

PERPETUAL MOTION.

Long Choppers in the Woods of Maine Think They Have Discovered the Secret.

There are two things of which Maine people never tire—trying to enforce the prohibitory liquor law without actually creating a drought, and rigging up perpetual motion machines. Now, while the hundredth attempt is being made to close the saloons, or most of them, the perpetual motion people have come to the front with some more inventions, and the new contrivances attract just as much attention and inspire just as much faith that they will go as the schemes of 50 years ago.

The latest perpetual motion idea has been brought out by two boys, Jere Shannon and Patrick Kelley, of Bangor, and they have applied, through Lawyer Brian J. Dunn, for a patent, says the New York Sun. Last fall Shannon and Kelley went into the woods together to work at chopping logs, and on the first Sunday in camp they found a lot of pulleys, chains and iron balls that were parts of some machine long ago broken up.

To pass away the time the boys began tinkering with this truck, and finally they got it fixed together, apparently, in its original form. No sooner had they got the parts fitted together than the machine began to move, much to their astonishment, and it kept moving, while the two boys sat and watched it with bulging eyes. They finally left the contrivance, still in motion, and went to bed, supposing that it would run down by morning. But in the morning the wheels were whizzing just as cheerfully as ever.

Now, for the first time, it dawned upon the young woodman that they had stumbled upon a perpetual motion invention, and, fearing that some of the others in the camp's crew would steal it from them, they carefully took it apart. Then they got a bill of their time and started for Bangor, where, after constructing a new model, they hired Lawyer Dunn to get a patent for them.

While neither Shannon nor Kelley will give any very accurate details of the machine, they say that, in a general way, it consists of iron balls, which, rolling down short, sluice-like spokes to cups in a wheel, force the wheel to revolve. Each ball, having accomplished its part toward turning the wheel, drops into an elevator, whence it is returned to the center of the wheel by the power created by the downward roll of the following balls.

The inventors, or discoverers, say that one ball rolling down a sluice or spoke will furnish sufficient power to raise three balls in the elevator, and that, consequently, there is nothing to prevent the wheel from turning indefinitely.

Another perpetual motion man is William H. Doyle, of Hermon, who has contrived a big wheel with an elaborate system of springs. He is 76 years old and has been working on his idea for half a century. Pretty soon, he declares, he will have perfected a wheel compared with whose going qualities Tennyson's brook must be considered as a short-lived, halting, hesitating failure.

PRETTY DOVES LOVE MUSIC.

A Maryland Woman Who Has a Cote of Pigeons Which She Cares for Tenderly.

Mrs. E. H. Lackmar, of Easton, Md., is very proud of and greatly attached to her cote of doves. Her flock is one of the most interesting things in Easton, according to the Chicago Times-Herald. The product of a pair of doves, male and female, she got about four years ago from her sister in Baltimore, have amounted to about 100. The old male bird disappeared about a year ago. He was probably caught by a cat, a hawk or an owl. The widow mourned her loss and refused to be comforted for several months, but was finally prevailed upon to remate with one of her own descendants.

Mrs. Lackmar's doves have full liberty. There is a cage for their home and nesting places, but they are not fastened up in it. Its door stands open and the birds go to the fields and woods or loiter about the house at their pleasure. When evening comes they are pretty sure to return to their cote. Occasionally, however, one will disappear. He has either deserted and joined a field flock, been shot or captured by some enemy. Mrs. Lackmar can handle them at her will, but they are shy of her husband. When alarmed by the appearance of a dog or cat, out of doors as well as indoors, they will fly to her and perch on her shoulder for protection instead of flying to a tree, as the wild ones do.

Two eggs compose the nest litter and both are sure to be hatched. The mother bird sits on the nest at night and the male during the day. They will hatch six broods in a summer.

Requirements for Citizenship.
Until a few years ago Minnesota accorded the right of suffrage to civilized Indians, certified by district courts to be fit for the exercise of the suffrage. In Florida a requirement of suffrage was enrollment in the local militia. Tennessee provided that persons of color who were competent witnesses in a court of justice against a white man might vote in that state.—N. Y. Sun.

Other Women Present.
Shoe Clerk—Are you being waited on, ma'am?

Fair Customer—No; I want a pair of walking shoes.

