

It would seem, however, that all black men should have a thorough knowledge of the human foot, but such is not the case, for there is perhaps no trade in the world where there are more botch mechanics than among blacksmiths. This should not be for incompetent and thoughtless smiths do a great amount of damage and cause much suffering to the equine race.

During Senator Jones's recent exhaustive speech on the silver question, says the *Pittsburg Dispatch*, he referred to the fact that in the ancient days of Massachusetts oyster shells were used as money. Mr. Hoar nodded his venerable head and whispered to Senator Gray: "A man in these days wanted to order a dozen on the half-shell, he could do it with perfect safety, knowing that he could pay for them with the shells."

The achievement of the naval ordnance officers at Washington in firing a projectile filled with emmerite through a two-inch steel plate and exploding it on the other side is something that the *Times Democrat* thinks will open the eyes of experts all over the world. This is one of the most important developments in the field of high explosives that no doubt will be successfully used in the large-caliber rifled guns of the new navy.

The *Boston Outlook* says: "The use of air brakes on passenger trains is now general, and it probably soon will be on freight trains as well. It is much safer and quicker than the old-fashioned hand brake, and freight trains are now commonly run at such rates of speed as to make them very unsafe without air brakes. The process of slowing up a heavily loaded train by hand brakes was always too long a job to keep it from running over an obstruction not seen from a considerable distance ahead. By adapting air brakes for freight trains, the engineers can do the work, relieving many of the necessity of employing a large force of brakemen, who were often on the steps or platform as they peculiarly exposed to danger. No one need feel sorry that the brakemen need go. As many men will be needed in railroad work as ever, and probably more, but it will be in work much pleasanter and much safer to life than that of the brakeman."

One afternoon in the following week the minister sat down to prepare a sermon for the coming Sabbath. As was often the case, he talked it over with his wife. When he named the chapter he proposed to read at the opening of the service, a sudden gleam of mischief came into Mrs. Spooner's face. But she said nothing.

During the week Mr. Spooner wrote to a friend in the city, asking him if there was any sale for beans there. He had twenty-five bushels to dispose of, at a low price, he wrote, adding that it had been "a great year for beans in Scraggy Corners."

When Sunday morning came Mrs. Spooner sent her husband on to church ahead of her, under the plea that she had not got the children quite ready. "Don't wait for me, Henry," she said, "or you may be late. We'll get there in time for the sermon."

He was reading a chapter from the Psalms when his family arrived. He had reached the verse in which the lily of the valley is spoken of, and these words he uttered as he turned to look at the door opened and Mrs. Spooner, followed by her children, filed slowly and impressively in. "Verily, I say unto you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." As he finished the verse he looked up at the advancing arrivals, and the spectacle that met his eyes tested his power of self-control more than anything else he had ever experienced, he afterward told his wife. His mouth was twitched, and a smile flickered about his eyes, but he managed to keep back the grin that would have appeared at the faintest encouragement. "Such a sight! The oldest girl was arrayed in Almy's cast off dress, of navy blue, with some other girl's policeman's red. Her sister was resplendent in a dress of Scotch plaid pattern of most gorgeous colors, originally, but now somewhat subdued by time and wear, still very vivid, and over it she wore a jacket about three sizes too small for her, the picturesque costume being topped off by a hat trimmed with old ribbon freshly dyed a very bright magenta color. The oldest boy had a pair of trousers which he fairly dragged at the heels, and a jacket which was long enough for an overcoat, while the other boy wore trousers so short that they failed to meet the top of a pair of bright blue stockings, while his jacket refused to keep company with the top of his trousers. Each article had a peculiar color of its own, and the general effect was, as has been said, decidedly picturesque.

How great minds differ, Senator Vest says, "That as between Chicago and Hell as a place for holding the world's fair he would have no choice." Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage has accepted a call to Chicago, showing he prefers it to New York—especially when \$20,000 is attached to the call.

In the garden, if the plot is small, a saving of labor may be made by the frequent use of the rake, which will effectually destroy young and tender weeds, and keep the soil loose and warm. It is best to rake the soil after the rain, and before the sun has dried it.

The outlook for outdoor sports is excellent. Throughout the state there is a more active interest in organized recreation, and base ball and tennis clubs are to be counted by the dozen. Good exercise and a pleasurable means of a healthier and stronger generation of men and women it means a longer life, and its influence is preaching. It is well, however, to remember that moderation is essential if the best results are to be achieved. Excessive exertion is dangerous.

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Gold is Practically Indestructible. Gold may be said to be everlasting and indestructible. The pure acids have no effect upon it. Air and water alike are unable to work its destruction. While to the base metals they are docile, to gold they are innocuous. Bury it through the long ages, and when the rods of the excavator again brings it to light, while everything around it or originally associated with it is returned to dust and the delicate form which it adorned has become a powder so impalpable as to be imperceptible, the delicate tracery of the finest gold thread remains.

Days, years, century upon century may roll by; mighty Empires rise and fall; dynasties which deem their power everlasting and unassailable may be conquered and cities teeming with millions may be the abode of the owl, yet the element of gold remains. 5000 years ago it was used as a medium of exchange.

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HOW IT STARTED. "What started that rumor that English capitalists had bought the Chicago stock yards?" "One of them was overheard to say that they were going to buy every bloody thing in the country."—Pack.

BUT THEY ORKED EXCEEDING FINE. "Poor fellow! But why did you reject him in such a summary way?" "Well, he's the editor of that *Monthly Magazine*, and thought I'd let him know that two can play at that game."—Life.

