

The Queenstown News.

JOHN M. AKER, Editor.

"INDEPENDENT BUT NOT NEUTRAL"

Price Two Cents.

VOL. XV.

QUEENSTOWN, MARYLAND, SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1897.

NO. 15.

Germany charges Great Britain with trying to disturb the peace of Europe.

Australia had last year 9760 miles of railway open. The capital expended on them has been \$537,000,000; the net revenue over working expenses is 24 per cent.

Belgium, like Italy, has adopted the twenty-four day method of marking time for railway, post and telegraph; and the old distinction of a. m. and p. m. is to be abolished.

Japan has a practically inexhaustible supply of coal, but it is not liked, because its combustion produces dense volumes of smoke and makes it disagreeable in factories and on steamers.

Of the criminal population of the New York State prisons 2001 are now serving their first term, 648 are serving their second term, 325 have served more than one previous term, while 147 are of confirmed and decided criminal tendencies.

A scholarship of American history has been founded by the New York Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The sum of \$250 per annum is to be devoted to the purpose, and the student passing highest in a competitive examination will be entitled to pursue, for two years, the highest course in American history taught by Barnard or Columbia College.

Since 1820, when immigration statistics first began to be kept, there have come into the United States to live 17,544,692 foreigners, or almost exactly the present entire population of Spain and half a million more than the entire population of England in 1851, and over four times the present population of Scotland. It might also be remarked that this is 1,000,000 more people than there are in all Asia, Turkey, and about eight and one-tenth times the present population of

any idea in finishing railroad. The new idea has just been introduced by the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad, notes the Pathfinder. It consists in covering the outside of the car with a thin sheathing of copper, in place of paint and varnish. The new finish is put on more quickly and is more durable than paint and varnish. The copper may be oxidized before it is put on or left to the natural oxidizing influence of the air, which soon develops a handsome color. About 1000 pounds of the sheet copper are required to finish one car.

It is strange, marvels the New York Tribune, that American business men persist in packing goods carelessly and unskillfully for export to Mexico and South American countries, inasmuch as they are constantly told that they are thereby hurting their market. The United States Consul in Mexico has again called attention to this matter, but their warnings will probably be unheeded. If the American merchants don't want the market of the Western Hemisphere, very well. But why do, then it is surely worth their while to pay attention to the idiosyncrasies of the people whose trade they seek.

The latest thing out in the music cure, which is being exploited in Munich. A harp is attached to a rocking chair in such a way that when the patient rocks the harp twangs, and there you are. This may be all very well in its way; but what is really wanted is a cure for the misguided people who think they can play on pianos, harps, flutes and things, though they really can't. The New York Tribune maintains that if the Munich music cure, by the way, should be attached to the rockers of the American summer resort hotel, the summer resort to Europe would be greater than ever, though we don't believe that Munich would reap much advantage from it.

A correspondent of a London paper laments the "awagging nomenclature of the British Navy." Another correspondent suggests that such names as Bonner and Insolent, which have replaced by something in a different tone—the Ritualist, for instance, or the Thoughtful Radical. Some years ago a classical poet in England likened the Ironclad to a rhinoceros, and it is rather a wonder that the Admiralty have not before this adopted the name of that powerful and self-asserting animal. These are his lines:

O Concentration of brute force,
Rhino-ceros of the deep;
O ugly Dolos, on whose shores
No soft Latona sleeps;
Scant room for thee for birth or love
Hid Monstrous's furnace bore,
The iron-throated gunstove,
Below the rippling horns.

WHEN LOVE COMES KNOCKING AT THE GATE.

When Love comes knocking at thy gate,
Bid him at once depart.
He will be patient, and will wait
The bidding of thy heart.
Tell him he knocketh there in vain,
That he may never come in.
He'll smiting leave, but come again,
Thy loving heart to win.
Then when at last he knocks in tears,
Thy open wide love's case,
He'll soon force his foolish fears,
And won't t'was sweet to wait!
—William H. Gardner.

WON BY WAITING.

One of the turret rooms of Heitzberg castle, a young girl arranged in a simple dress and white apron, sat sewing industriously. All the sound of footsteps she paused her work; at the sight of a Hussar officer in uniform she reddened with excitement.

