It Was in His Bill.

That reminds me of a story they tell about Rudyard Kipling—indeed, I won't be sure that it isn't he who tells it. He stayed at a hotel once upon a time, in Montreal, I think it was, and when he came to go away he asked for the landlord. The landlord appeared.

"I wanted to see you," said Mr. Kipling, "because you are a wonderful man. I have never known your equal. I have sojourned in hotels all around the world. I have never seen one like this.

The landlord swelled with pride. He intimated that the thing was really nothing when you knew how to do it. He was in a seventh heaven of delight. Mr. Kipling waited till he neared the earth again. Then he resumed:

"I want to tell you that of all the hotels under the shining sun I have never seen one that for unmitigated, all-round, unendurable discomfort could not even be named in the same day with yours."

And when Mr. Kipling's bill was made out, one item in it read: "To impudence, $3." But what's $3, when one has spoken one's mind?—Washington Post.

Where Comic Valentines Come From.

Fifteen million comic valentines are printed annually by a firm in Brooklyn, who virtually monopolize this peculiar business and give employment to 400 men and women the year round. Most of the caricatures turned out at this plant are drawn by a well-known magazine artist who says that he designs them only when he is out of humor. Instead of venting his anger in words he draws diabolical pictures of the person with whom he is angry, and the more horrible the picture the more fiendishly happy he is. The pretty lace work affairs that hold Cupids and hearts and arrows and carry sunshine into thousands of homes are designed by a woman, who also superintends their construction.

Easy Come, Easy Go.

The man who creeps along bent over, with his spinal column feeling in a condition to snap like a pipestem at any minute, would readily give a great deal to get out of his dilemma, and yet this is only the commonest form by which lumbago seizes on and twists out of shape the muscles of the back. This is commonly known as backache, a crick in the back, but by whatever name it may be known, and however bad it may be, 10 minutes vigorous rubbing with St. Jacobs Oil on the afflicted part will drive out the trouble and completely restore. It is a thing so easily caught, it may be wondered at why there is not more of it, but because it is so easily cured by St. Jacobs Oil may be the very reason that we hear so little of it.

Cleverness is a sort of genius for instrumentality. It is the brain of the hand.

Spring Medicine

Your blood in Spring is almost certain to be full of impurities—the accumulation of the winter months. Bad ventilation of sleeping rooms, impure air in dwellings, factories and shops, overeating, heavy, improper foods, failure of the kidneys and liver properly to do extra work thus thrust upon them, are the prime causes of this condition. It is of the utmost importance that you

Purify Your Blood

Now, as when warmer weather comes and the tonic effect of cold bracing air is gone, your weak, thin, impure blood will not furnish necessary strength. That tired feeling, loss of appetite, will open the way for serious disease, ruined health, or breaking out of humors and impurities. To make pure, rich, red blood Hood's Sarsaparilla stands unequalled. Thousands testify to its merits. Millions take it as their Spring Medicine. Get Hood's, because

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1
Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

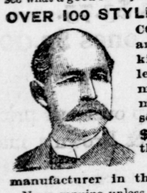
Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

ASK YOUR DEALER FOR

W. L. DOUGLAS $3. SHOE BEST IN THE WORLD.

If you pay $4 to $6 for shoes, examine the W. L. Douglas Shoe, and see what a good shoe you can buy for $3.

OVER 100 STYLES AND WIDTHS, CONGRESS, BUTTON, and LACE, made in all kinds of the best selected leather by skilled workmen. We make and sell more $3 Shoes than any other manufacturer in the world.



None genuine unless name and price is stamped on the bottom.

Ask your dealer for our $5, $4, $3.50, $2.50, $2.25 Shoes; $2.50, $2 and $1.75 for boys.

TAKE NO SUBSTITUTE. If your dealer cannot supply you, send to factory, enclosing price and 36 cents to pay carriage. State kind, style of toe (cap or plain), size and width. Our Custom Dept. will fill your order. Send for new Illustrated Catalogue to Box R.

