

FOREIGN NOTES.

Germany last year imported 62,000 horses. The Eiffel Tower is now 582 feet high. The remaining 400 will be completed in January.

The electric light which the Duchess of Marlborough has put in Blenheim palace has been completed.

The German military budget contains an item of \$9,000 for the breeding and training of carrier pigeons.

The Prince of Wales, who has been visiting the courts of Europe, still wears the solitaires and in his shirt front.

It is said now that England gave to the Germans a copy of her new rifle in return for the recipe for making melinite.

Barry Sullivan, who is lying very ill in West Brighton, has entirely lost his reason. He recognizes not even his wife.

The London hansom is at last to be introduced in Paris. Lord Shrewsbury, the great cat owner in London, is at the head of the company.

The new Italian penal code provides that such an assertion as that the Pope has a right to Rome as his seat of government is punishable as a crime.

A brother of Mr. Rider Haggard, Capt. A. C. P. Haggard, now serving in Meerut, has written a book said to be in the same style as his brother's works.

In order to avoid offending any political party in Spain the Queen Regent has got a young Irish woman, Miss Georgina Davenport, as a governess for the king.

The testimonial presented to Sir Biche Curd in Leicesterhire for having managed one of the county hunts for many years, was a solid silver box weighing 519 ounces.

Sarah Bernhardt still carries her coffin around with her on her theatrical tours. It was observed in her recent journey to Vienna encased in its regular travelling box.

Alfred Stevens and a Frenchman named Gervex are painting an immense panorama for the Paris Exposition next year. It will represent the French celebrities of the past century.

The Crown Prince of Germany, now six and a half years old, is drilled every day for half an hour by a Sergeant Major of the First Regiment of the Guards. He is an extremely handsome little fellow.

It has hitherto been thought that Buenos Ayres was one of the most expensive cities to live in, a medium sized house renting there for \$2,500 a year. It is learned, though, that an eight-room house in the outskirts of Sydney brings \$1,750 a year.

The French have a custom of visiting the graveyards wherein their relatives are buried on the 1st of November. Last year there were 270,000 visitors of that sort, and this year there were 190,000 in the face of the most terrific downfall of rain.

France has now a National League for the promotion of physical education, designed to fit her citizens to be soldiers. The programme which has been completed includes outdoor games throughout the land, for which the local authorities will set apart a "green," wherein the children shall regularly "play."

Dr. Eisenmann of Berlin has invented a piano which, by the aid of electro-magnetism, can sustain, increase, and diminish sound. This has been attempted by other experts, notably Boehm, the inventor of the metal flute. Another novelty will be that, by moving the electro-magnets, the timbre of the tone is changed; for example, from that of a violoncello to a piccolo.

The Masonic Grand Lodge of Scotland at their last quarterly meeting considered the expulsion of two brothers for admitting a couple of ladies to a lodge meeting last May, where they could see and hear a considerable portion of the proceedings while the lodge was "tiled in the third degree." They were let into the organ loft. The committee recommended that one of the brothers be expelled.

A new field for French painters who have been rather impetuous, of late, in painting panels in the sections of the exhibition. For example, the Argentine Republic will have one of the richest exhibits, and the walls of its section are to be adorned with decorative panels, which will be taken back to that country doubtless when the Exposition is over. Thus the great millionaires of the River Plata will have the address of an artist in case he should wish to send an order to Paris. In the hope of reaching this new market artists of the very first class are offering to paint panels twenty feet long for such sums as a thousand francs.

The estimate of the average yearly produce of wine in the various wine-producing countries of Europe is as follows, the figures representing hectolitres of 22 gallons each: France, 45,000,000; Italy, 27,538,000; Spain, 25,000,000; Austria-Hungary, 14,000,000; Portugal, 4,000,000; Greece, 2,500,000; Germany, 5,130,000; Southern Russia, 2,000,000; Switzerland, 1,280,000; Servia, 700,000; European Turkey, 600,000; Roumania, 335,335. Thus the total wine produced in Europe fairly may be estimated at 125,084,335 hectolitres, equal to about 2,752 million gallons, which, at six bottles to the gallon, is 16,512 million bottles, or about four dozen bottles of wine to each inhabitant of Europe.

