

Oh, Havana! What an odor Connecticut is raising in thy name!

It seems to be a peculiarity of French criminal trials that the conviction precedes the prosecution.

A Denver saloon-keeper offers a printed war song with each drink. The song probably is enough to drive anyone to drink.

When the ocean is not big enough to accommodate our new navy any longer without crowding, we will buy another ocean, that's all.

That Hamburg astronomer who claims to have discovered a second moon must have used an unusually large glass—a "schooner," perhaps.

Recent statistics prove that the consumption of whisky throughout the West is steadily decreasing. That shows what became of the air ship.

American bicycles have become so popular in Germany that German manufacturers are hunting for methods to keep Americans out of the market.

We are constantly told that "Spain has great pride." It is fortunate that she has. She doesn't seem to be overstocked with anything else, except it is diabolism.

The modern folding bed and the sensational newspaper correspondents are both employed for lying purposes, but the similarity ends right there. The bed shuts up occasionally.

A poet in the London Spectator has excited the derision of the English speaking world by remarking "I try to remember the future." Yet how many people have suffered disaster by carelessness in the matter of futures.

An Eastern advertiser prints a picture of a campaign rooster over an advertisement, saying: "This is the hen that laid the eggs that we sell for 25 cents a dozen." That advertiser should be arrested for a fraudulent use of the male.

Special dispatches from Cadiz, Ky., announce that Miss Beatrice Cunningham of that place has recently published a novel, the sale of which she is now accelerating by giving a kiss with each book. She probably will do a fine male order business.

Oscar Wilde is undeniably a wit, even though he may be wicked. "How are English prisoners treated?" some one asked him after his own release. "Why," he responded, "England treats her prisoners so badly that she does not deserve to have any."

There is a bad state of affairs in Cleveland, Ohio. The Plain Dealer reports a man as saying: "My cigar last night cost me a dollar." "How so?" queried his friend. "I smoked it at home, and my wife was sure the gas was leaking and telephoned for a plumber."

A bachelor philosopher remarks that "no man ever wants to kiss a girl after he has once seen her hold a nickel the conductor has given her for change between her teeth, while she gets her purse open," and he further intimates that such a girl is only fit to kiss a pug dog. Of course bachelors are not always responsible critics.

A little girl in a New York school screamed at the sight of a mouse. The children became panic-stricken and rushed screaming out of the room, the teachers ordered a fire drill, a fire alarm was rung in, distracted parents fought to enter the building and save their children from the supposed flames. And all for one small mouse. Rash is the man that dares to laugh at the feminine fear of a mouse!

A watchmaker who brought suit for divorce a year ago has been arrested at the instigation of his wife thirty-five times since then, and has spent the major portion of his time in jail awaiting trial on some frivolous charge or other trumped up by the woman. The poor watchmaker is quite run down, and wants this sort of prosecution wound up at once.

One can easily see why Englishmen wish success to plans for the liberation of Cuba. Their losses through the devastation of the island are only less grievous than our own. Scores of cotton and tobacco estates are owned or mortgaged in England, and almost all the money invested in the insular railroads came from London. It is with English capital that public works were undertaken in a number of Cuban cities between 1878 and 1894. No interest or dividend will be forthcoming on any of these securities until peace has been restored in the island.

It is somewhat remarkable, when one considers the matter, that the officers of the navy have never asked themselves what they would do some day, with ships to command and no engineers competent to manage the motive power. They are men upon which heavy responsibility rests, day and night, in peace or war, and there have been many instances of mental and physical breaking down. There are captains, commanders and lieutenants enough for the new ships, but no engineers, and competent engineers can not be secured offhand.

Not since the opening of the century has the earth been so far filled with stern threat and preparation for armed

conflict, and it is where the commercial spirit runs highest that the talk of war is loudest. The armaments of the great commercial powers have never been so large either relatively or absolutely as to-day, but this is not enough, and to England's special call for \$120,000,000 for more war ships, France caoos \$100,000,000, Russia \$70,000,000, Germany quite as much, and the United States anywhere from \$50,000,000 up in special regular army and navy bills.

Ex-United States Senator B. K. Bruce is dead. Next to Fred Douglass he was the most conspicuous representative of the colored race in America. He served one term as Senator from Mississippi. Was born a slave in Virginia in 1841. The tutor of his master's son taught him to read. After the war he became a student at Oberlin and finally settled as a planter in Mississippi. He was county superintendent of education, sheriff and held various State offices before he was elected to the United States Senate. He was Register of the Treasury under Garfield and was reappointed by McKinley to that office.

