

INTERESTING ITEMS.

The admirers of Lord Iddealeigh (Sir Stafford Northcote) collected \$12,000, and therewith have presented him with a silver plate, four dessert stands, and two candelabra.

After chasing a fox all day a party of eleven hunters from West Rutland, Mass., brought up at a hole. The dogs howled, and the hunters dug for two hours and a half, and at last unearthed a woodchuck.

A clerk in Salem, Mass., bought two dollar tickets in the Lynn Grand Army lottery the other day, and gave one of them to a friend in payment of a dollar he owed him. This ticket drew a \$1,000 United States bond.

Five years ago the two daughters of Paul Goesser of Shaboygan county, Wis., married and moved to Milwaukee. The other day Mr. Goesser asked the Milwaukee police to help him find his girls. He said that he had quite forgotten the names of their husbands, and had been looking in vain for them for two weeks.

M. L. La Count of Clayton, Ga., after serving a sentence in the jail at Atlanta for violating the revenue laws, returned home paralyzed in his legs and quite helpless. His young wife in attempting to lift him from the bed to a chair, ruptured a blood vessel and died, leaving him with one child two years and another six months old.

Mr. Rufus Fillow of Cranberry Plains, Conn., being troubled by hen thieves, set a big steel trap before the door of his hen house and covered it with straw. After several days had passed and no thief had been caught, Mr. Fillow endeavored to rearrange the straw over the trap. It caught him by the hand, and he was held a prisoner until neighbors came to his aid.

Maine newspapers report that game has been very abundant this winter in the well-settled central district of that State. A herd of thirty-five caribou, for example, was lately seen making its way toward Mount Katikidid, upon whose upper slopes these animals find a morsel of which they are very fond.

A tipsy colored woman caused great excitement in the Hebrew quarter of St. Louis the other day by meandering along the street wearing as a shawl a "caith," a garment worn by orthodox Jews at morning prayers only. The woman would give no account of how she procured the garment, and had no idea of its sacred character.

Little Mike Connelly was bitten by a yellow dog some days ago. His mother said that in the old country the "lights and hair of the dog that bit you" were a sure preventive against hydrophobia, and so Mr. Connelly killed the yellow dog and bound the lungs and some of the hair on the wound. Mike is doing well, with no signs of rabies.

Mr. Crouch of Randolph, Tenn., thoughtlessly became engaged to two young ladies at the same time, and the father of one of them marched him to his daughter's house at the end of a shotgun. There the young woman and her sister gave him a fearful cownhiding, and he finally made his escape and hurried off, and married the other girl.

Maud, the twelve year old daughter of Dr. R. J. Wilson of Salem, Ind., arose in her sleep the other night and went across the street. Then she went back and stood at her own door fumbling with the lock. Her father heard her and, thinking burglars were there, drew his pistol and, when the door opened, shot. The ball struck Maud in the shoulder. It will not kill her, but it awakened her thoroughly.

Persons who have a superstitious dread of Friday will not be pleased to learn that this is a thoroughly Friday year. It came in on a Friday, will go out on a Friday, and will have fifty-three Fridays. There are four months in the year that have five Fridays each; changes of the moon occur five times on a Friday, and the longest and shortest days of the year each fall on a Friday.

A Wabash, Ind., farmer handed \$25 to Archibald Stitt the other day and asked him to give it to his mother. He explained that thirty years ago, when Mr. Stitt's father was County Treasurer, he had been given a receipt in full for taxes when, in fact, he had paid \$10 too little. The Treasurer had made good the deficit, and now the farmer wanted to ease his conscience by paying \$25 to the Treasurer's widow.

The champion hog that was killed in Rhinebeck the other day in the presence of 3,000 persons, for weeks before his death had to be fed with a spoon. He was so fat that he could not feed himself, and so a small boy and a big iron spoon were employed. The boy had no alms, for the hog ate half a barrel of swill daily, but the boy learned to love the fashog, and wept bitterly when he was slaughtered.

When the West Shore Railroad was being built one of the workmen had two fine St. Bernard dogs, which he kept at a shanty at Pegg's Point, near Marlborough-on-the-Hudson. He went away unexpectedly in 1881, and never returned. The dogs remained, and now there is quite a large pack of them. They are fine, large fellows, very shy, but savage, and are known all along the river as the Wild Dogs of Pegg's Point.

One of the boarders in an Augusta, Me., boarding house was annoyed at finding that some one was smoking his favorite meerschaum pipe. So he loaded it carefully with a mixture of powder and tobacco and went to business. When he returned he received an emphatic expression of opinion from an elderly and estimable lady of the family whose face was well swathed in bandages that covered powder marks. As for the pipe that had totally disappeared.