"What price and size, ma'am?" (Rather loudly)—"Threest!"

"Threest?" (In a low tone)—"Yes, three dollars. Size, 6 D."—Philadelphia Press.

RIVER TRAFFIC IN RUSSIA.

Its Volume Is Enormous and Much of It Centers at Nijni Novgorod.

Up the Volga and its hundred tributaries ascend the iron barges of the Caspian sea oil fleet, while through the canals to St. Petersburg alone pass annually, during the 215 days of free navigation, thousands of steamers and barges bearing millions of tons of freight. Every known means of locomotion is used, from men, who, like oxen, tramp the tow paths, hauling the smaller barges, to powerful tugs that creep along by means of an endless chain laid in the beds of the canals and minor rivers, dragging after them at small pace great caravans of heavy barges, says the Engineering Magazine.

From the greater streams immense craft nearly 400 feet long, 15 feet in depth, carrying 6,000 tons of freight, drift down to the Caspian, where they are broken to pieces to be used as firewood on the steamers going up stream. In all there are 8,000 miles of navigable waterways in the valley of the Volga, or, if the streams which float the giant rafts that form so large a part of the traffic of the rivers are included, the mileage is increased to nearly 15,000, or as much as that of the valley of the Mississippi.

Fifty thousand rafts are floated down the Volga annually, many of them 100 feet long by seven thick, and this gives but a faint idea of the real traffic of the river; for in addition there are 10,000,000 tons of produce passing up and down the river during the open season. Much of this centers in Nijni Novgorod. To this famous market steamers and barges come from all parts of Russia, bringing goods to be sold at the great annual fair, over \$200,000,000 worth of merchandise changing hands in a few weeks; 30,000 crafts, including rafts, are required for this traffic; they come from as far north as Archangel, as far east as the Urala, from Astrakan in the south, St. Petersburg and Moscow in the west; while great caravans of ships of the desert arrive daily from all parts of Asia.

GROWING FASTER THAN EVER

The Mormon Church and Its Shrewd Policy of Colonization and Method of Cooperation.

The Mormon church is growing faster to-day than ever before in its history. It is building more churches, planting more settlements, maintaining more missionaries all over the earth. The general public appears to know nothing of it except polygamy. And polygamy is only the ornamental buckle on its shoe, says a writer in Harper's Weekly. Behind that is the sturdy body and enterprising brain of a great materialism, which possesses attractions far more potent than a plurality of wives. Whatever mysteries may be embalmed within the exclusive precincts of Mormon temples there is nothing occult about their method of gaining converts and making these converts prosperous and contented.

The Mormon policy is colonization. The Mormon method is cooperation. Fifty years of expanding prosperity have shown that this is a winding combination. There is no reason to suppose that it will appeal less effectively in the future than in the past. On the contrary, present economic tendencies more urgently favor emigration and cooperative industry than those of 25 or 50 years ago. Where the missionaries of other churches speak chiefly of security in the life to come Mormon missionaries add their prescription for security here and now. The missionary who holds out the hope of "three square meals a day" in this world has a striking advantage over his rival who deals only in the hopes of futurity.

The great social and economic facts which alone give the Mormon religion a habitation and a name and enable it to survive the assaults of congresses, presidents and all the churches of the land have been overlooked. The truth is that the Mormon church is a great plan of cooperative settlement, to which thousands of people have fled as a rock of refuge. Those who ask this church for bread do not get a stone. They get an irrigated farm. They get the shrewd but kindly assistance of able men in making their way from servitude to self-employment and landed proprietorship. All the church asks in return is obedience.

Safety of Ocean Travel.
The comparative, one might almost say absolute, security of ocean travel could not be better illustrated than in the latest trips of the Atlantic liners. A storm raged, the fierceness of which passes all memory, and yet every ship came in. They were late, of course, all of them. Everyone of them had been battered with countless tons of water, hurled with immeasurable force, and time and again the mighty liners were tossed like corks upon the waves. But they conquered triumphantly. Fastenings were torn from the decks and even propeller blades were lost, but they plowed steadily forward. There was a diminution of speed, but they went on. That wonderful machine, the essence of power, known as the Atlantic liner, is superior to the tempest. The mind of man subdues, if not directs, the elements.—Marine Review.