W. L. DOUGLAS, Brockton, Mass.

WHAT IS ALABASTINE?

A pure, permanent and artistic wall-coating ready for the brush by mixing in cold water.

FOR SALE BY PAINT DEALERS EVERYWHERE.

FREE { A Tint Card showing 12 desirable tints, also Alabastine Souvenir Rock sent free to any one mentioning this paper.

ALABASTINE CO., Grand Rapids, Mich.

BOGUS MONEY.

METHOD OF ITS DESTRUCTION BY THE AUTHORITIES.

Five Tons of Materials Used by Counterfeiters Burned Up in a Huge Furnace in the Washington Navy Yard.

THE New York Journal says that five tons of counterfeit money, machines and other of the paraphernalia necessary to the manufacture of the "queer" were destroyed in Washington within a few days. So great a quantity of material of this sort has been collected during the last year in the Secret Service Division of the Treasury that its destruction became necessary. It was carefully put away in boxes and packages, each labelled with a record of its contents. As much care is taken of bad money as of good money, because it would never do to have the counterfeits get into circulation again through neglect. Every penny in bogus coin or paper must be strictly accounted for, and a deficit would be considered as serious a matter as a theft from the cash room. Describing the method of destroying bogus money the Journal adds:

The Secretary of the Treasury selects three of his most trusted men and appoints them a committee to superintend the destruction of the products of criminal ingenuity at present on hand. Every package is opened in their presence, and they watch the counting of the contents, which must correspond to the memoranda in the record book. Finally, all of the coin, as well as metal tools and other apparatus, is carried downstairs and put aboard one of the big ironclad wagons which are used by the department for carrying money. The wagon, guarded by armed men and followed by the committee in a carriage, proceeds to the Washington Navy Yard.

By a special arrangement with the Secretary of the Navy, one of the great blast furnaces in the gunshop is placed at the disposal of the committee. The weighty packages are taken from the wagon and stacked up in front of the furnace, which is like unto that one which was seven times heated. Into it the stuff is unceremoniously shoveled—the coin first and then the counterfeiters' machines, engraved steel plates for false notes, implements of various kinds, etc. Such things as jimmies and brass knuckles go with the rest. In the lot is a great quantity of metal tokens, representing money, such as are used by manufacturing and mining companies, particularly in the South, for paying their employes. Many of these tokens, the use of which is forbidden by law, bear a rough resemblance to United States coins.

Together with the lot go in not a few things of odd sorts. Among them are advertising tags of tin, made in rude imitation of silver quarters. These are not intended to serve a criminal purpose, but the Secret Service gobbles them just the same. The law says that nothing in the likeness of any security of the United States shall be permitted. In the last collection was a number of so-called coin clusters, intended for paper weights. They represent clusters of gold and silver pieces. Of course, nobody could pass them as money, but they come under the statute, and, besides, there is a special objection to them. Coin counterfeiters are apt to have a few of them on hand, so that it caught they may pretend that they were merely engaged in the manufacture of paper weights.

The great majority of false coins are made with plaster moulds. Such moulds are carried to the Navy Yard with the rest of the material, but are not put into the furnace. They are merely knocked to pieces with hammers, which is an equally effective method of destroying them. What is cast into the furnace, including the machinery and tools, is melted and reduced to unrecognizable shape. It is sold eventually by the Navy Department as so much old metal. There is a small amount of silver in it, inasmuch as bogus silver pieces are always plated with silver nowadays by the up to date counterfeiter.

Thus far nothing has been said of the way in which the paper counterfeits are destroyed. They are put into a big tank with hot water and acids and are cooked and stirred about for many hours, until at length they are reduced to the condition of pulp. The pulp is dried, pressed into thick sheets and sold for paper stock. The process is the same as that which is applied to the damaged paper money redeemed by the Treasury. Into the vat go large quantities of "flash money," which term is used to describe the printed advertisements in imitation of the National currency, with which the country is at all times flooded, notwithstanding the utmost efforts of the Government to suppress them. They are confiscated wherever the detectives of the Secret Service come across them. Calendars bearing likenesses of silver certificates and hat bands with representations of gold coins come under this head. Not long ago a large number of soda water checks resembling nickel pieces were seized in Chicago.

