

TO SAVE MONEY.

Steps Taken to Have Typewriters Used by Government of a Uniform Make. The government expends more than \$250,000 annually in the purchase of typewriting machines...

RUSSIAN DEVICE.

The Curious Method Used by Vessels to Prevent Rats Carrying Contagious Diseases. Consul Heenan, at Odessa, reports on a curious device to prevent rats carrying contagious diseases into ships...

WRITES TO DEAD TEACHER.

Man After Twenty Years Remembers He Has Not Learned His Sunday School Lesson. After 20 years S. E. Chitty, of Bethlehem, Pa., recalled that he still had a Sunday school lesson to learn...

RIDE IN A FURNITURE VAN.

How the Sophomores at Columbia College Entertained the Freshmen. From noon to eight p. m. in a furniture van was the fate of about 40 freshmen of Columbia university...

Originality.

Original things are not often good. The best that any writer can do is to absorb facts, says the New York Journal, and similes as a cow does grass...

Keats's Arrive Fair Game There.

It is lawful to kill eagles in Connecticut at any time of the year, the law prohibiting it having been repealed two years or so ago.

HOTEL FOR WOMEN.

Proposed Structure for New York City to Be Begun in January. It Will Be Twelve Stories High—Will Have All Modern Improvements and Will Accommodate 500 Women.

It is thought that the construction of the proposed hotel for women in New York city will be begun in January. The amount of the capital stock is to be \$400,000, and it will be necessary to have three-fourths of it subscribed before the company may be incorporated...

FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS.

Keen Interest Manifested by Army Officers in Experiments with Automobile. Automobiles are likely to play an important part in military operations and the experiments with them at home and abroad are being observed with keen interest by army officials...

RELIC IS PARTLY RUINED.

Nine Columns of the Temple of El-Karnak, Celebrated Relic of Ancient Egypt, Fall. News has just reached Cairo of the recent fall of nine columns of the great hypostyle hall of the temple of El-Karnak, built by Zetee I, dynasty 19...

FORTUNE IN STRAY VALISE.

Fifty Thousand Dollars Travels Safely from San Francisco to Honolulu Unharmed. R. B. Danning, who left Honolulu August 30 on the steamship Australia, lost a valise containing nearly \$50,000 in bank notes, bonds and sugar stock in the Occidental hotel just after he arrived in San Francisco...

Never Gives Up Its Dead. Lake Superior is remarkable for the fact that it never gives up its dead.

STUDY FRENCH.

Curious Case Strikes the Negro Messengers Employed in Government Departments.

It is a curious fact that nearly all the colored messengers employed in the government departments at Washington are studying stenography and the French language. Just why these two studies are combined and English is not substituted in place of French none of them can say...

Perhaps the hope of visiting the Paris exposition has actuated some to delve into the intricacies of the polite language. Inquiry among these curious students fails to develop the hope of pecuniary reward, but, on the contrary, the studies are a pastime. The duties of an ordinary department messenger are extremely light, and consist chiefly in running a few errands, looking wise, and protecting the sacred persons of their exalted chiefs from the intrusions of the common herd...

DOUBLE DECK TURRETS.

Naval Officers Await with Much Interest the Coming Trial on the Kearsarge. Naval officers are awaiting with much interest the coming trial of the double-deck turrets of the Kentucky and Kearsarge. The turning of the turrets will be tested on board the Kearsarge within a few weeks, and the results will be applicable, of course, to the Kentucky, which is the sister ship of the Kearsarge...

Among those who oppose the scheme is the commanding officer of the Kearsarge, Capt. W. M. Folger, who preceded Admiral Sampson as naval chief of ordnance. It was under the latter's administration that the idea was adopted, being the design of a junior officer, attached to the bureau. Folger believes the turrets are not capable of being operated with promptness, and that more effective work could be done by guns distributed about the ship. One shot would be sufficient to put four guns out of use entirely...

THOUGHT SWENIE WAS AFRAID.

Fire Chief of Chicago Objects to Hose and Fire Escape Attached to His Room in New York Hotel. When Fire Department Chief Swenie of Chicago, came to New York a short time ago he put up at the hotel where Alderman John Coughlin, also of Chicago, was stopping. Just two feet from the door of his room was a big reel of hose, a red bucket and an ax, to be used in case of fire. Mr. Swenie is "up against" fire apparatus 24 hours in the day when he is home, and he did not want any of it on his vacation...