AN AUTHOR'S TRIBULATION. Train Boy—"Have a copy of 'Bated Hay,' sir?" Pennie (author of the book)—"Ah, um, do you sell many copies of 'Bated Hay'?" Train Boy—"Oh, I catch a sucker once in a while."—Pack.

WHICH WOULD IT BE. Good—"Just imagine the case now, Fuddle! If you were in a burning house with your wife and mother-in-law, and could save but one, which one would it be?" Fuddle (having scratched his head, thoughtfully)—"Why, myself."—Life.

A CRUEL NECESSITY. Judge—"Not only have you stolen your benefactor's cash box, but also carried off his dearest treasure, his only daughter!" Prisoner—"Allow me, your Honor, nobody regrets it more than myself; the fact is, there was no taking the one without the other."

MAKING UP LOST TIME. Mrs. Youngthing—"How long have these eggs been boiling, Bridget?" Bridget—"Eighteen minutes, mum." Mrs. Youngthing—"Why, I told you to boil them only three minutes!" Bridget—"Oh, know that, mum, but the kitchen clock is fifteen minutes slow, mum."—*Darlington Free Press*.

JUSTIFIABLE. Judge (severely)—"Young woman, you are charged with playing Wagner's compositions until your victim expired in agony." Prisoner—"It was in self defense, your Honor. He persisted in explaining his ball to me, against my expressed wish." Judge (to sheriff)—"Release the prisoner."—Pack.

LOSS OF APPETITE. Principal of Girls' School—"Send me through the usual channels, please, a list of the usual ailments of the school." "The usual ailments of the school are loss of appetite, indigestion, and a general feeling of uneasiness."—Pack.

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up the nerve to propose. "Did you read about those Seminary girls in Massachusetts who were made sick by 'nerve-training,' Ananias?" "Ananias—"Yes, I read about it." "Diffident—"What a foolish thing that was."

Ananias (in a discouraged tone)—"I don't know about it. I think it would be a good thing if you would enter into a course of nerve-training yourself. You seem to need it." [Diffident went home pondering over her remarks, and the next evening he proposed and was accepted.]—*Teasdale's*.

EVANES AND THE ABLE EATER. Up in Vermont a short time ago I heard a story of William M. Evans, the Senator, statesman and lawyer, who dazzles New England every summer with his agricultural ability as much as he does New York and Washington in the winter time by his political profundity.

One of the hangers-on around his immense stock farm was Ivory Hall, a big fellow, who could eat more and do less work than any other man ever known in that region. Stories about Ivory's wonderful capacity for food came to the ears of the Senator, who, discrediting them, made up his mind to put the reputed champion to the test.

He accordingly hired the germanicizing giant for a day, and set him down to the breakfast table preparatory to going to school. Food enough for five men was brought on, and Hall had no trouble in clearing the board.

"Now, Ivory," said the polysyllabic orator, "we have a long way to go to the field, and if you don't mind I should like to have you eat your dinner at this table, so you need not come clear back to the house."

"Just as leave take my dinner any time," was the willing answer. Again the table groaned under the weight of provisions, and again Ivory cleared the board.

"See here, Mr. Hall," said the ing statesman, "our supper here is o'clock, and I want you to go to bed now, too, so as to be down in the morning." "Sartin," said the champion, "I'll be down in the morning."

shipped to China for the soup of the merchants and high dignitaries of the Empire, are so great that he is pursued summer and winter, and thousands of tons of him have been dried, sucked and shipped away. There are but few large abalones left. One can find wave-worn shells on the beach, or in the deep limestone caves, that are larger than any now obtained. You will still find thousands of about the size and shape of a gentleman's watch-crystal, but the shells are eight inches across only turn up at rare intervals, and are much sought for by collectors, and jewelers who know their beauty when polished. There are two sets of abalones on the Californian coast, one black on the outside, the other red. When this outer shell is ground partly through the effect is either black or red, as the case may be, on a pearly ground. The abalone pins and sleeve-buttons that contain green or blue shades come from the pearl buttons in the black-lacked abalones, while those that contain silvery and gray tints, come from the buttons in the red-lacked species.—*New York Tribune*.

Checkers Among Fighters. About as hard a game as any man can wish to tackle in a game of the average freeman. It is a game that is played in all the stations, and hours of "waiting for something to do" give ample opportunities for its exercise in it. Some wonderfully good games are played, and some of the best of the best are played. Some of the best of the best are played. Some of the best of the best are played.

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BLACK KNIGHT



I will travel my BLACK KNIGHT Stallion the spring season of 1890 through Queen Anne's county, besides scores of valuable farm and driving horses, requires no long column of newspaper to set forth the superior blood of his ancestors for generations back. He blows his own trumpet, he sounds his own praise.

55 with 50 cents to the groom, will be charged for his services each mare, payable during or at the end of the season. GEORGE DAVIDSON, JOHN HIXSON, Groom.

Amount of Stock	Value
From \$1,000 to \$2,000	100
" 2,000 to 4,000	150
" 4,000 to 6,000	200
" 6,000 to 10,000	250
" 10,000 to 20,000	300
" 20,000 to 30,000	350
" 30,000 to 40,000	400
" 40,000 to 50,000	450
" 50,000 to 60,000	500
" 60,000 to 70,000	550
" 70,000 to 80,000	600
" 80,000 to 90,000	650
" 90,000 to 100,000	700

No licenses shall be granted to sell spirituous or fermented liquors, or lager beer, in quantities not less than a pint, for the sum of \$18.00, unless the person applying therefor shall also obtain license to sell goods, chattels, wares, and merchandise, paying therefor the sum of \$1.00, according to the provisions of the law in that behalf made.