Hungarian gypsy music has rarely been heard in greater volume and perfection than at Pesth, at the unveiling of a marble obelisk over the grave of the zigeuner or gypsy "Primate," Barke Lajcs, who died in February, 1885, at the age of 48. There were present, in addition to a number of magistrates, the entire choir of the People's Theatre, and some four hundred zigeuners with their instruments. The ceremony commenced with a funeral speech by an old actor. The conclusion was a performance by the four hundred zigeuners, who played on their violins and other instruments the favorite melody of the deceased, who was the most celebrated conductor of their band. The title of Primate, which he bore, denotes that he was at the head of all the Hungarian zigeuners. The final scene is described as having been exceedingly touching, all the zigeuners shedding tears while playing the weird music of which their late chief was so fond.

The character of an English stage hunt may be learned from this account of a run by her Majesty's hounds: "Released at Ascot, the noble creature gave chase for some time, then making for Windfield, finding herself hard pressed, took refuge in the middle of a peat bog which she had long ago located there, with a view to her security, she would not move. Loud shouts

and the use of the lasso were in vain; then the houndsmen sent three hounds to respond to attack her. The poor beast made a good fight, even against such odds, and held her own. Seeing this, the whole pack were set upon her, as if with one bold, united effort to dialogue the enemy. They attacked her in the most savage manner, and her fearful agony was intensely painful to witness; still she made a desperate effort for dear life. At length, overcome from pain and exhaustion, she yielded to her assailants, and succumbed. Then the creature was dragged ashore, still breathing, and stuck, and upon examination was found in places to be literally perforated with the teeth of the hounds."

She Wanted a Pair of Specs. A woman who looked as if she had been a long time in the vale of tears went into an establishment the other day and said: "I want a pair of specs."

"This way," said the obliging clerk with his hair parted in the middle, and he led her up a flight of stairs into a long room, where a space was reserved for optical purposes.

A small nervous man at once surrounded her. "Sit here," he said, placing a chair in front of her. "Fix your eyes on that, madam."

"I ain't going to have my pictur taken," said the woman tartly.

"Certainly not, madam; you wish to renew your eyesight. Just tell me what you can see on that card—9 7 10. Do you follow me?"

"Just let me have my umbrella, and I'll follow ye. I didn't come here to be made fun of. I ken read and write as well as you ken, and count, too. I want a pair of specs."

"Exactly; but I should recommend eyeglasses with such a nose as yours, madam."

"What's the matter with my nose—hey? If it ain't much of a nose, you ain't going to poke fun at it."

"It is a beautiful nose," said the optician, firmly; "and would adorn a handsome pair of eyeglasses. Will you kindly look at this circle of lines? Do they appear to be of the same size?"

"Pair to be? They are all of one size. No nonsense, young man!"

"Certainly not, madam. If the circles appear to be all of one size, your eyes are not deformed."

"Deformed! Goodness gracious! Who said my eyes were deformed? If ever I heard the like!"

"You see, madam, we are compelled to test the optic nerve, and determine if the person has presbyopia."

"No, sir, I'm a Baptist; and I won't stay here to be insulted—"

"You misunderstand me, madam. If you are afflicted with hypodiplopia in either eye—"

"Look here, young man," said the woman fiercely, "I dare say you think you're mighty clever, but I want a pair of specs. I ain't as young as I used to be, or I'd—"

"Oh, yes," interrupted the rash optician, "I see you are getting old, and—"

Then the feathers flew. He never finished the sentence, and it was some time before anything in the room could be discerned except an old umbrella and a pair of human arms revolving in the air like a pair of windmill sails. When the woman came out of the shop, she was trying to straighten out the ribs of her gingham, and muttering to herself:

"Old, indeed! I've ruined a five-dollar umbrella, but I haven't lived all these years to be insulted by such a puppie as that. Old! The impudent scoundrel!"

