

WILL NOT FIGHT.

Senator Mason Amazed Over the Challenge of a Spanish Marquis. Senator Mason smiled and appeared immensely tickled at the suggestion of the duel between himself and "Senor Caterpillar," as he termed the Marquis d'Altavilla, former chief chamberlain for Queen Isabella of Spain.

A CURIOUS BET.

How the Old Woman Dashed a Reckless Youth's Hopes. Two of the younger members of a well-known club, both of whom are so fond of betting that they are willing to wager money upon almost anything, became involved in an argument over the popularity of mustaches a few days ago, says the Philadelphia Record. One contended that the wearing of the hirsute adornment was on the wane; the other said that more mustaches are worn now than ever before.

A BOGUS RELIC.

Amusing Instance of Way in Which Museums Are Imposed Upon. A very amusing instance of the way in which museums are imposed upon has just come to light, says the St. James Gazette. At the French revolution, when the Cathedral of St. Denis was so mutilated, the figures which ornamented the beautiful Gothic tomb of Dagobert was thrown down, and for the most part destroyed, all that remained being the body of his Queen Nantilde and the head of his son Clovis.

Bulletin Financier.

Vendredi, 15 avril 1898.

Table with financial data including 'COMPTOIR D'ECANGES', 'MARCHÉ DE LA NIE-OULIENS', and various market rates.

Bulletin Commercial.

Vendredi, 15 avril 1898.

Table with commercial data including 'COTON', 'MARCHÉ DE LA NIE-OULIENS', 'MARCHÉ DE NEW-YORK', and 'MARCHÉ DE LIVERPOOL'.

"First of all," said Senator Mason, "I should be furnished with the dimensions of the dago who proposes to make a target of me. Like all of his race, he indulges in long range threats with-out letting me know whether he is bigger or smaller than myself. So far as actual fighting is concerned, if my son Roderick Mason, who is not quite five years old, could not easily whip the Bombastes Furioso from Spain I would disown him."

"Spaniards are accustomed to delays, and the longer between saying and doing a thing the better they like it. A third feature is the proposition of Caterpillar to come half way to meet me in mortal combat. Should I accept his challenge we should probably be compelled to meet in mid-ocean, and that might prove inconvenient for the gentlemen who must accompany those who fight to uphold the code duello.

REMOVES A WOMAN'S STOMACH.

Delicate, Yet Successful, Operation Performed in San Francisco. Dr. Charles B. Brigham, at St. Luke's hospital, San Francisco, made complete incision of the stomach of a female patient suffering with cancer, and 36 hours after the operation, she was resting comfortably, with almost a normal pulse and temperature.

A QUEER "GROUND."

Discovered by a Lineman While Repairing a Leak. "Who ever heard of a snake not over three feet in length grounding a telegraph wire and rendering it useless for two days and as many nights?" was the question asked of a number of railroad men by a well-known lineman who has care of the Western Union telegraph company's wires along the line of one of the greatest trunk systems in the state of Ohio.

TOLD HIS CLAM STORY.

How a Funny Detroit Man Won His Case With the Jury. Marshall P. Wilder, the funny little man, is charged with having with malice aforethought and evil intent sprung a few of his tales on a jury and thereby turned their verdict in his direction, says the Detroit Journal.

PLEASANT WAY TO DUN.

Delinquent Customer Pays Up on Reason of a Feem. A Cleveland hardware man, prompted by an article recently on the subject of collecting poor accounts, writes agreeing that more is to be accomplished by a dunning letter couched in good-natured language than one breathing threats in harsh words, and relates the following, says Hardware, as an illustration:

WHIMS OF CURIOSITY SEEKERS.

How Two Inquisitive Women Called on Rev. Dr. Talmage and His Bride. Rev. Dr. Talmage, of Washington, and his bride had an interesting experience the other day when they received at home informally. A carriage stopped at the door and two strange women were ushered into the drawing-room.

ASK FOR FOUQUE'S HEART.

Military Authorities Want It to Show Force. Coroner Hawkins, at San Francisco, has been requested by the military authorities at the Presidio to turn over to them the heart of Joseph Fouque, the ex-soldier who committed suicide at the post recently by shooting himself with one of the new Krag-Jorgensen rifles recently adopted by the government for use in the army.

A Curious Appointment.

The appointment of ex-King Milan as general in chief of the Serbian army is assigned to a curious cause. King Alexander's mother, ex-Queen Natalie, it seems, set such a pace in dress and court festivities that the Belgrade husbands could not stand it. They remonstrated with the king, and, as the serpent was to keep Natalie out of the capital, her spendthrift husband was invited back.

A Strange Stone.

The "ilmakuit," a Finnish stone, which becomes almost white before the approach of fine weather, and darkens when storms are at hand, is used by the natives as a barometer, in which they repose the highest confidence.

SOCIETY IN SIBERIA.

Hostess and Guests Frequently Recite to Kitchen to Cook and Eat. At one of the grand balls I attended at Krasnoyarsk, writes Thomas G. Allen, Jr., of "Fashionable Siberia," in Ladies' Home Journal, I was impressed by the profusion of flowers used in the decoration of the ballroom, and which had been imported from Europe at enormous expense, and also by the importance given to the matter of refreshments. Although there appeared to be about four girls to one man, the male portion of the company spent the greater part of the evening at the buffet, or zookoski table, eating and drinking. The conversation of the women, I found, was most conventional, and one could invariably anticipate the same remarks upon an introduction to a lady. Knowledge of French, which I was surprised to find few could speak, is considered the most graceful feminine accomplishment.

PRESENT DAY BARBARIANS.

French African Expedition Said to be Guilty of Astonishing Cruelty. A gruesome account of the conduct of the French expedition which has just made its way to the Nile is given by one of its members in a private letter, says the Boston Transcript. He says they impressed all their native porters and other help by force; in brief, seized and made slaves of them. Then, if any of them tried to escape, they shot or hanged them. When they came upon a village and found it deserted they set it afire, whereupon the inhabitants, who were hiding near by, would come back and try to extinguish the flames, thus giving the French an opportunity to seize some of them to replenish their slave train. The French would seize the chief and tie him up until he furnished the required number of slaves. If they did not succeed in calling any of the natives within reach by incendiaryism or other means they simply looted the village. At night they kept as close a watch upon the slaves as they could, "but they would now and then all run away together, and it was not easy to kill the whole lot."

AMERICAN TYPE.

American type, although 50 per cent. dearer, than English, is used in half the display work in Indian printing offices, which an Anglo-Indian publisher says "is hardly to be wondered at when each mail brings beautifully printed prospectuses from America, while the printer is hardly aware that an English type founder or machine manufacturer exists, unless he subscribes to a trade journal."

THE POPE'S SEAL.

The seal worn by the pope, and used by him on official documents to which his signature is attached, has on it the engraving of a fish, with the cipher of the wearer. Since the thirteenth century every pope has worn a ring of this character, and it is shattered with a hammer when the wearer dies, to prevent its use on a forged document.

VALUABLE DISCOVERIES OF AMBER.

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