Accounts Rendered Monthly.
Bilton—There is no accounting for tastes.

Wilton—There isn't, eh? Well, you just marry a woman with expensive tastes, and see.—Brooklyn Life.

A Conundrum.
The average woman is a conundrum that keeps men guessing.—Chicago Daily News.

MONTEVIDEO'S HARBOR.

Millions Being Spent in Rivalry with Buenos Ayres—President Cuestas' Great Work.

When President Cuestas was inaugurated, his first work was to call for designs by which the harbor of Montevideo might be transformed from a wind-swept roadstead into a safe anchorage, writes Douglas White, in Ainslee's. He knew this to be possible, for the water is shallow and its area is ample to furnish shelter for innumerable ships if protection could be arranged. With the designs in hand, Cuestas proceeded to find a way for the financing of this important project. He called for a bill unalterably setting aside a portion of the country's customs duties for the purpose. The bill became a law, and already there are upward of \$2,000,000 in gold ready for the beginning of the work. Cuestas will see its commencement, and for Uruguay's benefit it is to be hoped that his successor will carry on the improvement.

For one who has never visited the city by the mouth of the Rio de la Plata it is hard to realize the importance of the move which President Cuestas has inaugurated in connection with the improvement of Montevideo's harbor. Time was when this emporium was the most important of any port south of the Brazil. Behind the bay, which is formed by the peninsula upon which the capital is located, stretch the millions upon millions of acres which form Uruguay and the Argentine, to say nothing of the lands inclosed within the boundaries of Paraguay. In the old days all the commerce which came and went between the outside world and these broad pampas passed through Uruguay's port. Shippers ended their voyages there because there was no other place to disembark their cargoes. And when the howling pampas lashed the shallow waters of Montevideo's anchorage into a foam, rendering communication with the shore impossible for days, these same skippers swore great oaths and vowed never to come again to drop their ground tackle in such a desperate anchorage. Over and over were the people of Montevideo warned that sooner or later their supremacy would be jeopardized by the construction of a safe harbor from which the broad areas of the southern republics might send out their products and exchange them for the output of manufacturing nations. But the Uruguayan authorities only smiled and in their present prosperity forgot the future. "What use," said they, "of improving the harbor when the commerce must come here, perforce?" Then, too, an appropriation for the improvement meant certainly that much less money would be left for the greedy politicians.

All this while, little more than 100 miles up the Rio de la Plata, a city was growing, destined to overshadow the old capital by the sea. Gradually Buenos Ayres advanced until she equaled Montevideo in population.

Then she determined to have the commerce which for generations had been stopping at the Plata's mouth. The river at the Argentine capital was shallow, but modern ideas furnished by modern engineers solved the problem of making deep water for a new and great port on the Rio de la Plata. Still the Uruguayans doubted, and when told of the work being done and the commercial intentions of their neighbors, they puffed their 'cigarillos' and replied: "Es no possible, senor." Then the lawmakers went into executive session, and with a laugh at the Argentine's audacity, passed a new army bill by means of which sundry political pickings might be established. Montevideo's repose was not, however, for long. Presently her people saw the great Atlantic steamers, which had formerly discharged their goods at the city's wharves, steam up the Plata toward where the Argentines had spent millions upon their port and a system of wharves large enough to handle the commerce of the entire southern continent.

But even this loss of trade and power did not serve to awake the Uruguayans to the necessity of action. They dreamed and figured, while their Argentine neighbor climbed up to thrice the population of Montevideo. First they had asserted the impossibility of constructing a port at Buenos Ayres. Then when the port was a fact they placed their faith in a doubt about its maintenance. It was the people of Uruguay rather than the authorities who first reached a sense of their country's weakness, and demanded that some of the millions which were being spent in useless ways should go to the partial, if not thorough, restoration of Montevideo's commercial supremacy. Presidents came and went, each crying out to be shown a way by which the result might be accomplished. Then came Cuestas. He asked no advice or assistance. For years he had studied the question and knew that the protection of Montevideo's harbor was a matter of good engineering. His first move was to establish the fund for the harbor's improvement. This fund was founded by a system which he himself suggested, and was rendered a certainty by the passage of a measure drawn and originated by the president himself. At the same time he called for plans, and now he has before him at least half a dozen, any one of which, withfully carried out, would render Montevideo an ideal port.