The Church Lottery. The ecclesiastical grab-bag and church lottery have been condemned by religious and irreligious people time and oft, but we have never seen the immorality of these and some other church institutions brought out in such bright light as it is by Dr. Broadus. In his Commentary on the text:

"My house shall be called the house of prayer, but ye have made it a den of thieves," he says:

"A place of worship becomes a den of robbers:—(1) When the worship is conducted by men who seek religious office for the money it yields. (2) When the worship is supported or the house of worship erected by such measures as extortion in fairs or covert gambling. (3) When persons join a certain church in hope of gaining custom, or otherwise promoting their worldly interests. (4) When men wrong others through the week, and try to atone for it by worshipping God on the Lord's Day."

Didn't Know Her Name. Said the license clerk:—"The other day an Irishman came in and wanted a license."

"What's her name?" I asked.

"Mary."

"Mary what?"

"Jisth call her Mary."

"But there are 10,000 Marys in Chicago."

"Divil the wan o' them that I want but me own Mary."

"What's her other name? She wants to change it for moine annyway."

"I told him I couldn't give him a license until I had his girl's name, and he went away to find out what it was. In three or four hours he came back with the name."

"It frequently happens that the applicant for a license is sent away to get the name of his fiancée. One would suppose a man ought to be familiar with the name of the woman he is about to make his wife, but lots of them only know the given name of the bride expectant."—[Chicago News.

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Her Pure English. "Naomi, there is one reason why every body should admire you."

"And what is that, George?"

"You are only pure English. So many young ladies have that detestable habit of imitating their sentences with slang, that you are a gem."

NOTIONS ABOUT MARRIAGE.

Queer Superstitions Current in Various Parts of the World.

There is a curious custom in modern Greece, says the S. Louis "Globe," speaking of superstitions regarding marriage. The groom is shaved by a young man whose parents are both living, while the young girl and young man sing, "Rusee silvered and gilt, don't leave a hair, lest the parents of his bride think him ugly."

In the Vosges Mountains, the young women who dress the bride strive as to who shall stick the first pin in the bridal robe, as the successful one will be married the same year. It is lucky for English bridesmaids to throw pins away. The bride must not look into the mirror after she is dressed for the ceremony unless she put on some article of apparel afterward.

In Russia, the bride must avoid eating the wedding cake on the eve of the ceremony, or she will lose her husband's love. The muzzing of a cat on the eve of a marriage was considered a good omen in the middle ages, but the howling of a dog then, as now, was especially ominous.

The bees are informed of a wedding in Derbyshire, and their hives decorated. It is deemed especially ominous in Scotland for a lump of soot to fall down and spoil the breakfast on the day of the wedding, for a bird to die in its cage or for a bird to sit on the window sill and chirp long. The bride must carefully avoid breaking a dish on that day.

In Greece, the groom is lightly sprinkled with water on leaving the home for the ceremony. The bride must visit the oven in company with her father or a near relative, to salute it, and obtain leave to set out.

The Romans deemed it an ill omen to meet certain animals on the way to the ceremony. A priest, hare, dog, cat, lizard or serpent was unlucky in the middle ages—a wolf, toad or spider luck.

In Scotland, it is particularly ominous to meet a funeral. Bride or groom was certain to die soon, as the sex of the person buried was male or female. In one part of Yorkshire, the groom on meeting a male acquaintance, rubbed his elbow for luck.

Especially ominous are hitches or accidental happenings during the ceremony. To lose the ring is at all times unfortunate, but particularly so before the ceremony. In France, during the middle ages, a ring of straw, or one made from a horseshoe nail, was placed on the bride's finger, and some had as many as five such rings. The couple also stood on a ring during the ceremony.

