

TALENTS OF SOCIETY WOMEN

Money Making Accomplishments of New York's Social Leaders.

ARTISTS, AUTHORS, ARCHITECTS, COOKS

Tasks They Could Perform Hand-somely If Their Wealth Took Wings—Rules of Life in Gotham Flats.

NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—(Correspondence of The Bee.)—It was the boast of a patriotic English woman at a lengthy luncheon party the other day that the aristocracy of her country could not be characterized as mere ornamental self-indulgent lives of the field.

"So could many of our New York aristocracy," insisted the hostess of the occasion. "There are not many of us," she admitted, "who practice our callings for filthy lucre, but now and then, as in the case of Mrs. Trask and Mrs. Van Rensselaer, you will see their names signed to some of the most important papers and short stories in our leading magazines."

"Mrs. Leslie Cotton is another dancing, dining, opera-going butterfly who could at any time keep a pack of wolves from the door with her mahogany stick alone. She is an amateur art lover, but the author of some of the most effective oil portraits ever exhibited in America, and has more offers and orders for portraits than she will ever accept and who works at her art as if she had the inspiration of necessity behind her."

"It would be a little difficult to reckon just how Miss Hewitt would decide to earn her bread if the opportunity arose. She is a practical road builder, a capable horse trainer, a proficient orchestra leader and a past mistress in the art of stenography and typewriting. She once wrote a story and sent it under an assumed name to one of the first magazines in the country and it was not only accepted and paid for at once, but the editor wrote asking for more material. Evidently there is no fear of Miss Hewitt's starving like the poor grasshoppers in Aesop's fables."

Nurses and Cooks. "When Mrs. William Sloan's bank account runs very low she will be able to

CHEATING GREED OF CABBIERS

Mechanical Register for Cabs Designed to Prevent Extortion.

LONG-FELT WANT AT LAST SUPPLIED

Novel Invention of a New Yorker—Records the Distance Traveled and the Time from Start to Finish.



IF SHE WERE POOR.

The extortions of cabmen will soon be a thing of the past. A marvelous little machine for telling the truth about cab fares has just been invented in New York by several clever engineers of the New York Electrical Vehicle company. It is called the taximeter, and it is about the size and shape of an ordinary workman's lunch box. It is to be placed at the upper front rim of the hood of the cab, so that the passenger has only to glance up to see its honest face. These are some of the wonderful things it does:

It gives in plain figures the exact number of miles which the passenger has traveled at any given time. It gives the exact time to the minute during which the passenger has been an occupant of the cab. It gives the exact amount of money which the passenger owes at any given moment, on the basis both of time traveled and miles traveled.

When the passenger steps out of the cab the taximeter instantly thrusts out a little tongue bearing the word "Disengaged," so that any passenger can see that the cab is ready for service, thus preventing "soldiering" on the part of the cabbie. It keeps a complete account of the total number of miles traveled during the day; of the amount of money paid in and the length of time during which the cab is actually in motion. These three latter calculations are wholly for the benefit of the cab company in checking its drivers.

The company is not ready to give out the details of the taximeter, as it has not been registered at the patent office in Washington, but G. Herbert Condit, the chief engineer, who is, in great part, responsible for the success of the horseless

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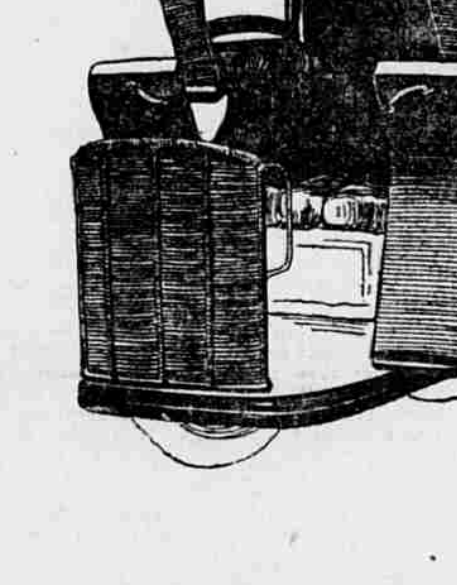
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THE NEW TAXIMETER FOR REGISTERING CAB FARES, AS IT LOOKS OUTSIDE THE CAB AND FROM WITHIN.

carriage transit in New York, has given for the first time some account of the invention.

The taximeter occupies a space eight inches square and can be attached to any sort of a vehicle, horseless or otherwise. It is operated on much the same plan as the cyclometer of a bicycle and need only be geared differently to fit on the various vehicles.

How the Taximeter Works. When a person engages a cab with the taximeter attachment he first tells the driver whether he wishes to ride by the hour or mile. If the former then the driver pushes a button which effects the last record and leaves the three white openings on the face blank. Cab companies do not, as a rule, make any reduction for a fraction of an hour, but the inventors have provided for this, in case they do. When half an hour has expired there is a click and the passenger notices that the opening to record time riding shows \$1. There is no change until after one hour and fifteen minutes, then the register shows \$1.25. At the hour and a half \$1.50 appears, and so on.

