WILKESBORO, N. C.

The coal-mining industry of Great Britain has seldom had a more unsatise factory year than 1895 proved to be.

It is said that in the event of war between England and Veneznela, 100,-000 Prazilians will join the latter country.

Since 1875 the marriage rate in Berlin has decreased from 30.6 to 20.3 per thousand. At that rate there would be no marriages at all forty years hence.

The famous Russian artist Verestschagin advises the people of Moscow to build all their houses on distinctively Russian styles of architecture. He says that it would give the city an original aspect, and attract thousands of tourists, with the accompanying profits.

A heated controversy is now in progress between St. Paul and Minneapolis, as to which eats the most mutton. St. Paul claims that she consumes twice as many sheep as her sister city, and Minneapolis claims that the sheep consumed in St. Paul are very small, and although she may consume a greater number of muttons that they are so small as to cause Minneapolis to lead in pounds of mutton.

The Scottish Farmer says that harness horses are so scarce in that country that they must come to America to have their needs supplied. Not finding what they wish, they take back the best available, which is to their loss and ours. The French are buying they formerly obtained from Germany. They contend that they can buy their cheap horses cheaper than they can raise them.

SONG OF SPRING. spring time, O the spring time Who does not know it well? When the little birds begin to build, And the little buds begin to swell,

When the sun with the clouds plays hide and-seek. And the lambs are bucking and bleating.

and the color mounts to the maiden's cheek, And the cuckoo scatters greeting, In the spring time, joyous spring time

The summer, O the summer!

Who does not know it well? When the ringdoves coo the long day through

And the bee refills his cell. When the swish of the mower is heard at morn

And we all in the woods go roaming, And waiting is over, and love is born. And shy lips meet in the gloaming, In the summer, ripening summer!

-Alfred Austin-



A TALE OF BRITISH GUIANA.

ERY well, you fellows can believe it or not as you like," said Mackay, "but I tell you that for a day and a night, I have known what it is to be dead." plaything. 6

"Oh, come, Mac, that's too much. The Major has given us some pretty tall ones, but we can't on your hands. quite swallow that."

"Perhaps," suggested the Major, "Mackay refers to a state of alcholic saturation. I have heard-"

"'Oh, all right," sald Mackay. "Only you said it was my turn for yarn; but of course if-'

"Fire away, Mac; never mind the Major; he's an unbelieving chap when his own tales are bested. We'll believe you. Observe the childlike innocence of our countenance."

"Very well then, you shall have the yarn.

"It happened out in British Guiana. Phil Egerton and I had been knocking about that district in a yacht. Phil was a bit of a scientist; had dabbled their light cab horses from us, which in the ologies when he was at Oxford, and he found something to interest him in the shallow waters round the coast. The buckets of mud and slimy things he fished up weren't very exciting for me, so I put in a good deal of time hanging round the billiard rooms of Georgetown. place that I've spent more than a month in without contriving to make sight of her among the bushes, but she a fool of myself over some girl. She was a waitress this time, and, by low her far, but came back to see if I ove! she was pretty. We called her | was much hurt. 'The Qneen,' and I never knew her by any other name. What nationality she belonged to I can't tell you. J think she had a dash of most of them | horribly tired. I'll go and lie down in in her, but English, Spanish and Indian were perhaps the most prominent -English in business, Spanish in bit of a head.' love, but pure undiluted Indian in hate. It was a dangerous mixture, but you've no notion how fascinating. I wasn't by any means the only fellow who succumbed to her charms, but I believe I was the only one she cared a that dagger is poisoned !' fig about. You'll admit that the position had its dangers. Of course I knew perfectly well that I was making ous secretion of sweat and tears, headan ass of myself, but I couldn't help it. The only thing for me to do was to bolt. If I stayed another week I with that bandage, Mac.' should marry her, and then there'd be the deuce to pay. "'Look here, Egerton,' I said one night; 'you've got to take me away from here. Leave those confounded the wound !' weeds of yours and let's weigh anchor and be off. Egerton. 'Got the fidgets? I'm sorry, prevent him. man, but I've discovered a new old species among these said weeds, and I enough. The stuff isn't a poison taken ally covered up, forming a lump that want to work it up.

"Oh, come, Phil, be reasonable, | could hear every word they said, but You couldn't have kept away yourself, I couldn't even wink to let them know if you'd been in my place.' was alive.

"You had a scene, I suppose?"

