

PITH AND POINT.

The gain of scheming is only seeming... Nearly every man believes he is too big for the town in which he lives...

THE PUP'S FIRST TRIAL.

Last fall he was a long, lanky fox-hound pup of ten months. There was a suspicion of something else besides bound about him which it would have been disparaging to his mother to mention...

AS NATURAL AS LIFE.

Giant Automaton Which Looks, Walks and Acts Like a Man.

Invention of New Yorker Will Make a Trip Across the Country Drawing an Automobile—Is Seven Feet Five Inches High.

For nine years Louis Phillip Perew, of Tonawanda, N. Y., labored with his body and his brain at a huge undertaking. Now the work is finished and he has a graven image, made of wood and metal in the likeness of man, and it walks...

NOVEL SWINDLING SCHEME.

Constables and Police of California Bite at Alluring Bait Sent from the East.

A novel swindling scheme, evidently planned to embrace the continent, has just been brought to light. Recently the head office of Wells, Fargo & Company's express in San Francisco has received from its agents in the interior numerous letters and telegrams asking for instructions relative to the disposition of certain packages of "valuable certificates" expressed from Greenville Junction, Me., on each of which there was a C. O. D. charge of \$8...

GIRL SWIMS THE NARROWS.

Priscilla Higgins, 14 Years Old, Covers Three Miles—Says She Is Not Tired.

Priscilla Higgins, the 14-year-old daughter of George A. Higgins, of Ninety-seventh street and the Shore road, Fort Hamilton, swam across the Narrows to St. George, Staten Island, the other afternoon in two hours and five minutes. The distance covered was three miles. The swimmer was followed by some of her friends in a row-boat. She used a long breast stroke and swam slowly.

WU RIDING A BICYCLE.

The Chinese Minister at Washington Makes an Easy Mastery of the Machine.

Minister Wu mastered the bicycle at Cape May in one lesson, with but one fall and two or three scratches on his hand. He hired a wheel from a local dealer. The dealer also gave lessons, but Wu said all the lessons he wanted he could give himself. His excellency then went to the corner of Beach avenue and Broadway, where both streets are wide, and began his exertion. He tied up his queue so it would not get caught in the back wheel and then hopped on. He had a great wabbling time, but later learned to manage the wheel and handle bar so well that he could ride fairly steady before giving up for the day.

CONCERNING LADDERS.

These Conveniences Are Made in Large Variety—Some of the Modern Modifications.

Time has worked changes in ladders, as in all things else. Great improvements have been made. The step ladder, which is now very commonly used, is in all the larger sizes made of a skeleton construction. The modern American step ladder is, indeed, in its way eminently characteristic, combining lightness, slowness, with economy of material, says the New York Sun.

There are sold, nowadays, especially in cities, many more sectional ladders than formerly. One of these, the window cleaner's ladder, with its peculiar tapering top section, made to fit over and rest against the corner bar of a window frame, is practically a new ladder within ten years.

There are, however, other jointed or sectional ladders that are used in much larger number and those are sectional ladders that are patented.

Some are made in two and some in a greater number of sections, which nest together when the ladder is not in use. The sections are made to be set up into ladders of various lengths, generally 35 feet and upward. Sectional ladders are used by tanners and painters and sign hangers and others.

There are in New York City a number of manufacturers who sell many thousands of ladders annually.

WOMEN IN OLD EGYPT.

Married and Single Shared with the Men All Their Pastimes and Pleasures.

In ancient Egypt monogamy was practiced, although it was not enjoined by law. There is no evidence of the existence of a marriage ceremony, but the marriage contract secured to the wife certain rights, one of which was that of complete control over her husband, who promised to yield her implicit obedience!

Ladies of rank occupied their spare moments in embroidery and in the cultivation of flowers, of which they were passionately fond, and which were lavishly used on all festive occasions. Women of the humbler classes were employed in spinning and in the rural districts in tending cattle and sheep and in carrying water—the heavier employments being left to the men.

This halcyon state of affairs lasted only during the days of Egypt's greatness; during the period of her decline her daughters were fearfully downtrodden and degraded. The hardest manual labor was assigned to them, and they suffered cruel punishments for the crimes of their fathers, husbands or brothers, as the case might be.

Never Tried, Very Lively. Father—The secret of success is hard work. Son—Well, you know I never could keep a secret.—Brooklyn Life.

REFUGE FOR CATS FOUNDED.

Mrs. Norton, of Chicago, Will Care for Homeless Feline Wanderers.

Mrs. Leonard Norton, president of the Chicago Cat club, is preparing to make a very unique departure for the benefit of the feline tribe. She has lately moved from 4011 Drexel boulevard to 4630 Grand boulevard, where there is more room for the enlargement of her kennels, which, she says, will soon be the largest in the world.

Many persons from outside of the city are becoming interested in the movement, and some of these are signifying their intention of making substantial gifts to the refuge.

Every effort will be made to promote the scheme in other cities and circulars will be sent out at once to almost every town in the United States. Wednesday afternoon of each week will be receiving day in the new hospital. Mrs. Norton has in her kennels, which will be continued separate from the refuge, about 40 cats of the Persian and Angora varieties, and she has 50 more on the Pacific ocean coming direct from the orient.