So he told the bellboy that he did not like the room, and if there was nothing else he would go to some other house. So back to the office the two went, and the bellboy announced: "The gentleman won't take that room. It's the one where the hose is outside the door." To this the clerk replied: "I suppose it makes you nervous to see those things—makes you feel as if the hotel was going to catch fire. Really it is one of the best rooms in the house. Fire-escape at the window and every other convenience. Take my word for it, you will forget all about those things in the corridor for extinguishing fire after you are in the room a few minutes..."

Accommodating Telephone Service. In Nelson, New Zealand, if you use the telephone you must not name the number; you must name the party you want, and the exchange girl will cheerfully tell you whether he is in or out; if the latter, where he is, and when he will be back.

Souvenirs for the Girls. Russian soldiers are supplied with knick-knacks at the expense of the government. The Chicago Times-Herald says that must be a glorious land for girls who want souvenirs from the boys.

Has Reason to Be Proud. Vermont will not get over throwing bonquets at itself for several hundred years for having been the birthplace of Dewey, says the Chicago Record. Well, why should she?

French Tax on Coffee. The tax on coffee in France is 14 cents a pound.

THIS YEAR'S CROPS.

Yield of Wheat, Corn and Oats as Compared with Last Year.

Less Wheat But More Corn and Oats—Department of Agriculture Showing the Average Condition of Crops.

The total wheat crop of 1899 is estimated by the American Agriculturist in its final report at 565,350,000 bushels, grown on 45,251,000 acres, as compared with a production last year which in the light of the season's movement cannot have been less than 715,000,000 bushels. The average yield per acre is placed at 12.5 bushels. The winter wheat crop is estimated at 297,000,000 bushels, average yield, 11.5 bushels; spring wheat crop, 268,000,000; average rate of yield, 13.7 bushels. The average rate of yield of oats, according to the American Agriculturist, is returned at 30.4 bushels per acre, 2.5 bushels above that of last year, and an average higher than was ever before reported for the whole breadth. The crop is estimated at 569,000,000 bushels, against 799,000,000 in 1898 and 814,000,000 in 1897. The quality of the present crop is unusually good. The authority named places the average condition of corn three points higher than September 1 and only two higher than was reported at this date a year ago, and adds that if the final rate of yield shall substantiate that indicated by the present return the crop is likely to be found rather above 2,125,000,000, a fairly liberal result, but not a record crop.

The October report of the statistician of the department of agriculture shows the average condition of cotton on October 1 to have been 62.4, as compared with 68.5 last month, 75.4 on October 1, 1898, 70.0 at the corresponding date in 1897 and 73.5, the mean of the October averages for the last ten years. The decline during September affected almost the entire cotton producing region, being seven points in North Carolina and Indian Territory, four points in South Carolina, five in Georgia and Texas, six in Alabama and Louisiana, nine in Mississippi and Arkansas, ten in Tennessee and in Virginia and Missouri. In Oklahoma the crop about held its own, and in Florida there was an improvement of two points. The averages for the states are: Virginia, 76; North Carolina, 66; South Carolina, 62; Georgia, 68; Florida, 79; Alabama, 70; Mississippi, 69; Louisiana, 68; Texas, 56; Arkansas, 53; Tennessee, 66; Missouri, 74; Oklahoma, 60; Indian Territory, 40.

FITTING GIFT TO CARNEGIE.

Unique and Interesting Way Stevens Institute Proposes to Acknowledge a \$50,000 Present. The Alumni Association of Stevens Institute, Hoboken, N. J. has decided to present to Andrew Carnegie a souvenir in return for the gift of \$50,000 recently sent to President Henry Morton for the erection of a laboratory. "We present," said Prof. Morton, "that to realize to Mr. Carnegie anything of intrinsic value would be foolish. We shall, therefore, give him a piece of the first T rail ever made. It will be invaluable as a relic, because the T rail was invented by Robert L. Stevens, one of the Stevens family who founded the institute. The rail in question was made in Wales at the mills of Sir William Guest. That rail has been carefully preserved. We have secured a piece of it six inches long. We shall have made for it a casket in the shape of a jewel case, which will be of unique and artistic design. The piece of rail will be accompanied with documents establishing its authenticity. It will then be sent to Mr. Carnegie."

GYMNASIUM IN CHURCH.

Basement of a New York House of Worship to Be Fitted Up for Comfort of Young Men. Father A. V. Wittmeyer's new edifice in New York will combine all of the up-to-date features of a church, with a gymnasium in the basement. Architects Brun & Hauser have filed plans. The two-story structure of brick and limestone will be built on a part of the Stephenson plat, 45 and 47 East Twenty-seventh street. It will cost \$30,000. Father Wittmeyer's Church of St. Esprit is regarded as the most progressive French congregation in America. The basement of the new church will contain a complete gymnasium. There will be a sawdust track, baths and bowling alleys, assembly and class rooms, billiard, recreation and living rooms will take up the first floor. There, too, Father Wittmeyer will find cozy apartments for his study.