Twenty-five years ago a young Scotchman named Garrick went to Australia, leaving his wife behind him. After some years she heard that he was dead, and came to Hamilton with her little son, and there married Mr. Nicholson. Six years ago he died. Meanwhile Garrick, who had not died, returned to Scotland with a nice little fortune and began hunting for his wife. Two weeks ago she received a letter from him, and a week ago she joined him in Hamilton, and they were again regularly and lawfully married.

Music and Drama.

At the Grand on Monday and Tuesday evenings, Miss Adelaide Moore, the young English actress, created quite a surprise in her really charming presentation of *Rosalind and Juliet*. There is a winsomeness about her acting which begets intense sympathy, and where this feeling is inspired in an audience, the performer usually scores a success. Miss Moore is not yet a great actress, but that she possesses the capacity to become such none who saw her will deny.

The great Modjeska appeared at the Grand Thursday and Friday. It is enough to say the different characters in which she appeared were invested with her own intense personality.

Next week the "Mikado" will give a six nights farewell, introducing some new features in the performance.

A New York critic urges that the "cowboy pianist," Babel, is entitled to some consideration, inasmuch as he does not advertise himself to be Lieta's favorite pupil.

In Alexandria, Piedmont, a young male soprano, a pupil of Maestro Correglia, is delighting the people, both in church and concert, by a voice that is said to rival that of Patti.

It is said Barry and Fay are to become reunited as a theatrical firm. That will be a good thing. They are among the cleverest of Irish comedians, and one is exactly the complement of the other.

Patti vigorously resents the imputation that her popularity is on the wane. She asserts that her three concerts in Paris averaged \$9,000 a night, and that her reception was most cordial.

It is hard to believe that that "cowboy pianist" is a cowboy after all. Two or three New York editors have called him a liar and got away. If he is a cowboy he isn't working at his trade or there would be a small of powder in the air.

A boy in the gallery of a Springfield, Mass., theatre disconcerted the actors the other evening during a most affecting part of the play. The stage had been darkened, and one of the actors at another's approach repeated his line, "Hark! What is that?" "Rats" shouted the gamin, and the audience and actor responded.

When Miss Adelaide Neilson was in St. Louis in 1880 she stood in front of the bronze statue of Shakespeare and said: "Old fellow, you have done a great deal for me, a great deal."

Religion in a Pack of Cards.

A sergeant in an English company one Sunday, m.robbed his soldiers to church and commanding them to take out their Bibles or prayer books; each did so, except one soldier by the name of Richard Lee, who took out a pack of cards, and spread them before him. The sergeant said: "Richard, put up that pack of cards." The soldier said: "I shall not do so." The sergeant said: "If you will not do so I shall arrest you after the service is over." When the service was over he brought the soldier before his lordship, the Mayor of Glasgow, who asked the sergeant, "Why dost thou bring this soldier here before me?" "For playing cards in church, your worship," His lordship says, "Soldier, what hast thou to say for thyself?" "Much do I pray your lordship to hear me." "Is it well, if you do not well excuse yourself I will punish you severely. Go on and explain." The soldier said, "Your lordship, I have been six weeks upon the march and I had neither Bible or prayer book, nor almanac. I shall attempt to convince your lordship that this pack of cards has served me for all these." "Go on," said his lordship. "When I look upon the ace it reminds me that there is but one God; when I look upon the deuce it reminds me of the Father and Son. And when I look upon the tray it reminds me of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. When I look upon the four it reminds me of the four evangelists that preached, Mathew, Mark, Luke and John. When I look upon the five it reminds me of the five wise virgins; there were ten, but five were foolish and were shut out. When I look upon the six it reminds me that in six days God created the heavens and earth. When I look upon the seven it reminds me that upon the seventh day He rested and hallowed his work. When I look upon the eight it reminds me of the eight righteous persons who were saved in Noah's ark, namely, Noah, his wife, his three sons and their wives. When I look upon the nine it reminds me of the lepers that were cleansed before our Lord. And when I look upon the ten it reminds me of the Ten commandments which God handed down to Moses upon tablets of stone at Mt. Sinai." The soldier then laid aside the knave. "When I look upon the Queen it reminds me of that great and good Queen the Queen of Sheba, who was as wise a woman as Solomon was a man; she brought fifty boys and fifty girls all dressed in boys' apparel before King Solomon for him to tell who were the boys and who were the girls. King Solomon ordered water to be brought before him for them to wash; the boys washed to their wrists and the girls to their elbows, so that he told by that. When I look upon the King it reminds me of the great King in heaven, who is God Almighty." His lordship said: "Soldier, thou has well explained every card except the knave." The soldier said: "If your lordship will not get angry, provided you do not terrify me to be the knave." "No," says the soldier, "the greatest knave that I know of is the sergeant who brought me before you. When I count the pack of cards I find there are 52, which is emblematical of the weeks of the year. When I count the suits I find there are four, which is emblematical of the seasons of the year. When I count the tricks I find there are thirteen, which is emblematical of the weeks in each quarter. When I count the spots I find there are 365, which is emblematical of the days of the year. So, you will observe, your lordship, that this pack of cards has answered me as a Bible and prayer book and almanac." His lordship says, "Richard, you are discharged."