At the same time that this open record appears, showing the passenger exactly what he must pay, two other invisible records are being made for the company's private knowledge. As each record is ticked off on the open space it is duplicated on another register, where each separate fare as it is erased on the visible register by pressing the button is secretly recorded. Another register shows just how many miles are traveled on the time basis, and the inspector must only compare the cash and the miles to check the driver.

Now if one travels by the mile the recording angle is still more explicit with no figure. It is only when \$2.50 has been ticked off that a passenger is charged with one mile. This, however, appears on the register before the mile is completed, the machine always showing a record just a little in advance of making it. After the first mile the taximeter, just as on the time basis, registers the fractions of a mile and the corresponding fare. At the same moment that one mile and a quarter appears on one space \$1.25 appears on the other.

Four Concealed Records. Concealed in the anatomy of the taximeter are two other registers which record the total distance and total cash for any travel by the mile, and in addition to these there is still another device which records all the mileage, irrespective of the time and distance registers, and gives a grand total down to a small fraction of a mile, showing exactly what space the vehicle has covered from departure to return.

This small box of eight inches square, therefore, performs in all eight different duties. Frank Janus, a prominent legal expert on patents, when called upon by the

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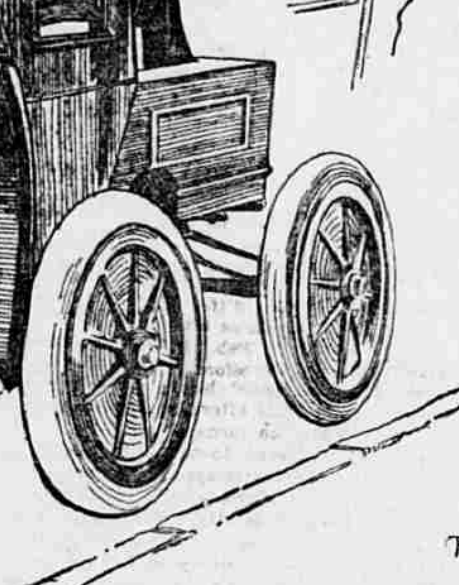
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company to secure the patent right, looked the taximeter over gingerly, saw what it could do, and then backed away hastily.

"I could not tackle that beast excepting for a very much larger fee than is customary to ask," he said. "It will take a week's solid work to study the construction. It is so complicated that a harvesting machine."

As a last and final preventive against the wiles of a cab driver Mr. Condit has contrived a little mechanism whereby the inspector along the street may assure himself that everything is going right. An oblong metal sign painted red and bearing the legend "Disengaged" has been attached to the door in such a way that when the register is working this sign disappears behind the little door of the taximeter. When it is not working this sign is thrown out so conspicuously that though but six inches in length it can be seen for two blocks. The machine will not register so long as this sign hangs out. So that if a driver attempts to cheat by not pressing a button, and trusting to the out of the total mileage record, he takes the chance of being brought up with a short turn by an inspector, whose eagle eye takes in a cab hauling a fare with the "Disengaged" sign in evidence.

The company believes it has succeeded in forever abolishing all that disgustingly unpleasant dickered and badgering with cab drivers, whose rapacious insolence prevent many persons from traveling in a city cab, and the moment they secure their patent rights will open an establishment for the manufacture of taximeters.

FRIENDS NO LONGER. Admitted the Same Young Man, the Rest Was Easy. These two fair Detroit girls have been companions from the doll-baby period to the present, reports the Free Press, but they are unfortunate enough to admire the same young man and an acute crisis is imminent. One called upon the other recently while she was eagerly reading a letter, the tell-tale envelope on the table showing from whom it came.

"What does he say?" asked the caller in a chattered voice. "I used to think his letters tiresome. He always struck me as too practical, as though sentiment had no place in his make-up."

"O, I don't know. This strikes me as rather fine, and she read in tones that had a ring of triumph: 'I am sure that you

CHEATING INDIANS

How the Red Man Was Induced to Give Up His Reservation.