"Well, slightly, She accused me of wanting to get rid of her, trying to run away, in fact; and as it was perfeetly true, I fancy I didn't show up very well in the argument that followed.'

"'Oh, you great bearded infant; put your hat on and we'll go and see Wilson at once."

"We started next morning. I was feeling a bit hipped, of course, but the others were jolly enough. As I think I told you, Phil had a weakness for pottering about in scientific messes, and he found a kindred spirit in Wilson, whose hobby was birds. It was really to get some specimens that he had originally proposed this expedition.

" 'By the way, Wilson,' said Phil, have you ever managed to get hold of any curare?'

"Curare?' said Wilson. "I don't know what it is; what is it?'

" 'Probably it has got some other name out here. We called it curare in Oxford-Indian arrow poison, you know.'

"' 'Oh! you mean "wourali." No. can't say I have. and I don't think I want to, either. It isn't a very safe "'Safe enough,' said Phil, 'so long

as you haven't any cuts or soratches

"' 'For heaven's sake, shut up that scientific shop !' I exclaimed. 'We've come out here to enjoy ourselves, not to talk like a confounded British Association meeting.'

" 'Poor old Mac!' said Phil, "'what shall we talk about? Will billiards do -or waitresses?'

"Drop it, Phil,' I said; 'I don't want to be a bear, but your jargon isn't very interesting to a chap who to twitch. hardly knows an ology from an ism. Let's have something to eat.'

"We found a shady spot under some bushes to have our meal in. We were just lighting up afterwards, and I was holding the match to my pipe when something flashed out of the bushes and knocked the pipe out of my mouth.

"They had stuck a knife handle between my teeth to keep my mouth open, and the weariness in my arms was caused by the fact that for nearly a day and a night Phil and Wilson had been taking it in turns to practice artificial respiration on me.

"'Egerton,' I heard Wilson say. 'do you think it's any good going on chain is made of gold. longer? He hasn't breathed now for nearly twenty-four hours. I believe he's dead.

"We'll go on as long as we can stand!' said Phil, and I blessed him for it. 'If we can only keep the artificial respiration going till the poison is eliminated, he will recover. For God's sake; keep it up as long as you can, Wilson.'

"'If you think there is the slightest chance of saving him, I'll go on; but don't think I can last out much longer.

"He's still warm, Wilson, and I won't give up hope as long as that is-so.'

"That was a nice cheerful conversation to overhear, wasn't it? Listeners never hear good of themselves it is said, but I doubt whether the most persistent eavesdropper ever had the pleasure of hearing a man pronounce him dead, without being able to contradict the statement. If I hadn't begun to breath spontaneously pretty soon after that, I should never have had the opportunity of contradicting it. Phil and Wilson couldn't have gone on much longer. How they kept it up for the length of time they did I have never been able to understand. The power of friendship is very much underrated.

"It must have been about two hours after Wilson had decided that I was dead, that Phil saw my eyelids begin of his job.

"'At last, Wilson!' he cried. 'Go and get some water from the river."

"They dashed the cold water over me, and it caused me to gasp slightly. They carried me to the boat, and as soon as they saw the danger was over, they, both of them, sat down on the bottom boards and fell fast asleep. In a very few minutes after them, I WAS

WISE WORDS.

Society is human nature at its best. The way to get happiness is to give

Only those who love souls can learn how to win them.

A negative sinner is as sure to be lost as a positive one.

The slave is no less a slave whose

The grateful heart has music in it that angels cannot sing.

There is no greater commandment than "love one another."

To have no aim in life is to sooner or later fall into the ditch.

A wise A fool learns from no one. man learns from everybody.

Joy has a new meaning when we have learned what sadness is.

No man can be made rich whose happiness depends on money. It is hard to believe that a sin will

bite if it has gold in its teeth.

The day is coming when the man who gives little will feel little.

Keep out of the crowd when vulgarity passes for wit and humor.

What a mistake, to think we can become rich by keeping all we get. A word to the wise is enough, when it happens to be the right word.

Contentment is an angel who teaches us how to be rich without money.

It costs a great deal more to be proud than it does to be generous. It is the same man who sows the

wild oats who has to reap the crop. The man who minds his own business will always have something to do.

The self-made man is always finding new ways to show that he is proud

When the wolf puts on sheep's clothing, he is pretty sure to have mutton for dinner.

No rich man was ever happy unless he used a part of his money to make others so. -Ram's Horn.