MORE SUBMARINE BOATS.

Lewis Nixon of Elizabeth, N. J., Will Build Five for the Holland Company.

Lewis Nixon, of Elizabeth, N. J., will build five submarine boats for the Holland company. Four of the craft will be for the navy, under the contract which calls for six submarine boats, and the additional boat will be used as a sample craft abroad. The Holland people intend to present propositions to foreign governments for the construction of their type of submarine boat, and already it is said the firm has been greatly encouraged by the reports which have come from the European experts in regard to the Holland. The naval attaches at Washington have been interested spectators at the various trials of that boat, and have made favorable reports on the step. The newer types, which are embraced in the naval order, compare more than favorably with the submarine boats designed abroad.

FEARED SHE'D BE AN OLD MAID

Why Miss Alice Sinclair Made Ladacious Haste to Get Married.

Three hours after she acted as bridesmaid at the wedding of C. W. John, of College hill, and Sadie C. Tucker, at the bride's home, 4221 Chambers street, Cincinnati, O., the other night, Miss Alice Sinclair, daughter of Charles S. Sinclair, living in Williamson avenue, was married to Willard Keeler, the groom's best man. The Sinclair-Keeler wedding was to have been celebrated next week, but at the wedding supper of her friend she found the thimble, the supposed symbol of old-maidship, in her piece of wedding cake, and fearing that the saying would prove true invited the entire wedding party and the minister, Rev. L. E. Lee, of the North Presbyterian church, to the home of her father and was married in her bridesmaid dress.

CHANCE FOR YOUNG MEN.

Abram S. Hewitt Thinks Ability and Industry Will Bring It Due Reward in Business Life.

Abram S. Hewitt emphatically disagrees with Richard Croker's declaration that the young man to-day has no chance in business. Mr. Hewitt declares opportunities for young men are as great as ever, and competent men are needed in almost every line of business. He believes young men will do well to put their savings into stock. "Industries and enterprises are increasing and there must be men to conduct them. Men are dying as fast as they ever did. Who is to take their places? Not the sons of Rockefeller and Vanderbilt. They are going to spend their fathers' money. The competent young men must fill the places of importance, and there are places for all such men."

Those cities that had taken their measures with their shoes on, says the Philadelphia North American, are finding fault because the census takers made them stand in their stocking feet.

TO BUILD MORE HOTELS.

William Waldorf Astor May Improve His Broadway Property with Family Apartment Houses.

William Waldorf Astor is credited with an ambition to corner the elevator apartment structures along the upper Broadway line. Mr. Astor does not intend to operate his corner through the familiar means of purchasing properties that might compete with his new eight-story family hotels. But he may soon give orders to improve all of his vacant plots which dot the Broadway line from Forty-second street to Washington Heights. If he decides to undertake this great operation he will come to take personal charge of architects contractors and builders until his houses are well under way.

Mr. Astor contemplates the erection of another mammoth apartment hotel, along his vacant Broadway buildings provided the eight-story structures now being completed on the Seventy-first street corner and at the junction of Seventh and St. Nicholas avenues and One Hundred and Sixteenth street prove as profitable as he has been led to anticipate.

DOUBLE-BARRELED MONSTER.

New Species of Sea Serpent Is Seen Off Long Island Resort—Is Green in Color.

A big sea serpent was seen in the Great South bay, off Bay Shore, L. I., the other afternoon, but he escaped without being caught, and the naturalists have missed an elegant opportunity. The monster was observed between 4:30 and 5 o'clock from three different points, and from people in three different directions comes the story. So there is no doubt as to its authenticity. Mr. and Mrs. P. T. Ryder, of Brooklyn, who are summering at the Prospect house, were in the yacht Aida in Great South bay when they saw a green body about 40 feet long floating on the surface of the water. They were curious to see what it was and headed their yacht in the direction of the body. When they got nearer they saw that about a few feet behind it was what appeared to be another body. With the aid of a glass they saw that the smaller body had two flat eyes, and upon approaching nearer still found that it was a monster of the sea. Suddenly the serpent disappeared from view and went down. Mrs. J. H. Belden and Miss Ida Bera Simonton, of New York, who are also stopping at the Prospect house, saw the monster and gave the same description of him.

SMUGGLING PLAN SPOILED.

Inspectors at New York Find Man's Clothes Lined with Diamonds.

Isaac Kaufmann, jewelry and diamond agent, was caught by United States custom inspectors trying to smuggle more than \$6,000 worth of diamonds into this country the other day. He would have succeeded had the government inspectors not been on the lookout. The government officials at Washington received word through secret service sources some weeks ago that wholesale smuggling of diamonds and jewelry would be attempted at all of the eastern seacoast towns this fall.

The man's coat collar appeared bulky, and an examination of Kaufmann's coat showed that jewels had been sewed in the linings of the collar and of the tails. After the clothing had been examined Donohue insisted that Kaufmann take off his shoes. Many diamonds found there accounted for a limp which had been observed.

WEDDED IN SHIRT WAISTS.