TO BUY HOUSE FOR SCHLEY.

Enthusiastic Young Lady Admirer of the Hero of Admiral Schley is Endless Chain. Miss Edna McClellan, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Weller McClellan, of 105 West Seventy-seventh street, New York city, was so much impressed by the tremendous applause for Admiral Schley in the Dewey day parade she decided that Admiral Schley should have a house in Washington as well as Dewey. She has started endless chains to raise the dimes. Miss McClellan will ask Gov. Roosevelt and Miss Helen Gould to be members of the committee to control the fund, and will ask the assistance of President McKinley and members of his cabinet. She says she will go to Washington, if necessary, to seek the aid of members of congress.

Hebrew Trade Union.

New York has a Hebrew painters' union.

INCREASING THE REVENUE.

France Adopts a Novel Postal Advertising Scheme to Raise Needed Money.

France, whose national debt has been growing every day since it paid its milliards of redemption money to Germany, after exhausting, apparently, every conceivable means of taxation, has lately taken to advertising as a means of money-making. This method has been seized upon by numerous municipalities, which have sold the space on certain public buildings to advertisers, as the panels of city railway cars are disposed of in the United States.

As public buildings as well as the packages in which several kinds of monopoly goods are sold are entirely under the control of the government, it is evident it has advertising facilities at command which entirely eclipse in extent and value anything that private advertisers can offer. The value of these can be greatly enhanced by legal restrictions upon the owners of private property, preventing the sale of space for similar purposes.

The first government enterprise in this field is the "Lettre annonce" or advertising postpaid letter sheet. One-half the sheet, of ordinary letter size and rather poor quality, is devoted to advertising, except a space reserved for the address, on which is printed a 15-centime postage stamp. The letter is written on the other side of the sheet, which is then ingeniously folded and held by a gummed flap. The whole thing is sold for ten centimes—that is, two-thirds of the price of a single postage, or exactly the same as a postal card. The purchaser saves one-third the postage, and gets his paper and envelope for nothing. The new system will evidently take the place of the postal card. It will decrease the sale of postage stamps, but the receipts from the advertising will enable the government to make a substantial profit.

INSUFFICIENT AMMUNITION.

Complaint of Artillery Officers on Coast Defense Work—Not Enough Practice.

Artillery officers on coast defense work complain to the war department that the fund for ammunition for experimental and practice purposes is insufficient. It does not admit of the thorough instruction of men who handle the guns, with the result that reports from the coast fortifications enlisted artillery force possessed of an inferior knowledge of the big weapons and an inexperience in firing them.

In the navy much time and money is expended annually in training the gun crews in accuracy of fire. Records are kept on each ship of the gun practice which is carried on under the conditions of actual conflict. The result has been the stimulation of interest in such matters and the education of the enlisted men to splendid marksmanship. In the army, according to reports received at the war department, there is little opportunity to train the men in the handling of the coast guns under actual service conditions. More than one appeal has come to Washington for an increase in the allotment, now pitifully small. Congress will be urged to make a more liberal provision for this necessary equipment of the coast artillery.

GIRLS FORM A "PIE" SOCIETY.

Missouri University Co-eds Improve on the Old Greek Letter Fraternities.

The Eight Nu Pi is the unique name of a unique society which was organized at Columbia, Mo. It resembles somewhat a college Greek letter fraternity. The last two syllables of the name are formed by Greek letters, but the first is simple English. The name is of artfully concealed significance. Translated into English it is "Ate New Pie."

The essential qualifications for membership are beauty and a relish for pie. The first requirement of a member is to learn to cook a pie. The initiation is entirely conducted by means of new pies, several of which are served in rapid succession to the "frat."

The object of the society, aside from the pleasure to be derived from pie parties to be given by the order, will be to improve the quality of American pies by instruction in the art of baking. The present members and originators of the society are Miss Yungers of Bowling Green; Miss Ayers of Arkansas; and Misses Gould, Ringo and Storm, of Kirksville.

Cheap Paper Making.

There is talk in Canada of manufacturing news paper at a cost not exceeding one cent a pound and of competing in the market on this side of the border. It is considered that such a thing is possible if the manufacture be conducted on a large scale. News paper produced at a cost of a cent a pound, even with duty and freight charges added, would be a disturbing element in the New York market, for example, and would compel our manufacturers to do some very close figuring.

