

HEAT STOPS WATCHES.

A Dealer Reports That High Temperature Brings Epidemic of Broken Mainsprings.

"This weather is hot enough to stop a clock," growled the fat man, as he got in range with the electric fan, says the Philadelphia Record. "It is, and it does," replied the jewelry store salesman, who was his vis-a-vis at lunch. "It stops watches, too."

"I haven't worn my watch for a week, so you can't prove it by me," said the fat man. "When I discard my vest I discard my watch. It's lying in my bureau drawer, and it hasn't been pointed out by me."

"I don't mean that," said the jewelry store clerk. "I honestly mean that excessively hot weather such as this stops watches that are kept wound up and are supposed to be in good running order. During the last three days at least 50 people have brought their watches into our store because they have stopped. In nearly every instance it was found that the mainspring was broken. The head of our watch department told me this morning that it was always so when the temperature got up around the hundred mark and stayed there for several days. Only he said he had never known so many instances of it as at the present time."

Jack Tar Is Averse to Bathubs.

The days of the old forecastle, hung away in the dark hold under the forward mast, are gone forever, no matter what flag the vessel may carry. The forecastle on new steel ships is in a deckhouse, well forward. On American ships it is ventilated like the skipper's cabin in the stern of the ship, has a skylight and apparatus for heating. The men used to eat with their plates on their knees; now they have a mess table with racks to hold the dishes in place in rough weather. Tanks on top of the house supply running water, and the reason modern

that the sailors would rather take their baths on deck by throwing cold water over one another.

Andrew Carnegie says: "It is a disgrace to die rich." A prominent hat merchant of Chicago says: "It is a disgrace to get rich," and to avoid the disgrace the hatman will henceforth give half the proceeds of his business to the poor.

A patriotic society in Rhode Island calls for a new tune for "America," holding that the music of the British national anthem is not suitable for the popular American hymn. The British borrowed the air, however, and have never claimed it as an original production. The music of the "Marseillaise" is traced back to a German church composition, and that of the "Star-Spangled Banner" was known as "Anacreon in Heaven" long before Key wrote his famous poem.

It has been discovered that a firm of brokers in St. Louis have been insolvent for two years, but have been doing business just the same with other people's money. The discovery is very commonplace, indeed. "Other people's money" is doing a large share of the business of the world.

During the hot season it takes strength of mind to lay in the winter's supply of coal.

IS IT A PLEASURE TO DIE?

A London Writer Combats the Idea That It Is Agonizing to Shuffle Off This Mortal Coil.

The popular idea that the act of dying is a painful process often causes a fear of death. But death from even the most painful mortal diseases is usually preceded by a period of cessation from suffering and partial or complete insensibility, resembling falling asleep or the pleasant gradual unconsciousness caused by an anaesthetic, according to a writer in the London Spectator.

is not warranted by what occurs in natural death, which is a complete relief from all pain. When death is owing to heart failure or syncope it is sudden and painless—perhaps pleasant. Death by hanging, there is reason to believe, is attended by a voluptuous spasm. Death by decapitation or electricity is only a momentary shock, hardly felt. Death by poisoning varies in painfulness according to the poison employed. Opium and other narcotics probably give a painless, perhaps a pleasant, dreamful death. Hemlock, as we know from the account of the death of Socrates, causes a gradual insensibility from below upward. On the other hand, arsenic, strychnine, carbolic and mineral acids, corrosive sublimate, tartar emetic, and other metallic poisons inflict slow and torturing death. Prussic acid and cyanide of potassium cause quick and painful death.

RANCH NAMED FOR M'KINLEY.

The Purchase of Which Hinged Upon the President's First Election — Grows Grape Fruit.

A good many children of the male persuasion have been named after

maintained for a California woman to fasten the presidential cognomen upon a tract of land, says the Chicago Record-Herald. The first gentleman of the republic feasted a brief season ago upon some of the most luscious fruit it had ever been his privilege to sample. Grape fruit it was; large, juicy, grateful and comforting. The label on the basket showed it to be from "The McKinley tract, Redlands, Cal." After eating of the fruit the president had to suggest the story, and here it is: Mrs. David Morey, a woman who was the pioneer in the growing of oranges in the Redlands section, feasted her eyes several years ago upon a nine-acre tract of land adjoining some of her property. She wanted to buy, but the owner said her nay. He wanted the tract himself.

Just before the first-McKinley election, however, the owner, being in need of money, told Mrs. Morey she might have the acres. And then it was the lady's turn to hesitate. She didn't know how the election was going, but she had a pretty clear idea that it would be bad for the business of the country if Bryan were elected. So she told the owner that if the election went McKinley's way she would buy the nine acres. If the gentleman from Nebraska was elected she wouldn't buy.

Papers were signed on the day the official returns were announced.

Saw and ax contests are favorite pastimes in Tasmania.

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