General Grant was Clubbed. Once upon a time General Grant

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A greater number of suicides was committed in New York last year than in any other city in the world. The list of suicides for the year comprises 458 victims, taken from all walks of life, and varying in age from children of less than fifteen years to men and women nearly ninety years old. This list is the largest on record in New York, although the percentage of suicides to the entire population is lower than on some previous years.

During 1895 just closed the Utica (N. Y.) Herald tried to keep a record of all people reported to have died in the United States at the age of 100 years or over. The total reported was ouriously enough, says the Herald. just 100. Two-thirds of those were women, all but four being white women. Of the colored centenarians there were thirteen men. The oldest person to die was a colored man, who was 125. A white man died at St. Louis who had claimed to be 140, but there was no proof that he was over 121. Even at that age, however, he was the oldest white man to die during 1895. The oldest white woman was 120. There were fourteen people whose ages ranged from 110 to 125.

The New York Tribune says: Some little time ago a famous firm of London solicitors found it necessary, in a case involving large interests, to have some detective work of a difficult and delicate nature done in this city, and instead of employing the regular agencies put it in the hands of an American women of good social standing in priwate life. She undertook the task, and has been so completely successful in the performance of it that the firm employing her has not only thanked her, but sent her a check for a handsome sum. The employment of women of education and position for delicate work has become common in England, but thus far few women have been so employed in this country. If they go into the business, however, it is pretty safe to say that they will succeed in it. From Vienna comes the news of a wonderful discovery in photographic science. It is no less than a means of photographing the interior of solid, opaque bodies. By the new system the bones of a man's hand were perfectly photographed, the flesh being invisible in the picture. Broken limbs and bullets in human bodies were also successfully revealed, as well as objects placed in a wooden box. Professor Routgen, of the University of Wurzburg, 1s the inventor. The light he uses to photogroph by is produced what is known as a Crooke's pipe, viz: a vacuum glass tube with an induction electric current passing through it. The result is a light that appears to penetrate organic substances just as ordinary light passes through glass. The inventor throws open a wide field for the deduction of new truths in electricity and optics.

"Well, Phil, my boy, if you won't swallow some." leave, you'll have to be my best man,

that's all.' "That frightened him a bit. I told became blank. him the whole story, and he saw there was no time to be lost if I was to be saved. Phil Egerton knew me pretty consciousness, but an indefinite senwell in those days.

" 'I'll tell you what we'll do. Mac." he said. 'You know Wilson, the sugarplanter. He tells me there is some capital shooting to be had in the interior; any amount of birds and a ming, but that isn't an exact descrip- makes a point I know that he has going to have a month of it, and has asked me to join him. We can take the yacht's boat and go up the Demerara until we strike the woods. What do you say?'

get me out of this mess.

could get ready.

position would have had the common punishment may be like.

"What's that?' said Phil, starting

"'It's a dagger,' I said. 'Just see what's behind those bushes, you chaps, while I tie my handkerchief around this hand. I've got a bit of a scratch. If it's "The Queen," let her go. "I don't think I could mention the Thank goodness she missed my face." "It was 'The Queen.' They saught got away all right. They didn't fol-

> "' 'It's nothing serious,' I said; 'only a scratch, but I think my nerves must be a bit upset. It has made me feel the boat for a while, and let you fel-

" 'Mackay, you're crying,' exclaimed Wilson, 'and the sweat is simply pouring down your face. You're pretty badly hurt.'

"''Crying!' shouted Phil. 'Wilson,

"'Poisoned? You don't mean-' "Yes. I do. It's "wouralia;" copiache, feeling of extreme lassitudethose are the exact symptoms. Off

"Good heavens! he's done for," said Wilson.

"'Done for? Not a bit of it. Off with that bandage; I'm going to suck

"I had just got energy enough left with the breath. In several instances to protest against his doing this, but irritation had begun that ended in "'What's the matter, Mac?' said he insisted, and I was too feeble to death. Sometimes, though, the article

> "' 'Nonsense, man,' he said ; 'I'm safe internally, even if I do manage to

"He put his lips to the wound, and mortem examinations have disclosed then I closed my eyes and everything several of these cysts which had noth-

"It must have been hours afterward that I began to regain, I can't say sation of existence and horrible weariness. It seemed to me that I was vague, purposeless way, and I was very, very tired. I called it swimcal motion, but the rest of my body chance at that bird. was absolutely still. I was almost suf-

ble. My arms were still swinging to his training, wouldn't move. He women are concerned I'm not to be backwards and forwards like a couple had been standing in that position, counted in the class of sensible men. of animated pump handles and I was without so much as moving a foot, for I went to see The Queen, and naturally quite unable either to stop them or to sixty-five hours, and when I tried to she wormed the whole thing out of move any other part of my body. Try lead him away he could not walk."and imagine the sensation; it was San Francisco Post.

asleep too.