Modest and Fort.

A New York man advertises as follows: "I want a wife; she must be wealthy; I am poor, healthy, excellent character; no time for nonsense." The Chicago Times-Herald wants to know why any rich lady in our land should now remain unhappy?

Students at Italian Universities.

In 1877 the number of students at the universities of Italy was under 9,000. This year it is nearly 26,000, or more, in proportion to the population, than Germany or France can boast.

Cheap Tours.

Englishmen may now spend a fortnight in Paris or Switzerland for \$35, or enjoy a Norwegian tour for \$50.

GIRLS ARE ANGRY.

Students of Radcliffe College Resent Reflection of Harvard Professor.

Intimation on His Part That the Girls Are a Menace to the Best Interests of Harvard University.

Radcliffe girls are discussing with a good deal of interest the left-handed plea for their college's better endowment, to which Prof. Barrett Wendell has recently given publicity in the columns of the Harvard Monthly. Prof. Wendell disapproves of the growing intimacy of Harvard's relations with Radcliffe.

"If the practice (of permitting properly-qualified Radcliffe students to take certain advanced courses in Harvard university) continue and increase," he remarks, "Harvard may suddenly find itself committed to coeducation, somewhat as unwary men lay themselves open in breach of promise."

The position of Harvard and Radcliffe Prof. Wendell then proceeds to analyze. He does full justice to Harvard, but there are those who insist that, while he does not misrepresent Radcliffe, he fails to say all that might be said of the dignity and reticence the girls' college has always evinced in its dealings with Harvard.

Radcliffe has never presumed upon the privileges Harvard has seen fit to bestow upon her. But, of course, Prof. Wendell's article was not written for Radcliffe's benefit, though he ingeniously gives a twist in his closing paragraph which may tend to calm the rising wrath of the girl students.

Prof. Wendell's article is occasionally funny. According to him, Radcliffe has worked "perceptible harm" to Harvard instructors. The light-minded thereabout wonder whether Mr. Wendell is using words with his usual accuracy and precision when he asserts that "when a man likes to teach women he is in real danger of infatuation."

This is because his "mental muscle" suffers relaxation in teaching girls, inasmuch as they offer, when contrasted with men students, "a comparative lack of mental resistance." Now that the "original type of annex student—serious, mature, stimulating—is no longer dominant," he holds that this danger of "infatuation" has naturally increased.

NEW MARVEL OF TELEGRAPHY.

Method Invented by Hungarians by Which Many Thousand Words an Hour are Sent.

A wonderful method of quick telegraphy has been discovered by two Hungarian engineers, Antin Pollak and Joseph Virag, which enables the sending of nearly a hundred thousand words an hour.

The method has just been tested on the telegraph lines from Buda-Pesth to Berlin. Representatives of the German ministry of commerce viewed the apparatus working in Berlin, while a delegate from the French government and a representative of an American cable company, together with Hungarian officials, inspected the working of the invention in Buda-Pesth.

A number of telegrams were exchanged between Buda-Pesth and Berlin, and it was found that the average rate of wiring with the new apparatus was 22 words a second, giving 1,520 a minute and over 79,000 an hour. These results were witnessed and testified to by experts.

The new apparatus is a marvel of ingenuity. Messages are first perforated on a slip of paper. These signs are then transmitted with lightning speed over the wires, and are received as photograms at the other end, where they can be read and quickly prepared for delivery.

LOSSES BY FIRE.

In United States and Canada for Nine Months of 1899 They Exceeded Losses of Same Period of 1898.

The fire loss of the United States and Canada for the month of September, as compiled from the Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin records, amounts to \$13,778,800. The following table will show the losses for the first nine months of 1899 in comparison with the same period in 1898:

Table with 3 columns: Month, 1898, 1899. Rows include January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, and Totals.

It will be seen that the 1899 losses so far exceed those of the same months of 1898 by over \$10,000,000.

GERMAN EXPORTS.

According to Official Returns Those to the United States for Last Three Months Show an Increase.

German exports to the United States for the three months ended September 30 reached, according to the official returns \$22,372,355, an increase of \$1,767,084 over the corresponding quarter of last year.

Of this aggregate the Frankfort consulate general returns \$10,769,104, an increase of \$2,257,546, and the Berlin consulate general \$11,603,251, a decrease of \$400,457.

The falling off in the Berlin returns is due to the decrease of sugar exports. The exports of general merchandise show an increase of \$1,341,364.

Knows All About Yachting.

Every man who ever wore a yachting cap considers himself fully competent, says the Kansas City Journal, to explain all the fine points of a yacht race.