

PASSING NOTES.

The original MS. of four stanzas of Hood's "Song of the Shirt," written on one quarto sheet, brought £8 at an auction sale on July 8.

Mrs. Everson, an old Norwegian woman living alone at Edgerton, Wis., was found dead in bed yesterday with her neck broken. A chest containing her money had been pried open and the contents scattered.

Since the election of President Harrison 13,000 fourth-class postmasters have been put out of office. This exceeds by 9,000 the removals made in the same time by the late Democratic Administration, which came into power after its party had been shut out from Federal offices for twenty-four years—Ex.

A small boy of Lunenburg, Mass., wanted his father to give him some money. "Go into the garden and pick potato bugs off the vines, and I'll give you a cent apiece for them." That night the boy counted out 640 of the bugs, and received from his surprised parent \$6.40. But the contract terminated then and there.

By fasting thirty days May Waldron reduced her weight sixty pounds. Her only nourishment during the fast was the juice of two oranges each day. Only those who are troubled by a paucity of pocket money as well as a superfluity of flesh will be tempted to take this method of reducing themselves and their board bills.

In the old graveyard at Kittery, Me., there is among the many quaint inscriptions on the stones this one, relating to "Margaret Hills, consort of Oliver Hills," who died in 1803:

I lost my life in the raging seas A Sovereign God does as he please The Kittery friends they did appear & My remains they buried here.

It has become a hazardous undertaking to kiss the famous stone at Barney Castle. To get at it there is a danger of the kisser losing his balance and falling a distance of fifty feet. The other day a carpenter named Cornelius Cashill attempted the operation, and, falling, was picked up unconscious with a broken leg. The man who tried it previous to this accident lost his life.

It is stated upon what appears to be good authority that the crops in Manitoba will turn out much better than was at one time expected. Recent reports all agree that the July rains have greatly improved the prospects. The Manitoba Government intends this year to send down to Ontario a large exhibit, and thus practically demonstrate the capabilities of that province.

Of the 4200 kinds of flowers which grow in Europe only 450, or 10 per cent., are odoriferous. The commonest flowers are the white ones, of which there are 1194 kinds. Less than one fifth of these are fragrant. Of the 951 kinds of yellow flowers 77 are odoriferous, of the 823 red kinds, 84; of the 594 blue kinds, 31; of the 308 violet-blue kinds, 13. Of the 240 kinds with combined colors 28 are fragrant.

A method is described in La Samaine des Constructeurs for preserving cast iron from liability to rust, at the same time insuring a pleasing surface. In accomplishing this the casting is first thoroughly cleaned, washed in dilute acid, and, when dry, the surface is well rubbed with a metallic brush or a file, and then painted several coats with raw petroleum, care being taken that each coat be thoroughly dry before the next is applied. On the last coat becoming dry it is to be well rubbed with a stiff hair brush, the result being an attractive dull polish, capable of resisting a high degree of heat and not susceptible to any attack by rust. This condition may be indefinitely preserved and improved by the occasional application of a single coat of petroleum, followed by brushing.

At the London central electric lighting station recently a highly interesting experiment was made with a current of 10,000 volts potential. One hundred 100-volt lamps, arranged in series, were fully incandescent, affording an ocular demonstration of the presence of the 10,000 volts. A pair of copper wires, with ends facing one another at a distance of half an inch, were then placed in the circuit, and all lamps were extinguished. The primary current being now turned on, the ends of the wires were immediately seen to glow with a brush discharge, which steadily increased in brilliancy until, in about four or five seconds, the circuit was broken by the rupture of the safety fuse. The lights at the points did not attain any great degree of brilliancy, and bore no resemblance to an arc.

The widow of a commercial traveller who was lost in the Johnstown flood has entered suit for \$50,000 against the South Forks Hunting and Fishing Club. All success attend her. With reverence be it spoken, here is an object of prayer to the Almighty to which all believers in the efficacy of earnest petition may very well devote themselves. Jehovah has proclaimed himself as the God of the widow and the orphan. Will He not then be likely to hear prayers uttered in earnest faith on behalf of a widow who is seeking justice against the selfish plutocrats who despoiled her of her home and wrecked her happiness. The prayers of men and women everywhere, we say, attend this suit, and may the God of Righteousness who judges in this earth give the widow the desire of her heart in this matter. And may her success encourage others to follow her example with results to themselves that will be equally satisfactory.

Frances Isabella Stallard, of the Isle of Wight, is about to be released after an imprisonment of twelve years for the murder of her child. One bitter night she took it away from the care of her own mother in order, as she said, to confide it to some of its father's relatives. Some time afterward its body was found hidden in a culvert, and the persons to whom it was to have been brought knew nothing of the mother's intention. Her account was that she covered the child's face with a piece of flannel to protect it from the cold night air, and so inadvertently smothered it. In a state of horror she hid the body. The case was very obscure, and those who knew her best were convinced of her innocence of any wilful crime. This feeling found such expression that the death sentence was commuted to penal servitude for life. Recently a little account of the case was published under the title of "Only a Woman's Life." Then the editor of the "Isle of Wight Express" took the matter up, and got a petition very influentially signed asking for the convict's release. She is now free, and was welcomed back in her own district.

