

MISCELLANY.

Fidelity is seven-tenths of business success.

The French sardine fishery again promises poorly, and packers are paying high prices for the fish.

We must trust and hope, and neither doubt ourselves nor doubt the good in others, whether friends or acquaintances.

Checkers is a nice, quiet game, but the man who plays checkers in business hours is pretty certain to be a busted community sooner or later.

Don't be led into overbuying by the prospect of advancing prices. Better mark up the goods you have on hand and thus get an actual profit.

The prospects for a large crop of raw silk are most excellent and advices from the Orient, state that the August yield will be unusually large and of excellent quality.

Wood made into paper is no longer a wonder, it is so common. Now we are to have summer hats made out of wood, to be far lighter than straw, and of sufficient elegance to be worn by ladies.

Careful estimates place the consumption of spruce long in the manufacture of wood pulp for 1895 at 800,000,000 feet. How long before it will be necessary to find a substitute for wood pulp?

All is not beer and skittles nor sunshine and flowers in the glorious climate of California. The Los Angeles Express comes to hand with a delinquent tax list which occupies sixteen pages of that paper.

A punctual man is rarely a poor man, and never one of doubtful credit. His small accounts are frequently settled, and he never meets with difficulty in raising money to pay large demands. Small debts neglected ruin credit, and when a man has lost that he will find himself at the bottom of a hill he cannot ascend.

The British market being flooded with German prison made goods is causing great trouble in the old land. These goods would not be made at all were the ports of England not free. But Germany uses the market of Free Trade England as a help to her prisons. The situation is an interesting study for all who favor free imports, but to men who have to compete with such goods it is a very depressing experience.

According to a work on cinnamon a continental firm of confectioners, who use large quantities of walnuts, find a good market for the refuse shells in London, where they sell at a good price as an adulterant of cinnamon.

It is not very encouraging to aspiring writers to know that the quality of the present-day paper, printing and binding is so defective that in a few centuries not a book now being issued will be in existence. This is one result of the American bargain spirit.

"What has your representative done since he's been in congress?"

"What's he done?"

"Yes."

"Built two houses, paid off a mortgage, an' opened a grocery store!"—Atlanta Constitution.

One of the most remarkable developments of the nickel-in-the-slot machine is a "Doctor Cureall," in Holland. It is a wooden figure of a man, with compartments all over it, labelled with the names of various ailments. If you have a pain, find its corresponding location on the figure, drop a coin into the slot, and the proper pill or powder will come out.

A word of good counsel is given in the following from the Sonoma County Farmer: "The man who will go over his trees during the next two months, and pick off suckers, watersprouts and other useless growths, will have next winter's pruning nearly if not quite finished, without bothering with tons of brush when other work is pushing. Summer pruning is the most practical method for the fruit grower."

A bank clerk was conversing the other evening about the popular notion that men who occupied such positions as his had the very "softest snaps" of any class of working people alive. Such opinions are entirely erroneous, he declared, for, though it is true that dry goods store and grocery clerks and workshop employees labor more hours a day than bank clerks, their labors were nothing like as confining, nerve destroying and perplexing. There could be in his opinion, no harder work in the world than keeping one's eyes glued on a page full of figures all day, figures which represented nothing but mathematical sums of which the solution was never reached. The monotony and dreariness of it was something appalling, and especially so on those days which come to every one when, though not sick, the mind and brain refuse to work with alacrity and precision. It was maddening, dull, ambition destroy-

ing, and altogether undesirable employment. This is a view which is entirely contrary to the general opinion, but it only goes to prove the well-known fact that each man believes the one particular vocation which he pursues is beyond cavil, the hardest and most disagreeable of all which life offers.—New England Grocer.

A horseless carriage is one of the latest inventions, and has been successfully tested in Paris. Among the contrivances exhibited were freight waggons as well as light vehicles, and the ultimate result will be the supplanting of the horse as a draught animal in cities. Electric street cars have already largely contributed to this end, and with well-paved streets, electric carriages will cause the noble steed's banishment as completely as the Winchester rifle did the extinction of the buffalo on the western plains. Perhaps it will be better in the cause of humanity that the race of over-worked cart horses should die out. Transportation will be easier and better and cheaper.

When the stability of our life insurance companies is considered we cannot fail to admire the wisdom and foresight of their founders in so adapting the means to the end—in providing for all possible contingencies—that given the average business management the system exactly conforms in practice to the theory upon which it is built. The few failures in life insurance have not inflicted any discredit upon the principles which underlie the system and which have stood the test of time. Though many schemes have been devised having for their ostensible purpose the same result, though pursuing different methods, it is yet to be shown how their perpetuity can be guaranteed and the equities of all policyholders be as fully conserved as through the system pursued by all legitimate life insurance companies.—U. S. Review.

The Royal Baking Powder Company has recently forced wholesale grocers to sign a new contract, which the grocers find very distasteful. Some time ago the wholesale grocers requested the baking powder company to grant better terms, claiming that there was not a living profit in handling the goods. The contracts now provide that a rebate of 5 per cent. shall be paid at the end of a year, providing that the grocers increase their sales 10 per cent. during the year, and do not sell to other jobbers. As an example of the sentiment on the subject a leading grocer said yesterday that he would give \$1,000 if he could be one of two-thirds of the grocers to sign an agreement refusing to handle the goods of the Royal Baking Powder Company.—New York Journal of Commerce.