Ceremony at Camden, N. J., at Which Only the Minister Wears a Coat.

Rev. Dr. Levy was the only man at the wedding in his church of Morris Blumstein and Miss Annie Jacobs who wore a coat. It was a shirt-waist wedding, even the bride doffing her bridal robes until the evening reception. The parties belong to the 400 of Camden, N. J. When he visited her two weeks ago to close arrangements for the ceremony he was in a shirt waist, but apologized, pointing by way of excuse to the thermometer.

"Why, I wouldn't care if you wore a shirt waist in church," said Miss Jacobs, and from this remark grew the shirt-waist wedding. Dr. Levy had allowed himself to be half persuaded to appear in a shirt waist, but he could not quite bring himself to the sticking point when the moment arrived. A long line of coaches, driven by men in their shirt sleeves, awaited the party. The young couple then started on what they called a "shirt-waist honeymoon."

What's Their Hurry? The Chicago Tribune is curious to know why people who enjoy ocean voyages should want to get across the Atlantic in the shortest possible time.

A SHIP OF MERCY.

Account of a Visit to the Hospital Ship Maine.

Has Done a Blessed Work Among Wounded of South Africa and is Now in Chinese Waters—Work of American Women.

One of the hospital officials of the state of New York, who recently returned from Europe, has written an interesting narrative of the mission and work of the American hospital ship Maine, now in Chinese waters. On the second return voyage to England from South Chicago, she visited the ship and tells of her experiences as follows: "We boarded the Maine, and during the two hours before we reached the dock at Southampton there was ample opportunity to examine her."

"Descending into the first ward—named after Mrs. Whitlaw Reid, the generous donor and adviser of Red Cross work everywhere—we found a number of patients in the cots. It was unnecessary to ask the nature of their trouble, for the pale faces and emaciated bodies bore the unmistakable stamp of enteric fever—that deadliest of camp followers. The ward was bright and well ventilated, the bed linen fresh and white, and everything scrupulously clean. Over each bed was suspended the name of its American donor—men and women with sympathies broad enough to stretch forth into the unknown for the unknown."

"The ward capacity of the Maine is 210 beds. The surgeons and physicians, all of them first rank men from our best American hospitals, the nurses from the Mills training school, and the orderlies were a strong, sturdy band, truly a 'staff' upon which to lean."

"The patients, below deck as well as above, were in excellent spirits, despite their disability, and one and all seemed grateful for what they termed their good luck in having been consigned to the 'Yankee ship.' At Madeira a few newspapers had been obtained telling of the outbreak of trouble in China, and all were eager for the latest war news. 'Soon we'll be fighting together out there,' a bright-faced Irishman said to me, with evident impatience to be himself in the fray. When I expressed my preference for soldiers as guardians of peace, rather than as forces for war, he looked quite disgusted and said: 'But, ma'am, what would we be after doing, without a bit of a stir up once in awhile?'—truly a characteristic re-echo of view of the interest and the pleasures of life."

"It had been the intention of the London executive committee of the Maine, all of whom are women of American birth, whose energy, efficiency and devotion are deserving of home recognition—again to send her back to South Africa. But the crisis in China had become so acute, the provision for many sick and wounded of the allied forces so urgent, with no hospital ship as yet under way, that the committee decided that the need for their ship was now greater in the far east than in the far south."

LOVE LASTS FIFTY YEARS.

Senegambians Wed in Pennsylvania, Thus Completing a Life-Long Romance.

Mrs. Sara C. Bechtol, aged 60 years, and Mathias Karn, aged 65 years, were married at McKeesport, Pa., the other night. The groom is superintendent of the Central Illinois railroad and a resident of New Orleans, La. Immediately after the ceremony the couple left for New Orleans.

The marriage is the result of a love match that started when both were children at Berkeley Springs, W. Va. The bride was sitting on the doorstep of her father's home when a runaway horse threw James Bechtol at her feet. He was carried into her father's home and she nursed him through his injuries, and in two years married him.

ROOTS GRASP A CORPSE.

Locust-Tree Fibers Found Growing in Partly Petrified Body in Maryland.

A strange spectacle was witnessed the other day when the grave of John W. Young was opened in the graveyard on the farm of Isaac Forsythe, Indian Spring district, Washington county, Md. The body had been in the ground for 17 years, and when disinterred it was found to be in a partial state of petrification, having the appearance of clay. The roots of a locust tree standing near by had penetrated the grave and grasped their ghastly prey, piercing the body in places. One root had grown into the head, and fibers extended through the eyes and nostrils.

The legs were looped around by roots the size of a man's finger, and the entire body, which was intact, was securely in the grasp of the roots. The body was removed to another spot and again buried.

Patents in France. The French patent law requires that a patentee should work his patent in the country within a specified time. The mere fact of exhibiting a patent at the present exposition, however, will be looked on as fulfilling this requirement.

Chinese Deficiencies. There is no word in the Chinese language that conveys an intimation of what we term public spirit, nor is there a synonym for patriotism.

Photographing the President. President McKinley has been snapped 3,000 times in the past 18 months. This gives an average of more than five times a day.