"Nearly fifteen hours after that, I woke, feeling rather weak and faint, but otherwise as right as a trivet. The other two were still asleep, and I didn't wake them.

"That is the story, and I don't think was guilty of an exaggeration when told you that for a day and a night had known what death was. A man who remains for twenty-four hours without drawing a breath may fairly claim to be dead, I think."-Chambers's Journal.

The Deadly Grape Seed.

The grape seed, having been relieved of the charge of causing appendicitis, seems to have taken a new tack and is trying to do its mischievous work in another fashion.

An official of a New Jersey county is in a critical condition from the effects, it is said, of a grade seed. He ate some grapes and took great care not to swallow the seeds, but by some accident managed to inhale one, which lodged in the upper portion of his lungs. Himself a physician, he realized the necessity for care and rest, and supposed he had given the seed ample time to become encysted, which however was not the case.

There are a number of cases on record where small articles of various sorts have been drawn into the lungs becomes coated with exadations from the surrounding surface and is graduone may carry through the remainder of life without serious injury. Posting to do with the death of the subject. -New York Ledger.

"That pointer of mine is a great swimming on and on somewhere in a dog," declared Howard Vernon, as he petted his \$1000 dog Glenbeigh. "I can always depend on him. When he

and said he would start as soon as we able and helpless misery for anything third day I found him in a dense you could offer me. I tell you it has thicket, standing perfectly rigid, with "Of course any sensible man in my given me my theory of what future his tail sticking straight out behind and one foot up. A quail had run in-"As consciousness gradually re- to a hollow tree, and the dog stood at turned, the feeling of infinite weari- the opening pointing. The quail ness became more and more unbeara. dared not come out, and the dog, true

was beaten. He was beaten in less than half a minute, and he made no attempt to fight back.

Jacob Riis tells the story in the New York World. When it happened he was a reporter at Police Headquarters for the Associated Press.

"The Masonic Temple was on fire," said Mr. Rus. "The temple is on the corner of Twenty-third street and Sixth avenue, and the fire happened more than ten years ago. The firelines were formed, snow was falling and the police were out of temper. Along from the Fifth Avenue Hotel there came a small man, with his hands in his pockets and a big cigar sticking out of the corner of his mouth. He did not notice the fire lines or anything, but walked straight ahead with his head down. He ran into the arms of a big policeman who had tired himself pushing people back. 'Blank, blank, blank !' said the policeman, 'do you take me for a wooden Indian?' Without waiting for an answer, the policeman seized the small man by the collar and, with a few more blanks, brought his club with a loud whack across the small man's back. The small man said not a word, barely looked up and resamed his walk, with his hands still in his pockets, I said to the policeman, whom I knew: 'Great deavens, man! do you know what ou've done? Do you know who that

was you clubbed?' 'Naw,' said the policeman, 'I don't.' 'Well,' I said, 'it's General Grant,' and his face fell almost a foot."

About Flags.

Here are ten interesting facts about flags:

1. To "strike the flag" is to lower the National colors in token of submission.

2. Flags are used as the symbol of rank and command, the officers using them being called Flag-Officers. Such flags are square, to distinguish them from other banners.

3. A "flag of truce" is a white flag, displayed to an enemy to indicate a desire for parley or consultation.

4. The white flag is the sign of peace. After a battle, parties from both sides often go out to the field to rescue the wounded or bury the dead under protection of the white flag.

5. The red flag is the sign of defiance, and is often used by revolutionsts. In our service it is a mark of danger, and shows a vessel to be receiving or discharging her powder.

6. The black flag is a sign of piracy. 7. The yellow flag shows a vessel to be in quarantine, or is a sign of a contagious disease.

8. A flag at half-mast means mourning. Fishing and other vessels return with a flag at half-mast to announce the loss or death of some of them. 9. Dipping the flag is lowering it slightly and then hoisting it again to salute a vessel or fort.

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How to Insure Longevity.