A few years later than this I was present at a reservation in the Indian Territory, says George Bird Grinnell in the February Atlantic, when a commission was negotiating with the Indians to induce them to take their hands in severalty and to sell the surplus. The commissioners made no secret of the fact that the administration had urged them to carry through the sale, because at the next election they wished to go before the people with the statement that they had thrown open to settlement by the public a certain number of acres of Indian reservations. This statement would influence many votes in the west; it would be a good political cry. The negotiations began and by persuasion, promises and at last by threats about one-third of the Indians were induced to sign the agreement. After that signatures came in very slowly. The commissioners hired their interpreters to assist them to obtain signers. The interpreters, who claimed that they had been retained by the Indians to defend their rights, worked hard to induce the people to sign. The interpreters were working on a contingent fee—"the usual 10 per cent for collection"—and of course would receive nothing unless the treaty went through and the sale was made. Indians who were corrupt were hired. I was told, to vote more than once, signing first the name by which they went at the time, and then the name which they had borne earlier in life and later perhaps some still earlier name. The names of absent school boys were added to the list on the mere statement by some Indian that they

were taking his leave the manager said: "Well, J. N., you have been a welcome visitor and have afforded both profit and pleasure to us all. Seeing it is you, I'll knock off half your bill."

"I never allow anybody to be more magnanimous than I," replied "J. N.," who always swore he had a copyright on the story, "so I'll knock off the other half," and he did. His generosity soon became marvellous among hotel keepers, and it was marvellous how quickly they fell in with his ways.

The case furnishes another one of those peculiar instances for the study of the modern physician. It will also be of value to those of the legal profession who hold that credulity is a quality which should be far removed from the successful lawyer.

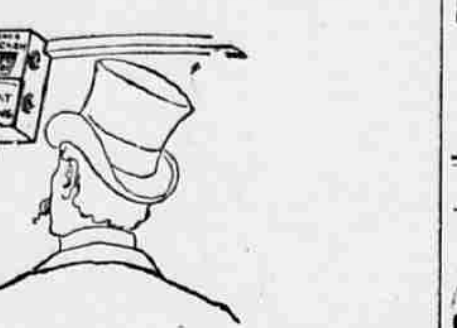
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REGISTER AS OPENED IN OFFICE

speckled cigar wrappers. Some of the tobacco imported from Sumatra for making the wrappers of cigars has a curiously speckled appearance. In the minds of certain buyers, says the New York Tribune, this marking is evidence that the cigar has a Sumatra wrapper. Such is not always the case, for the artful manufacturer has learned how to spot American tobacco artificially and he occasionally does so in so clever a manner that the uninitiated customer never suspects the trick. Sumatra is a Dutch possession and the spotting of the tobacco raised in that island has been made the subject of investigation by Prof. Beyerinck of the Amsterdam Academy of Science. This learned man presented to the academy a few weeks ago a paper in which he set forth the results of his inquiry. He described a "living fluid contagion," which he declares is the cause of the disease. This disorder, also known as the mosaic disease of tobacco leaves, may be inoculated into healthy plants by injecting into the stem, near a bud, a fluid pressed from infected plants. The active virus passes completely through the pores of very dense porcelain and can even penetrate into agar by diffusion; therefore it cannot be a "contagium fixum" in the usual sense, but it must be fluid. Out of the tobacco plant it cannot be made to multiply; but in the dividing tissues of the leaf-rudiments and the meristems of the buds it multiplies freely and over a great extent. A very small drop of the mosaic filtrate can render all the leaves of the infected plant entirely covered with spots and the sap of these leaves would be sufficient for the contagion of an unlimited number of healthy plants.

OVER A MILLION TRY

Dr. Hilton's Specific No. 3. It Cures a Cold, The Grip and Prevents Pneumonia.

Dr. Hilton's Specific No. 3 is the best remedy ever offered to the public to Cure a Cold, the Grip, and PREVENT PNEUMONIA, and it is the ONLY remedy to-day that can do it. It was first advertised in January, 1897, since then over a million bottles have been sold. What better testimonial as to the efficacy of this remedy could we have? If your druggist doesn't have it send for it in P. O. stamps or money order to DR. HILTON, Lowell, Mass., and receive a bottle by return mail.

We have a fresh stock of Hilton's No. 1 order of us SHERMAN & McCONNELL DRUG CO., Omaha, Neb.

Advertisement for Malt-Vivine, a non-intoxicant beverage for nursing mothers and infants. Includes logo and contact information for Val Blatz Brewing Co.

JOBBER AND MANUFACTURERS OF OMAHA.

Advertisement for Drake, Wilson & Williams, boiler and sheet iron works, and M. E. Smith & Co., dry goods.

Advertisement for American Hand Sewed Shoe Co., boots, shoes, and rubbers.

Advertisement for E. H. Sprague & Co., rubbers and mackintoshes.

Advertisement for F. P. Kirkendall & Co., boots, shoes, and rubbers.

Advertisement for John T. Burke, contractor for electric light and power plants.

Advertisement for Lee-Glass-Andrewson Hardware Co., wholesale hardware.

Advertisement for J. H. Haney & Co., harness, saddles, and collars.

Advertisement for E. E. Bruce & Co., druggists and stationers.

Large advertisement for 'The Bee' newspaper, featuring an illustration of a man in a top hat and the text 'When our ad man calls on you'.