In Brittany, if the wife seeks to rule, she must take care that the ring, when placed on her finger, shall slip at once to its place on her finger, instead of allowing it to stop at the first joint. The bride who lost her ring lost her appetite, and to break it portended death.

Attention is also paid in the latter province to the altar candles. If they burn brightly throughout the mass, the couple will live harmoniously. The one whose candle burns with the brightest flame will live longest. If one goes out then its donor will die that year.

The Swedish bride tries to see the groom before he sees her, to gain the mastery. She places her foot before his during the ceremony and sits in the bridal chair first. She must stand near the groom, so that no one can come between them.

In mythical measures, warm and free. I sing, dear maid, and sing for thee!

But I think I would be performing a greater service to you and your sex by singing, not in measured rhythm, but by setting out some strong truths in simple prose. If you or any of your female friends are suffering from ulcerations, displacements, bearing-down sensations, or unnatural discharges, use Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, which is sure to eradicate these complaints in a short time. It is the only medicine for woman's peculiar ailments, sold by druggists, UNDER A POSITIVE GUARANTEE, from the manufacturers, that it will give satisfaction in every case, or money will be refunded. This guarantee has been printed on the bottle wrapper, and faithfully carried out for many years.

Among the many creations in oxidized silver is a bullrush-lace pin upon which crawls a harmless-looking toad.

Vital Wicks. "There are three wicks to the lamp of a man's life; brain, blood, and breath." Thus writes an eminent American author. The most frequent derangements occur in the blood and in the liver, by which, when in healthy condition, the blood is purified. Look out for the terrible chain of diseases that owe their inception to torpid liver and consequent impure blood. When the symptoms of liver and kidney troubles, consumption (Lung-serofula), bronchitis, and dropsy, make their appearance, the system is in immediate need of a course of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. Its marvelous effects have been tested and proven in the cure of tens of thousands of cases. It purifies and enriches the blood, restores lost vitality, and effectually eradicates the seeds of the worst maladies that afflict mankind.