Nothing can be more grateful to the American people than the complete unanimity of the testimony borne by all who have visited Havana to the fidelity and efficiency displayed by Consul General Lee in the discharge of his delicate and responsible duties. Among the last to offer his testimony on the subject is Senator Gallinger of New Hampshire, who said in a speech in the Senate: "General Lee is deserving of the highest possible praise for the manner in which he carries himself in Havana. Cool and fearless in the midst of difficulties and dangers, he never loses sight of the fact that he is an American citizen, nor is he unmindful of the tremendous responsibilities and duties of his position."

With the return of the cycling season when century runs by organized clubs are of daily occurrence, the question of permitting women to take part in these long-distance trips is again discussed. It is maintained that century runs have become athletic competitions, such as require the utmost physical endurance on the part of the riders, and that constitutionally a woman is not sufficiently strong for such a fatiguing test. Distinguished medical authorities pronounce the task of covering so great a distance as a hundred miles in a day a wheel exceedingly harmful, on account of the prolonged nervous and physical strain involved, for which women rarely possess the requisite physique, and for other reasons that physicians only can properly appreciate. There are few organized runs of a hundred miles in which some of the participants do not fail to complete the century. This being true of men, it is by so much the more evident that women should refrain from the practice. Aside from the injurious physical results that attend century riding by women, the question presents another view even more important, that of the propriety of women engaging in such runs. The example of women attending the ordinary open century run, in which the proportion of the participants is rarely less than fifty men to one woman, who rides generally without escort from early morning to late night, in the common ruck, is not calculated to elevate cycling, particularly among women. Rather it has a tendency to degrade the sport. The necessary or usual incidents attending century runs are not conducive to the cultivation of feminine graces and should receive the stamp of disapproval by the cycling public. Resolutions condemning the practice are being considered by bicycle organizations. If women lack the good sense and good taste to determine this matter for themselves, the men should determine it for them.

A case has just been decided in England that is of interest in this country, for the circumstances are very like those that have frequently occurred in the United States, but which have not reached the courts. The case was based upon the charge of manslaughter in a game of football. The game was being played under the association football rules, which were designed specially to limit the hazard in playing the game in question. It was claimed that the defendant, contrary to the rules of the game, charged the deceased from behind and threw him violently forward against the knees of another player, from which he received injuries that caused his death. The judge held that "the rules of the game were of little consequence, for no association could override the law in such a manner, nor could it make lawful and innocent that which was dangerous. The law of the land declares that it is unlawful to do that which is likely to cause the death of another, and liability cannot be avoided by the enactment of rules reducing the danger," and the prisoner was held for manslaughter. The judge said: "But, on the other hand, if a man is playing according to the rules and practice of the game, and is not going beyond it, it may be reasonable to infer that he is not acting in a manner which he knows will be likely to produce death." In the heat of playing the game men forget, in the desire to win, to observe the rules that have been adopted in order to reduce the risk to a minimum and do things that result fatally to their opponents. Football has become established as one of the most popular of all our American sports, but however it may be hedged about with rules it is a dangerous game, a fact that is too well attested to admit of dispute. The English case was brought to put a stop to the lawlessness of the game as it has been played at Rugby, and it is probable that it will be ample to inspire some respect for the lives and limbs of men engaged in the spirited contests.

A petty politician always wants to be taken seriously.

FORTUNE AT KLONDYKE. Come! I am Fortune; You know me of old, In the frozen North on my throne of gold. Come with the brave, for the men who dare Alone shall my bounty freely share. Rough is the way, and with bleeding feet Travel my slaves through the snow and steel; For I give them gold and pleasure and fame Famine and death and despair and shame! Come! I will take from the glacier's nest Its golden eggs, for with them are blest The brave and the fool (whichever saint or knave) For the brave that's a fool and the fool that is brave Will travel my highway with bleeding feet, By night and by day through the snow and the steel For I give them gold and pleasure and fame, Famine and death, and despair and shame. John Paul Cosgrave

SOUTHERN BLOODHOUNDS.

They Are the Descendants of the Fierce Man-Eating Cuban Dog. The first Cuban bloodhounds landed upon this continent were imported 200 years ago by Spanish planters of Louisiana, then Spanish territory, writes H. S. Canfield in the Chicago Times-Herald. We all know what the dogs were



THE HEAD OF A BLOODHOUND.

about 1700. Negroes were cheaper then, and if a slave gave trouble it did not much matter that the bloodhound's hold upon his throat was broken only by the tearing of the flesh and tendons. Many times in those days the fugitive negro did not live after his capture. If he succeeded in gaining a tree, his olive-skinned masters shot him out as they would a squirrel. If on the ground when caught the dogs killed him, sometimes before the arrival of the horsemen who had ridden hard to be in at the death.