Honor Where Honor is Due.

The New York "Sun," in a recent issue had a well-deserved word of praise for a great corporation which comes in for more hard words than buttered speeches during every year of its existence. The Corporation in question is the Western Union Telegraph Company, and the occasion of its panegyric from the "Sun," in which we may all join with great heartiness, is a dispute between the Company and the U. S. Postmaster, Mr. John Wanamaker, who, it seems, had virtually, if not in so many words, found fault with the Western Union for callous disregard of all but its own interests during the horrors of the Johnstown flood. To this accusation President Norvin Green returned a very sharp and energetic reply, which effectually checkmated Mr. Wanamaker and proves him guilty of either ignorance or malice in making his charges. So far from being callous and intent merely on making money, Dr. Green insists that on every occasion of great calamity, the Western Union has cheerfully and gratuitously given services which, if reckoned in terms of money would be very impressive. Using the doctor's own words, "In every scourge of yellow fever and cholera, and in every devastation by flood or fire, we have done for public information and for private relief, a large amount of service without charge. In the late great disasters at Johnstown and Seattle, our entire available facilities at those places were given to public use for several days." It is well that facts like these should be known as they go far to dissipate an idea always prominent in the public mind, that all corporations are mere money making monsters without souls. Dr. Green seems to have made out a good case for at least one corporation, and to have proved that though the primary object of its existence is to make money, it has at the same time "bowels of compassion." For the sake of those who would not be willing to be convinced by the statements of a party so interested as the President of the Company, the Sun reprints from the "North American Review" part of an article by Miss Clara Barton, of the American Red Cross Society, in which she bears strong witness to the invaluable services freely rendered by the Western Union. Here is the paragraph.

"The banks had all gone down stream, the safes were in the bottom of the Conemaugh, half the business men dead, our desk a dry goods box turned sideways, our combination lock the tangled strings that drew together the sides of a flyless tent flapping and swaying in the wind. The Western Union was so overcrowded that despatches were often twenty-four hours late. But if thanks went for anything, if words were of any avail, what would one try to say of the tireless courtesy of its worn down clerks? Sleepless, vigilant, weary and faint, they toiled on, stimulated, one knows, by the great hearted, generous example which bids them ever, in the name of humanity, to count all loss as gain, so the afflicted are comforted and the needy find a friend." It is important, we repeat, for the well-being of society that facts like these should be widely known, and that honor should be paid where honor is fairly due, whether to a great and wealthy corporation, or to an individual hero.

Prices that would begin to make one's hair curl, at least a little, were realized at the beginning of the regular July sales of thoroughbreds. Lord Rosslyn's brood mares, fourteen of them, averaged over \$6,000. Five from another stud a trifle more. Ten more, the property of Wood, the disgraced and out-cast jockey, averaged \$2,500. Several of these mares brought \$10,000 or over, and for one, by Galopin, with foal by Hampton, the Duke of Portland gave \$20,000.

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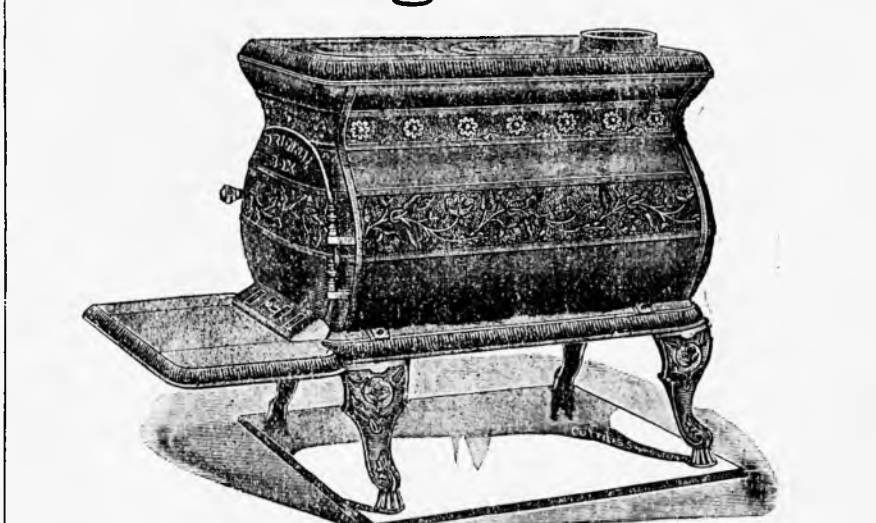


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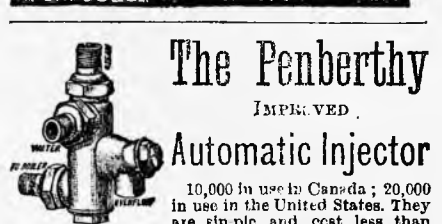
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