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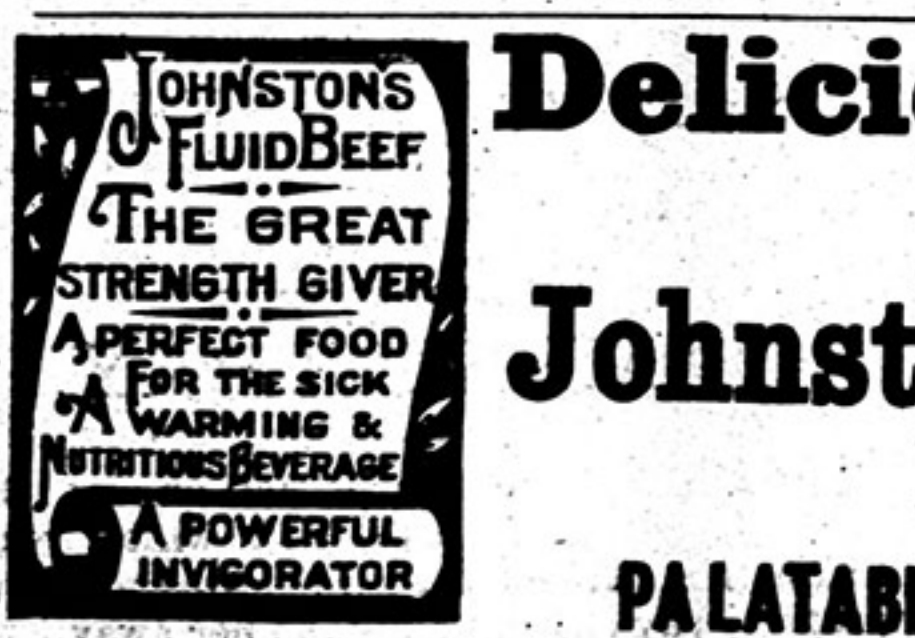
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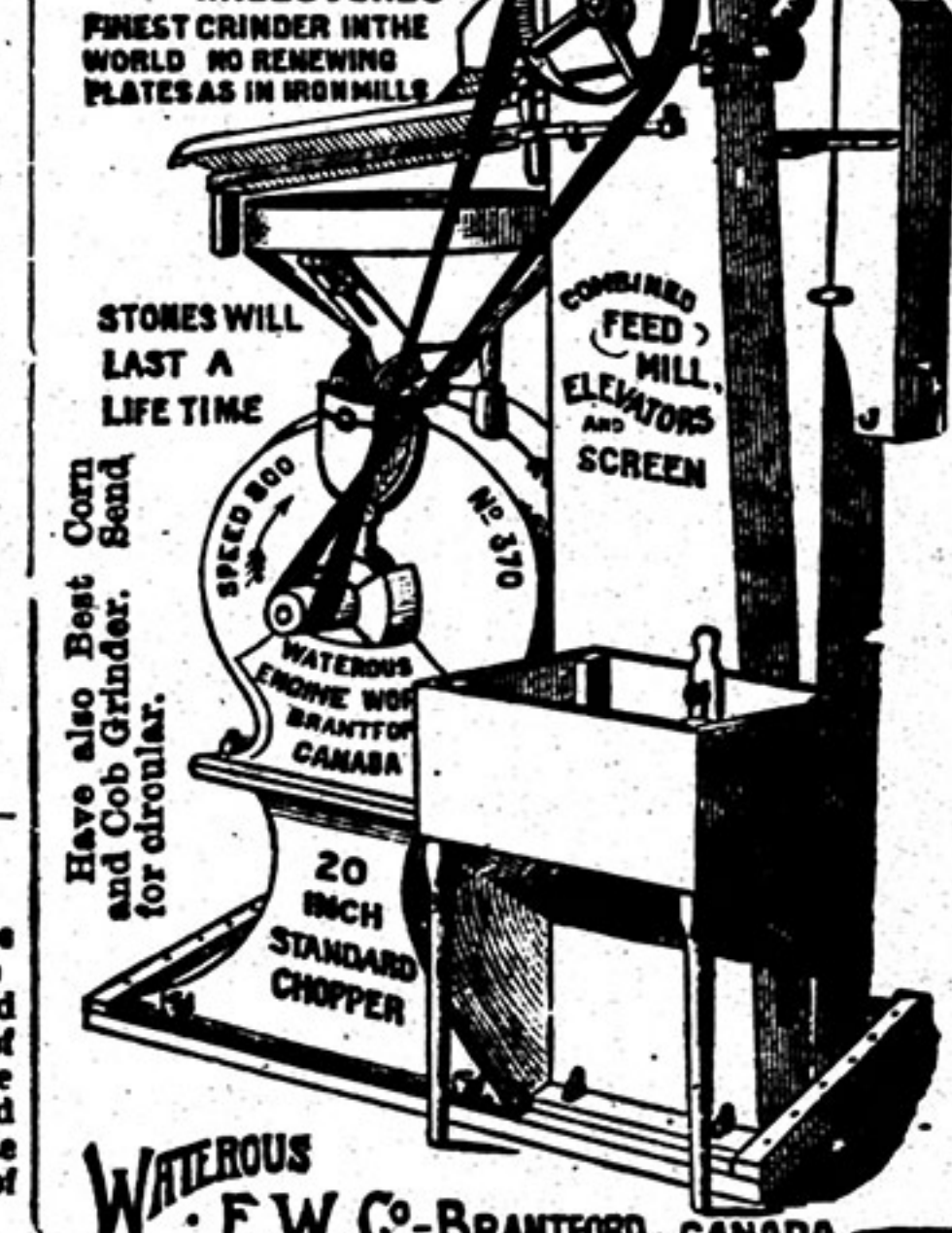
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