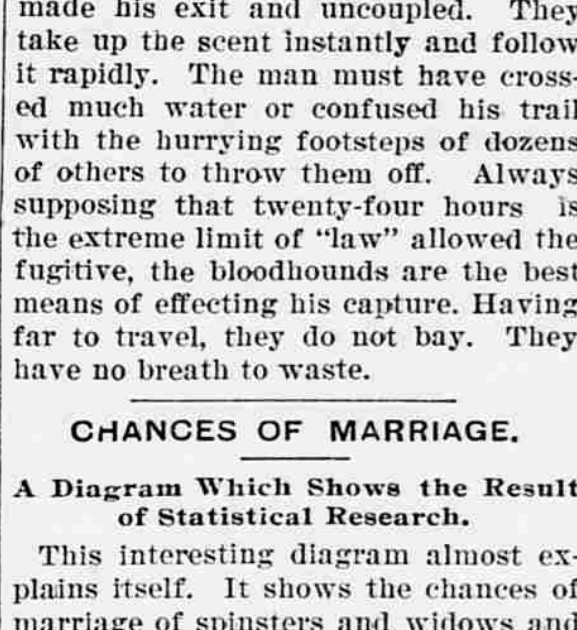
The Cuban hound was a valuable dog and he was well treated. In some of the old court records of Louisiana are bills of sale of him. In instances the price ran as high as \$800 a pair. The breed spread all through the South, although I have never heard of the dogs being used as man hunters in the upper tier of Southern States. I doubt that one has ever been laid upon the trail of a negro in Virginia, North Carolina or Maryland.

As a matter of course the planters of this century were careful to protect their slaves as far as possible from attacks by the animals. This was generally easy. The runaway slave invariably made for the swamp at the back of the plantation, which aided him in throwing the dogs off the scent. If the worst came to the worst he could always climb a tree. I have no doubt that the ancient anecdote of the coon which remarked to the man with the gun, "Don't shoot, mister; I'm going to come down," had its origin in some runaway "hand" perched in a cypress and gazing down at his irate master, but preserving always the negro's sense of humor. Indeed, the story is loved and venerated in every "quarters" south of Mason and Dixon's line, and is always good for a laugh. The planter's care in this matter was dictated more by policy than humanity. It did not pay to have a \$1,000 negro chewed up by a \$50 dog.

The bloodhound is now used only in the pursuit of criminals. Every southern penitentiary has a brace or more of them. They are not infrequently a part of the sheriff's outfit. The breed is not always pure, but the dogs serve their purpose. Their keenness of scent is one of the most remarkable things in nature, though it is of value principally in the more thinly-settled region. It seems incredible that the mere temporary pressure of a man's boot or shoe upon the ground should leave a traceable scent for twenty-four hours, pro-

TO THAW THE GROUND.

Here's an Apparatus that Will Prove a Boon to Klondike. To thaw frozen ground and facilitate the working of shafts and tunnels therein an apparatus to direct and retain the heat of a furnace upon the face of an excavation, while also ren-



HARRIS THAWING APPARATUS.

dering access practicable to such face, is shown in the accompanying illustration, and has been patented by William E. Harris, of Chicago. The cone-shaped firebox of the furnace is formed by a coil of pipe covered by a layer of clay inside the shell, there being a suitable outlet at the top for the escape of the smoke and gases, and through which the upper end of the coil extends, to connect with a blower, by which air is forced through the pipe to be heated by the burning fuel, says the Scientific American. The lower end of the coil is extended through a box or conduit, where it is surrounded by sand or other non-conducting material to the ground to be thawed, where it connects with a sleeve held on a shield set against the ground at the end of the tunnel. The shield consists of a hollow frame, with central hollow door, there being apertures in the walls of the frame and door, allowing the heated air to pass directly in contact with the frozen ground against which the shield is placed. A jack holds the shield in position as the thawing proceeds, the door being opened from time to time to remove the ground, and the shield being moved forward accordingly, the pipe connecting with the coil being lengthened as the work progresses.

CHANCES OF MARRIAGE.

A Diagram Which Shows the Result of Statistical Research.