There was nothing in Albrecht von Reitzenberg's appearance to annoy her; on the contrary, he was young, very good looking, tall, and of dignified bearing.

"Will you allow me to come in?" he asked, standing on the threshold. The girl looked up her work again. "You can come in if you wish," she said indifferently.

He walked across the room. "I have a proposal to make for you, Baroness Irma. Will you give me your attention for a little while?"

She looked at him indignantly; she had a sweet oval face and deep gray eyes.

"I thought you would say so!" (there was something like a ring of triumph in his voice), but indeed my proposal is very harmless. Let us come to an understanding.

There was uncertain distrust in her eyes.

"I know you have every reason to be offended. You have been most unfairly treated."

"I have been invited to this house under false pretenses. I came because I thought that the visit would give pleasure to Frau von Wolde, who fills, or is supposed to fill, the place of my mother. I am sorry to speak disrespectfully of your cousin, but—"

"Not at all. You are perfectly right, and my relative, Frau von Wolde, is in the plot, and has been from the beginning. I know all about it now. I, as the heir of Reitzenberg castle—you will excuse my mentioning my name first—have received the castle with all my debts, in marriage to the Baroness Irma von Buchow, who, on attaining her majority, will become possessed of so large a fortune that she could free the castle from all her debts with a stroke of her pen. Nay, hear me out; this lady was to have been kept in ignorance of the plan, but that the friend and chaperon could not resist the temptation of giving her a hint as to how matters stood, after she had become the guest of the castle. Is this so?"

"Yes," she stood by his side now and the sunlight just touched the coils of her auburn hair. "I have been deceived, cruelly deceived."

ing over it, raised her fingers to his lips.

"Thank heaven that you are safe!" he cried. "Oh! Irma, my Irma, I could not stop you. I came just too late for that. I could only look on in agony. Are you frightened? Are you hurt?"

"I am not hurt. I did not know that it was dangerous; I did not, indeed."

She saw him turn pale at the thought of her peril, and the tears which she had shed for herself fell fast for his distress.

"The bridge should have been destroyed long ago; it shall be done today. I did not dare to join you, or to speak of my past the moment that you had been killed—ah! I cannot bear to think of it—I should never have known another day's happiness, and it would have been my fault—mine! How could I let you wander away from me! I was longing to be with you? My Irma, my best-beloved! Thank heaven that I have you safe at last. Surely we have played at being friends and enemies long enough? I suppose it's a yard that the Cuban children play in."—Boston Traveller.

When he had made her an offer of marriage three long months ago she had been ready with her refusal. Now, when her whole heart was his, she could find no words amid her tears except, "I love you! I love you!"

It was enough for him. "My bride, my wife!" he said, and held her in his arms.

The green ferns rustled and whispered the loveliest of their bonbons in the sunlight; the red squirrels played in the oak trees, the whole wood was full of life and joy at that moment when the lovers pledged their troth.—Woman at Home.

Corn-Stalk Armor for Battleships.

A new scheme has been devised for the protection of iron-clad ships, which, if put into operation, will make these look even more cumbersome than they do at present. This new plan involves no additional iron, steel or armor, but consists of erecting a wooden armor upon the ship from hostile guns.

The firm of Cramps, the great ship-builders, has purchased the patents on this new process.

Seen from the outside you would not know a corn-stalk armor when you saw one, as the vegetable armor would be protected by a steel covering that is to be made waterproof. The corn armor will, however, add considerably to the bulk of our men-of-war.—New York Journal.

A Bear's Trip in a Balloon.

There is a bear out at Sioux City, Iowa, that goes up in a balloon. He made an ascent at Crystal Lake, near the city, in the presence of 1000 persons. Bruno is a big black bear, and the task of training him for an ascension was no trifling one. He had a natural aversion to a balloon, and it was some time before he uttered a growl of disapproval, and would have fled but for the restraining hand of his master, A. Hirbourn.

After awhile he was induced to approach the balloon. He put his head over the side of the basket and sniffed, longingly at a small box of honey on the car's bottom. Presently the limit of temptation was reached, and a moment later the big animal was in the basket licking the honey vigorously.

When Bruno was in the car the rope was loosened and the balloon shot upward. It had gone but a few feet when the black head of the bear was seen peering over the side, and the movements of the car indicated that he was wabbling about in consternation and wishing he was out.