Buffalo at High Altitude.
Buffaloes are found at the height of 12,000 feet on the African mountain of Kilima Njaro.—N. Y. Times.

RUIN TRADE IN MEXICO.

General Thompson at Progresso Complain Against Certain Fraudulent Oyster Packers of United States.

Some oyster packers in this country have been defrauding the Mexicans in a way which will not help trade with the neighboring republic. Consul Thompson at Progresso, in reporting the facts to the state department, says: "Various complaints have lately been made to me that certain brands of canned oysters sent here for sale contained almost no oysters. In investigating this matter, I purchased in open market two cans wrapped with the labels of a certain oyster canner of the United States. "One of these tins was half filled with juice and held nine small oysters; the other contained seven. These facts are regrettable, inasmuch as our canned goods trade is increasing fast in this district. I have spent much time and trouble in promoting its growth.

"A few examples of bad faith such as this will undo the work faster than I can hope to remedy the evil. In the purchase of canned goods a certain amount of confidence has to be placed in the good faith of the canners, as the buyer has no opportunity before purchasing of judging for himself as to the excellence of the article.

"The people of this district are not overconfident in outsiders at best, and until recently the trade in canned goods has increased slowly. It is now fast becoming a factor in the import trade, however, and should be protected as far as possible from such flagrant frauds as the above."

STRUCK BY TIDAL WAVE.

Rough and Thrilling Experience of Passengers on the Ocean Liner Teutonic.

The White Star line steamer Teutonic, which has just reached New York, had a lively experience on Sunday. While the ship was riding in fair weather and going at her usual speed she was struck by a tidal wave. The ship went down in the hollow of the sea, and immediately there was a crushing of ironwork and a mass of water boarded her on the starboard side, thundering down on hatches and deckhouse. The ship recovered suddenly, throwing more water aboard. The wave broke high up, throwing down the men in the crew's nest, and rushed on, leaving them bruised and badly shaken.

John Michaelson, a steerage passenger, was hurled down and caught his foot in such a way that it was almost completely torn off at the ankle. The passengers generally became so frightened that they were on the verge of a panic, so that Capt. McKinstry was obliged to go into the saloon and assure them that there was no danger.

WILDMAN'S LAST REPORT.

Consul at Hong-Kong Indulges in a Little Joke on American Carriage Manufacturers.

The last mail report of the late United States Consul General Wildman received by the bureau of foreign commerce, state department, has just been made public. The report is dated at Hong-Kong, December 27, and is taken up chiefly with statements to show that American agricultural machinery is not wanted among the farmers of China. He also calls attention to the utter uselessness of mailing trade papers devoted to the carriage and harness industry that he already had mentioned the fact that "we have but three carriages and a hearse here, all of which are in a fair state of preservation." He advises carriage manufacturers to turn their attention to Manila, which, he says, is alive with carriages of every description, and where the demand will increase from year to year as the roads improve.

NOT OUR BEST CUSTOMER.

Hicks-Beach Dealers England Buy Most of United States' Exports of Iron and Steel.

In reply to a speech by Sir Charles Howard Vincent, conservative and fair trader for the Central division of Sheffield, in the house of commons the other evening Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, chancellor of the exchequer, said he was aware of the fact that the United States had exported \$145,000,000 worth of iron and steel in the year 1900.

He demurred, however, to Mr. Vincent's statement that the greater proportion of this export had been sent from the United States to the United Kingdom. He stated that for the year ending on June 13, 1900, the proportion of iron and steel sent from the United States to Great Britain was only \$20,000,000, out of a total export in the same time of the value of \$106,000,000.

Seeking Light.

"Will some one tell us why half the male population of this town runs to the depot every time they see or hear a train coming?" asks the Elmore (Kan.) Enterprise. And the Chicago Record says: "We are unable to tell you. None of the standard reference books at hand seems to shed any light on the subject."

Sponge Fishing in New Fashion.

The art of sponge fishing is likely to be revolutionized by the introduction of submarine electric arc lamps. At present the fishing apparatus is limited to a long pole for spearing and a water glass. If the lamps prove successful greater depths may be reached and larger and finer sponges secured.