This interesting diagram almost explains itself. It shows the chances of marriage of spinsters and widows and whom they are most likely to marry. It is claimed by statisticians that spinsters from 15 to 44 have best chance with bachelors and after that should direct their attention to widowers. The diagram shows the result of statistical research and is authentic. With wid-

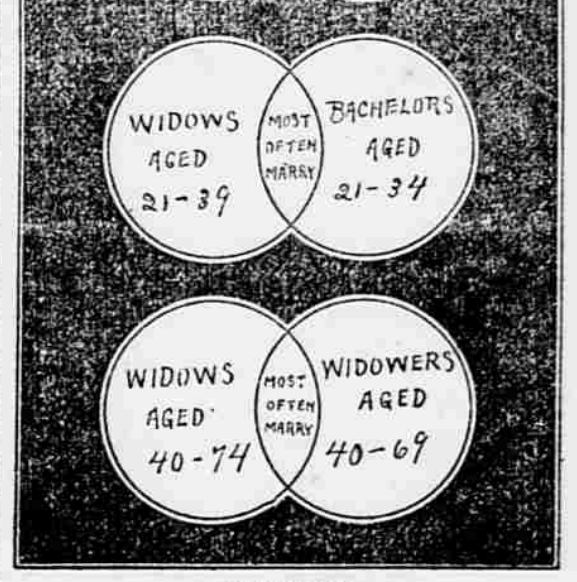


DIAGRAM.

ows up to the age of 39 their best chance is with bachelors, and after that the widowers should receive their devotion.

It Was a Strange Month.

February, 1806, was in one way the most wonderful month in the world's history. It had no full moon. January and March each had two full moons, but February had none. Astronomers say this is the only instance on record.

Read Her Own Obituary.

Mme. Patti has had the uncanny experience of reading her own obituary notices, the Australian papers having made the mistake of supposing that she, and not her husband, died recently.

Meaning of the Word Squirrel.

The word squirrel is from two Greek words which mean shadow tail.

THE SOUTH'S MANY COLONELS.

A Possible Explanation of Their Number Suggested.

For many years, indeed, since the close of the war, it has been a standing joke among the paragraphs and in variety theaters that the Confederate army was composed almost wholly of staff officers and that the number of colonels distributed throughout the South and in the States of the Southwest, was materially greater than the number of male adult civilians. It is certainly a fact, as all travelers attest, that there are more colonels, majors and generals in the Southern than in the Northern States, and this is a fact, despite what is a matter of general knowledge, too, that the Southern army was materially smaller throughout the war than the Northern forces.

Sells Rum to the Heathen.

The recent voyage of a certain brig from Boston to the gold coast of Africa, as described for publication by her captain, is interesting reading. It will doubtless interest the temperance and missionary societies to know that the brig left Boston laden with 170 hogsheads of rum for the little-known gold coast. Although she took some other articles, most of the profits of the voyage were to come from the rum. Scarcely a vessel is this isolated part of the African coast that the cargo had to be landed through the surf from the vessel. Through some remarkable aboriginal instinct the natives scented the cargo almost before the brig was in sight, and as soon as she was at anchor dived through the waves like hungry sharks.

Among the interesting facts about the African natives related by the captain is that since there are no beasts of burden and no conveyances on the gold coast the barrels of rum are rolled inland by hand, so that liquor has thus been rolled hundreds of miles into the country. It is further related that the natives have become so infatuated with rum carried from various countries to their coast that a vessel which proposes to have cargo landed must carry it as currency, or no business can be done. Gold is a depreciated currency as against rum on the lonely coast. The wonderful 4,000-mile voyage of this brig to the gold coast with 170 hogsheads of New England rum offers some most interesting suggestions for missionaries and temperance reformers to ponder.—Boston Globe.

Crow Shattered a Headlight.

A peculiar accident happened to the engine on passenger train No. 1 at McArthur Junction, Chillicothe, Ohio, recently. As the train was passing along through the darkness the engineer and fireman were startled by a crash in front, and then the headlight went out. They thought at first that a stone had been thrown at it, but an investigation showed that a big crow had flown straight into the light, shattering the glass. The light threatened to explode and finally burned out. The crow, which had broken its neck, was fished out in a badly singed condition, and was hanging up in the roundhouse in the morning.

Due to the Electric Light.

Since the introduction of the electric light, singers, actors and public speakers have less trouble with their voices, and are less likely to catch cold, and their throats are not so parched, and they feel better. This is due to the air not being vitiated and the temperature more even.

Drink Man Needs.

An average man requires fifty-nine ounces of food per diem. He needs thirty-seven ounces of water for drinking, and in breathing he absorbs thirty ounces of oxygen. He eats as much water as he drinks, so much of that fluid being contained in various foods. In order to supply fuel for running the body machine and make up for waste tissue he ought to swallow daily the equivalent of twenty ounces of bread, three ounces of potatoes, one ounce of butter and one quart of water. The body is mostly water. The body of a man weighing 154 pounds contains ninety-six pounds, or forty-six quarts, of water.

Just Sea.

Mary Ann sat alone with her beau For hours with the gas turned leau; When he said he must leave, She caught hold of his sleeve, While she wept and exclaimed "Eau neau!" —Chicago News.

Every one feels that he would fare better if he lived in a hovel, where the good are always rewarded.