutely superior to any other, is put up 16 ounces in package and sells at same price as 12-ounce packages of other kinds?

LOW RATES TO ST. LOUIS

Via the Missouri Pacific Railway, Account Fall Festivities.

Will begin this year with the opening of the Great St. Louis Fair on October 7th, which will continue until October 11th, inclusive. Over \$30,000 in premiums will be given away and the class of exhibits will be larger and better than in any previous year.

The gorgeous night parade of the Vellid Prophet will take place October 7th, followed by the grand ball in the Chamber of Commerce.

The South St. Louis Broadway Merchants' Association will hold its annual Street Fair and Carnival from September 28th to October 12th, inclusive.

The Annual Horse Show will take place in the Exposition Coliseum from November 3d to 8th, inclusive.

In addition to these attractions there will be running races daily on the mile track at the Fair Grounds and base ball games between teams of the American and National Leagues on their respective grounds.

An excellent opportunity will be offered to see the World's Fair site and the progress made on the buildings for the great international exposition of 1904. See local agents for detailed information as to rates, tickets, etc.

H. C. TOWNSEND, Gen'l Pass'r and Ticket Art., St. Louis, Mo.

Only one remedy in the world that will at once stop itching of the skin in any part of the body. Doan's Ointment. At any drug store, 50 cents.

A secret worries a woman until she has to give it away.

When people get quiet and stupid it is a sure sign of love.

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND WOMAN'S REMEDY FOR WOMAN'S ILLS.



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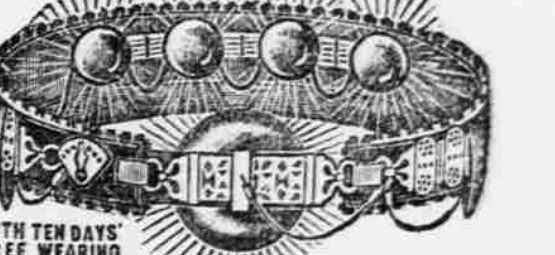
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W. N. U.—Omaha. No 40—1902

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