Red Wood for Pavement.

Red gum wood is being used extensively in London for paving purposes.

FOR PORTIONLESS GIRLS.

Old Bachelor Who Left a Fund for Dowering Deserving Damazels.

Trustees of an old bachelors' fund for dowless girls in New Orleans, who recently decided to change the spirit, if not the letter, of the testator's provisions had a precedent in the case of John Anderson, citizen of Glasgow and Manchester. Like the New Orleans donor, he was a bachelor, commonly reputed to have been "crossed in love." He left \$15,000 and his blessing for "a fund to be formed, having for its object the dowering of deserving damazels." Candidates must be able to read and write, to sew and cook and to sing and dance well. Having proved themselves proficient in these attributes, candidates were to receive \$10 on their wedding days. Circumstances were found to necessitate placing some restrictions about this bounty, for unscrupulous individuals schemed to secure the dower more than once.

The corporation of the city of London is intrusted with the administration of Signor Pasquale Favoli's bequest for portionless girls. "Three poor but honest girls" are endowed annually in sums according to their merits, as the "worshipful gentlemen may think fit."

Chance decides who are the recipients, the fortunate trio being selected by lot. Any girl over 16 and under 25 may become a candidate, and may repeat again till the age limit disqualifies her, but the young women have to submit duly certified birth certificates, so as to obviate any charge of "intent to defraud."

DISTEMPER IN DOGS.

A Prof. Copeland Has Discovered That It Is Caused by the Microbe.

The last number of the Proceedings of the Royal Society contains a description of Prof. Copeland's successful investigation as to the cause of distemper in dogs. As a result of his efforts, he has isolated a specific micro-organism to which the disease is due. This micro-organism, a small coccobacillus, grows readily in all common culture-media at the temperature of the body, and is obtained from the exudations from the lungs, the tracheal mucus, and the nasal secretions of dogs suffering from the disease. A cubic centimeter of a broth-culture of these microbes, injected beneath the skin of the abdomen in a dog weighing 15 pounds, induces an attack of distemper, which terminates fatally in a week from the date of inoculation. A vaccine necessary to protect dogs from the disease has also been prepared, and is said to be efficacious. This vaccine is obtained by heating a broth-culture of the bacillus at a temperature of 60 degrees Cent. for 30 minutes, with the subsequent addition of a small quantity of carbolic acid. Two cubic centimeters of this vaccine have been found sufficient, when injected, to ward off the disease from fox-terrier pups weighing five pounds which had been exposed to infection. The length of time vaccinated dogs remain immune has still to be ascertained. Tests on a large scale are at present being conducted.

REMARKABLE MARKSMAN.

Young Apache of Arizona Who Accomplishes Wonderful Feats with a Gatling Gun.

Everyone who goes to the Arizona penitentiary is interested in the Gatling guns which are placed on the guard stands arranged at intervals along the top of the walls. The largest and principal gun is in charge of a young Mexican who boasts of his Apache blood. He is rated as the best marksman with a Gatling gun in the United States, says the Yuma correspondent of the Chicago Record. Gen. McCook, of the United States army, says that his manipulation of the complicated weapon and his accuracy of aim are simply marvelous. The young Mexican has an excellent field for target practice over the Gila mud flats just above the prison. A tin can six inches in diameter placed at a distance of 700 yards he will hit four times out of five with the Gatling gun. When it is remembered that he can fire 500 shots a minute the possibility of a convict's escape is too small to calculate. A recent test of the marksmanship of this young Apache gunner was made. From behind a stone wall 100 tin cans of the size of common fruit cans were thrown one at a time haphazard in the air, just as clay pigeons are automatically thrown at shooting matches. The Apache had his gun ready and had to aim as quick as a flash at each can at a distance of 250 yards. He pierced 37 out of the 100 before they fell behind the stone inclosure.

An Odd English Custom.

At Guildford, England, the quaint custom of throwing dice for the "maid's money" was observed recently. A sum was invested by a mayor of the borough in the seventeenth century, from which 12 guineas are given annually to a servant girl of good repute who has been in the same service for over two years. There were two applicants. The prize was won by Martha Shingler, who threw seven. The same dice box has been used for 80 years.