A rope was attached to the balloon and Bruno was hoisted above his feet. As the balloon floated close to the top of a big cottonwood tree Bruno grabbed at its branches. The balloon, with Bruno, floated around in the air for some time and finally settled on the shore of Crystal Lake.

When Mr. Hirbourn came up Bruno was seated in a cornfield eating corn, the abandoned car of the balloon fast in a neighboring tree. Bear and balloon were unharmed.

Bruno has a great talent for thieving, and he has been known to thieve, wrestle and do other tricks. It was Mr. Hirbourn's intention to transform Bruno into steaks and roasts, but owing to the remarkable intelligence he displayed during the death sentence he has been revoked, and Bruno may now live as long as he behaves himself.

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Warning—The Last Resort—Equal to the Occasion—Knows His Place All Right—Fierce Fighting, Etc.

Teacher—"James, can you tell me what is meant by a cubic yard."

James—"I don't know exactly, but I suppose it's a yard that the Cuban children play in."—Boston Traveller.

General Weyler mopped his humid brow. "This has been a hard-fought battle," said he.

Mrs. Cobwigger—"I'm going to draw my money out of the bank, dear, and put it in the one where Minnie keeps her account."

Baron—"Sorry you can't come in, Van Trintam. How was the sermon this morning?"

Van Trintam—"I did not hear the sermon; but the text was good."

Teacherfoot Desat—"Why, somebody has simply drilled your tooth without filling it."

It is remarkable, said the human beings should show so little intelligence when they are very young.

That, replied the bachelor, "is another evidence of the great wisdom of nature. In case they happen to be the children of prominent parents, it prevents their being afflicted by the poetry written about them."

Honesty, doctor, said the man who prides himself on being skeptical, isn't there a great deal of imagination in your profession?"

What are you bothering your father about? asked the boy's mother.

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SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

Salicylic acid, boric acid, borax and formaldehyde are some of the chemicals added to prevent milk from souring.

The sanitary condition of Madrid, Spain, has been improved.

When we look at the sun we see him, not where he actually is, but where he was about eight minutes and eighteen seconds ago; his true place is then always in advance of his apparent place.

A long series of organic, inorganic and vegetable pigments have been experimentally tested to determine their relative permanency on cotton fiber.

Power for the Jefferson Electric Back Railroad will be supplied with two waterfalls producing 400 horsepower.

Three trains, holding 200 passengers will be kept moving at the same time. The length of the line is 7.6 miles, and the total rise is 6555 feet. The speed is limited to 6.5 miles an hour, the trip taking 96 minutes.

Mr. Shorthair—"What changes have taken place in the world?"

Professor Longhair—"Yes, indeed, my dear, in the days of Methuselah it was the men who used to lie about their age."

"I'll teach you to play pitch and toss!" shouted an enraged father.

"I'll teach you to make a good dinner!"

"I'll take two more rooms. I've got to wash my face in the morning."

Passenger (lighting from cab)—"What's the charge?" "One dollar."

How to Rest.

THAT'S WHO!

Who hypnotized me with her ways
Until my heart was all ablaze
With love, and every nerve appared
To be, like lightning, double-gared?
—Lillian.

Who let me kiss her on sweet night
Beneath the moon's white mortal light,
And said she'd ever cling to me
As clings the bark unto the tree?
—My betroth'd.

Who left the altar at my side,
Dressed in the trappings of a bride,
And said again and yet again
I was the king of all the men?
—My wife.

And now who often calls me down,
Upon her face a vicious frown,
And if to answer her I dare
Entitles her fingers in my hair?
—Same girl.

Orator—"My friends, what is the price of liberty?"

Deacon Black—"How did you like it down at Bloomtown?"

Allice—"Well, Maud, I hear you are engaged to Jack."

Miss Shorthair—"What changes have taken place in the world?"

Fond Wife—"What are you worrying about this evening?"

Passenger (lighting from cab)—"What's the charge?"

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HUMOR OF THE DAY.

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The school children of New Orleans are raising a fund of \$50,000 to erect a monument to John McDonogh.

London Work of Salvationists.

Last year the Salvation Army in London provided 3,231,917 meals and 1,339,246 lodgings for the poor.

The man who would help mankind must be willing to be called a crank.