Some curious ugures have lately been made public by a celebrated Berlin physician, which seems to point to the fact that if a man wants to live long and preserve his health and strength he ought to marry. Among unmarried men between the ages of 30 and 45 the death rate is 27 per cent. Among married men between the same ages it is only 18 per cent: For forty-one bachelors who live to be 40 years of age, seventy-eight married men triumphantly arrive at the same period.

The difference gets all the more marked as time goes on. At 60 years of age there are only twenty-two bachelors to forty-eight married men; at 70 there are eleven bachelors to twentyseven who were married, and by the time they reach 90 the married men are three to one, for there are nine of them to every three bachelors! And yet, in the face of facts like these, we still find men daring to remain single! It really is as much as their lives are worth, if they only come to think of it. Men may talk of their lives being shortened by domestic worries and anxieties and cares. That is all rubbish. Statistics must tell the truth, and these statistics of the Berlin doctor say that the man who is a bachelor stands in far greater risk of a shortened span.

A Great Dog.

chance at a stray jaguar or two. He's tion. I could feel my arms moving scented a bird and I know that he will back and fore with a steady rhythmi- not move a muscle while I have a "I was hunting quail up at Point focating for want of air, but 1 didn't. Reys last month when I lost Glenbeigh. seem to have strength to gasp. How I knew he must be pointing in the "'Anything you like, so long as you long that sensation lasted I can't say, brush somewhere, but I looked everybut it must have been a very long where for him and could not find him. "We went in the morning and saw time. I wouldn't voluntarily go The next day I resumed the search, Wilson about it. He was delighted, through another hour of such unutter- with no better success, but on the

prudence to employ the intervening time in cleaning his guns and looking out various odds and ends for the expedition, but as I tell you, where me.

"'Phil,' I said, when I got back, 'if we can't start to-morrow we needn't go at all. It would spoil the party if so far as to know what was going on, I took a wife with me.'

going, have you?'

know, I do think you're about the big- | eyelids. gest. Why on earth couldn't you vanish quietly and leave her to find

out about it afterwards?' "'I meant to, but when I started talking to her, out it all came."

at all to-day?

simply awful.

"When I did finally come to myself

I did it pretty thoroughly. You know "We'll start to-night if you like, the theory that when a man loses the Mac. I'm ready; and if Wilson isn't, use of his eyes, his senses of touch and he can follow us. But what's the hearing become unusually accute? hurry? You haven't told her you're From my experience that day I can quite believe it. I had lost all power

"Yes, I have, and that's why it of motion, and my perceptive faculwon't do for me to stay here longer.' ties became, to compensate, most un-"Well, Mac, of all the thundering comfortably keen. I felt as though I idiots it has been my privilege to could almost see through my closed

"Phil told me afterwards that the peculiarity of 'wourali' poisoning is cial, and found the right train. But that if the dose is not very large, only his welcome at Barberton was no the nerves of motion are paralyzed, warmer than that at Hectorspruit,

Railway Travel in Africa.

Discontented passengers by the London, Chatham and Dover should try South Africa. A pathetic story comes from the Transvaal of a traveler who, at Kaapmuider, asked a railway official to direct him to a train for Barberton. He was shown into the down Delagoa train, and at Hectorspruit was fined \$5 for traveling to a place other than that mentioned on his ticket. Next day he went back to Kaapmuider, inquired of another offialking to her, out it all came." ""What possessed you to go there it all to-day?" The authorities promptly fined him normally sensitive. I knew everything in the first of the previous day.—London Realm.

10. If the President of the United States goes afloat, the American flag is carried in the bow of his barge or noisted at the main of the vessel on board of which he is. -National Tribune Library.

Value Per Acre of Farm Products.

Western farmers who are looking for a new home in the South should remember that, according to the ofticial reports of the Department of Agriculture, the value per acre of farm products raised in Florida is \$12. Only two States in the Union (Massachusetts and Rhode Island) make a etter showing. Other Southern States rank as follows : South Carolina and Mississippi, \$10; Arkansas, \$9.66; leorgia, \$9; Alabama, \$7.50; North Jarolina, \$7; Kentucky and Tennessee, \$6; Virginia, \$5.50; West Virginia and Texas, \$5.-Jacksonville (Fla.) Citizen.

An Indiana Judge, in his address to the local Grand Jury the other day, charged them to hear certain evidence "with an unsparing hand."

The tes plant may be grown any where in the Southern States of this country.