Cooked Under Water.

An Englishman made a wager that he could cook a plum pudding ten feet beneath the surface of the Thames, and won the bet by placing the pudding in a tin case and putting the whole in a sack of lime. The heat of the lime, slaking when it came in contact with the water, was sufficient to cook the pudding in two hours.

WILLING HORSES.

Drudges in Harness Have Examples of Their Kind in the Human Race.

One of the judges at a horse show in New York last fall made a shrewd criticism which has a broader application than he gave it, says Youth's Companion. Four high-bred carriage horses were on view.

"I see no difference between them," said an unskilled looker-on. "They seem to me to be equals in blood, beauty and training."

"No," said the judge. "This horse," touching one of them, "is incomparably the finest. He is of a better breed than the others, his temper is good, and he is stronger than any of them. But I would not buy him. He will be short-lived. The others will outlive him by years."

"Why? What is wrong?" "He is too willing a horse. Look! He pulls for both himself and his mate. He shoulders the whole weight, and the other simply trots alongside. There are many such horses. They use up their vitality before middle age."

It occurred to one of the bystanders that there were also many such men and women.

In almost every family there is some unselfish energetic draft horse who draws the load of the others. It may be the old father, plodding at his desk the year round, while his wife and daughters are idling in Europe; or it may be the lean, fast-aging farmer's wife who keeps house and cooks and irons and sews while the girls are busy in their clubs or entertaining their friends. Often it is a homely old spinster aunt or sister.

As a rule, nobody notices these willing drudges until they drop suddenly in the harness, worn out by pulling the load which belonged to those who were dear to them—son, wife or brother.

If, as is usually the case, they have made those about them idle, incompetent and selfish, have they done well? Are they, in fact, good and faithful servants?

LAW'S LONG ARM.

Few Refuges for Criminals at Present Day—Turkey Safest Country for Lawbreakers.

In 1800 if a criminal could fly to another country he was practically safe, for he could not be brought back without endless trouble. At that time there were no extradition treaties between England and France, Russia, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Holland, Austria or America, and so if a lawbreaker could reach any of those countries he had a very fair chance of evading punishment altogether. It was estimated that every year over 1,000 criminals avoided the arm of the law by crossing over to France, and an almost equal number from the continent took refuge in England. A Russian criminal at that time had only to cross the frontier and he was safe, and the law was just as easily evaded all over Europe, says London Answers.

At the present day there are very few refuges for criminals, and the arm of the law extends to the end of the longest telegraph cables. The safest country for the law-breaker is Turkey, because there are few among the minor officials who are above bribery.

In the early part of 1800 there were over 50,000 criminals in England who had at some time been convicted. Since then there has been a steady decrease. When the late queen came to the throne about 21,000 persons were convicted every year, while the average at the close of the century is only a little over 10,000.

LAUNDRY MACHINERY.

Three Hundred Kinds of Washing Contrivances Are Now on the Market.

"Some idea of the variety in which laundry machinery is now made," said a New York dealer, according to the Sun, "may be gained from the fact that in one catalogue of such appliances there are to be found about 300 numbers. One maker produces washing machines in 80 varieties. These include machines of different sizes, materials and weights, adapted to all manner of uses.

"Of ironing machines there are nowadays many, including machines especially designed for ironing particular parts, as bands, collars and so on; and then there are mangles in great variety, some of them big machines weighing many tons, made for the ironing of flat goods only, as tablecloths, napkins, sheets, towels and so on. There is more or less hand laundry work in one branch or another, but there is now no work done in laundries for which machines cannot be had.

"All this great variety of modern laundry machinery may be found in actual operation in and about New York, in one establishment or another. It would be possible, of course, to show it all in operation in showrooms, but it can be shown to better advantage and more satisfactorily in every way in actual work."

The Pugnacious English Sparrow.

Residents of Shreveport, La., complain that while in former years many varieties of American birds made their homes in that vicinity a great change has been brought about by the English sparrow. This pugnacious little creature first appeared there about ten years ago and soon changed from an obtrusive twitterer to a savage fighter with a raucous voice and a disposition to fly at every feathered thing not three feet off the ground. The result is that very few birds winter there now, and it is about the only small feathered creature seen at any time.