"All's well that ends well." This won't do. A bump on the nose makes its end swell, and there's nothing pleasant about that.

An Arkansas man who had never seen a pair of snow-shoes, followed the track of a pair a mile and a half, the other day, to see "what kind of a varmint made 'em."

A young Swede makes a living in Boston by washing dogs. He goes from house to house in a fashionable quarter, and for fifty cents or seventy-five, according to the size of the dog, gives the pets thorough baths. It is said that the plan was the thought of a well-known and charitable woman. She wanted to help the young fellow, who was out of work, and interested her friends in the scheme, and now he has about all the dog washing he can attend to.

Vanderbilt's Money.

It is quite an easy thing to say "two hundred millions of dollars," but to persons who haven't that amount of ready change by them, and do not expect to acquire it within the next few years, a contemporary suggests that this bare words do not and cannot have full significance. For the sake of seeing how far such an amount of money will go, let the reader imagine he has placed \$200,000,000 in his vest pocket and is endeavoring to spend it. Two hundred millions of dollars!

Enough to buy 2,000,000 sealskin sacques, which would clothe every woman in Ontario.

Enough to buy 4,000,000,000 loaves of bread, giving every man, woman and child in Canada and the United States seventy loaves, and every inhabitant of the earth four loaves each, making a pile of solid bread higher than the tallest mountain on earth.

Enough to buy 40,000,000 barrels of flour at \$5 each. If these barrels were placed end to end, they would reach around the earth on the parallel of Boston, or they would fence in every State of the American Union.

Enough to ride 8,000,000,000 miles at the usual two and a half cent per mile railroad fare, or forty times from here to the sun and back; so far that if a man rode at the rate of sixty miles an hour, it would take him 15,000 years to use \$200,000,000 in railroad fares.

Enough to buy 80,000,000 pairs of boots or shoes at \$2.50 a pair, which would keep every resident of Canada in shoes for ten years.

Enough to buy 1,000,000,000 pounds of beefsteak at twenty cents a pound, more beefsteak than is on the face of the earth to-day.

Enough to buy 4,000,000,000 yards of calico at five cents a yard, making 400,000,000 calico dresses of ten yards each, which would give every woman on the earth who is over fifteen years of age a new dress.

Enough to give every man, woman and child in Canada and the United States a \$3 dinner.

Enough to support 120,000 workmen and their families forever; so much that it would take a laborer, working Sundays and all at \$2 a day, 273,000 years to earn it, or more than 16,000 men could earn in a lifetime.

Enough to make nearly 6,000 tons of solid gold, more than 1,500 horses could haul through the streets.

Enough to buy 800,000,000 pounds of coffee, 400,000,000 pounds of tea, 4,000,000,000 pounds of sugar, 100,000,000 barrels of apples, 36,000,000 tons of coal, 30,000,000 cords of wood, or 2,000,000,000 ten-cent cigars.

The Growth of Children.

It has occurred to a Danish pastor in charge of a large institution for children to observe the process of their growth, and to endeavor to ascertain the laws by which it is determined. He has now been engaged on the subject for five years, weighing and measuring some 130 children daily during all that time. The children are measured once a day, but they are weighed four times—in the morning, before and after dinner and at night. Mr. Hansen asserts that the figures thus obtained prove the existence of three well-marked periods of growth during the year, divisible into some thirty lesser stages. Bulk and weight are acquired between August and December. From December to April there is a further increase, but at a greatly diminished rate. From April to August the weight and bulk gained in the Spring period are lost, so that at the beginning of August the weight is almost the same as at the close of the previous December. The growing period, on the other hand, is in the Spring and early Summer, so that the two processes do not go on together. Mr. Hansen believes that similar laws are discernible in the vegetable world. Both as it may, he has accumulated a valuable mass of statistics on an interesting subject, and one which hereafter may yield practical results. Food and clothing presumably play an important part in growth, and possibly admit of adaptation to the very natural determination of the vital energy at different seasons.