

The Horaces are living happy bachelors' lives and the Johns couldn't stay single if they tried. Why should Horace go thus unscathed, while John is followed by a horrible fate? Dern 'em one an' all; some men have all the luck.—New York Sun.

—That no riddle is too difficult or too absurd for the real enthusiast in such matters is proved by the following from the diary of Sir Mountstuart E. Grant Duff: "Someone told an excellent story of two men who, wishing to play a trick upon a friend famous for finding out riddles, conspired to ask him one which had, they thought, no answer. "Why is a ghost like a muffin?" He asked for a day's time, and then gave the answer: "They are both fancy bred." And a listener mentioned the well-known riddle, "Why did Joseph's brethren put him in the pit?" with the old answer, "Because it was such a fine opening for a young man," and a better new one, "Because he had a coat of many colors, and could not be admitted into the dress circle."

LITIGATION.

It is said that in no other country in the world are there so many damage suits brought as there are in the United States. Indeed, the civil suits brought

School Debentures FOR SALE.

The Town of Rainy River is offering for sale \$25,000 school debentures, bearing 5 per cent. interest, repayable in thirty equal annual payments of \$1,626.29 each, the first dated July 19, 1904.

The present bonded debt of the town is \$1,500; the assessment for 1904 is \$386.515; the population is 2,000. For any further particulars apply to

A. E. MARK, Sec.-Treas.

Rainy River, Aug. 18, 1904.

Debentures For Sale.

The undersigned is prepared to receive offers for the purchase of debentures of "The Southern Judicial District" in the Province of Manitoba to the amount of \$40,000, and issued under the provisions of Chapter 55, 3-4 Edward VII., intitled "An Act to provide for the erection of Judicial Buildings for the Southern Judicial District and Equipping the same," such debentures to be in denominations of not less than \$500 each, payable on the FIRST DAY OF JULY AND JANUARY; said debentures both as to principal and interest to be made payable at any place in Great Britain or Canada, either in Sterling money or in the currency of the Dominion of Canada.

All offers must be addressed to the undersigned and marked "Tender for Southern Judicial District Debentures" and must reach this office NOT LATER THAN SATURDAY, THE TENTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, A.D., 1904.

Delivery of debentures to be made in Winnipeg.

JOHN H. AGNEW,

Provincial Treasurer.

Provincial Treasurer's Office,

Winnipeg, Man., Aug. 12, 1904.

in that country are declared to exceed two millions in number. This seems a great number, until we learn that it is exceeded relatively by both Italy and Germany, which are litigation countries. The New York Sun says that the number of lawsuits brought in a year in France is 800,000. In Italy it is 1,400,000, and in Germany it is 3,000,000, a very much larger number, both actually and relatively, than the number in the United States.

Civil actions of all kinds begun last year in Great Britain and Ireland numbered about 1,500,000, or one for nearly every tenth male or female adult in the United Kingdom. In 1902, there was an increase of nearly 62,000 over the previous year, and 472,041 actions were heard out of 1,410,484 that were begun. Of the number of appeal cases heard, one in every three was successful, against one in four of five years ago. The total cost of British litigation in 1903 was placed at \$7,809,875.

The best measure of litigation is usually the number of laws or statutes, and not, contrary to general belief, the number of lawyers. In this country it is found generally to be the case that the largest amount of litigation does not originate among Americans, but among newcomers here, who appeal to the courts for the adjudication of matters of trifling accounts. In the United States, if the plaintiffs were different in every case, one in eight of the voting population could be said to be a litigant. As it is, the actual number of different litigants is not in excess of 800,000—400,000 plaintiffs, and 400,000 defendants—which is one per cent. of the total population of the country, which is now about 80,000,000.

ABOUT AUTOMOBILES.

It was after much deliberation and thought that I decided to invest in an automobile, relates Simon Ford, in Everybody's Magazine: The first machine I looked at was small, simple, and inexpensive. It had but one cylinder. The salesman said that was an advantage. He said a four-cylinder engine would get out of order four times as often. This machine had a handle on the side like a barrel-organ. He showed me how to make it go fast and slow, and stop and start, and all while the machine stood in the store. A child of ten years could run it, he assured me. "Now, if you want to get out of a tight place," he said, "get a sudden move on—so to speak—you just touch this lever, called the accelerator."

He touched it, and with that something went wrong, and the handle I have alluded to fled around and smote me violently in the abdomen. When I came to I told him a child of ten might run the machine, but the child would have to have a very strong stomach.

Every auto I thought of buying, all my friends assured me was no good, and in the light of subsequent exper-

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