A Haunted-House Expert.

The report which has been current in Peterborough, a London suburb, that a certain house in that town is haunted, has stirred up a man, self-styled as a "Haunted-House Expert," who has guaranteed to clear that house or any other of all the ghosts which infest it. This ghost annihilator volunteer the information that he has been honored with the patronage of the nobility of various countries and that he has succeeded in extirpating some of the oldest established ghosts in all England.—New York Sun.

British Child Soldiers.

To keep the ranks of the British army full these days is no small task, and the recruiting officers often are obliged to enlist mere children and young men who do not come up to the physical requirements laid down for recruits. These latter are called "special enlistments." To keep the Highland regiments full the authorities have sometimes been compelled to enlist men from the slums of London. The annual waste of the British army from deaths, desertions, retirements and expirations of enlistments amounts to 34,000 men a year—considerably more than the whole standing army of the United States.

In an article on the "Land Forces of the Crown" in the Navy and Army Illustrated, Lieutenant John Graham, of the British army says: "The annual waste of the army must be made good, although the state of the labor market and other circumstances may have stopped the flow of desirable recruits. The consequence is that the standard is sometimes lowered to a dangerous degree, both as to age and physique, and the phenomena known as the 'child soldiers' and 'Whitechapel Highlander' became rife in our midst."

The Inspector-General of Recruiting of the British army in his report bewails the difficulties which beset him in keeping the British army in India supplied with recruits not under twenty years of age, these difficulties arising from the constant enlistment of "immature lads." Of the enlisted men in the British army England furnishes 162,000 men; Ireland, 26,000, and Scotland, 16,000.—New York Press.

A Giant Steer.

The largest steer in the world is owned by W. A. Conklin, of No. 5 Catherine street, this city. The animal was born three years ago, in Wichita, Kan., where it is now in pasture.

The parents are part Jersey, and do not differ in any respect from ordinary cattle. Their giant offspring is nine feet six inches in height, eleven feet long, and an idea of his immense proportions may be gained by the accompanying comparison of the steer with an ordinary cow and a man over seven feet in height.

The animal weighs over 3700 pounds, and has not yet stopped growing. Mr. Conklin came into possession of it last winter while traveling through the West. He stopped at Wichita and heard about the big steer which was then only about seven feet high, but even that was remarkable for an animal of that species. He went to see the steer, and negotiations were immediately perfected for its purchase. Not wishing to bring the animal East, Mr. Conklin left it on the farm to pasture.

It is possible that one reason for the animal's extraordinary growth lies in the fact that it has never left the farm on which it was raised, and has fed always on the rich grass for which the West is noted. This, too, may account for the fact that the animal is still increasing in size and weight.

During the year past the steer has grown over two feet and a half in height and is considerably broader and longer.—New York World.

How Edison Learned to Tell Stories.

"It seemed like a waste of time," said a gentleman who passed an evening with Mr. Edison, in Norwalk, Ohio, recently, "to hear Mr. Edison rolling off story after story, and demanding of all his acquaintances to tell him more, when we know how much information we might have received. I finally asked him how he got to be such a story teller. 'Well,' he replied, 'when I was quite a young man I was a telegraph operator during the war. I was stationed at St. Louis, which was a sort of distributing point for a large district, and when we would get our batch of stuff off, and we still had several hours to put in, I used to get pretty tired. Then we would begin to call up the operator at the other end of the line and gossip with him. I always liked stories, and if Chicago had a good one, he would wire it to me. Then I would send that off to Louisville and New York and Cincinnati and hear them laughing over it by wiring back, "Ha, ha," over the wire. In this way we would get all the best stories there were going, and we would always write them out for the day men. It got to be a sort of passion after awhile, and has stuck to me ever since.'"—Cleveland (Ohio) Plain Dealer.

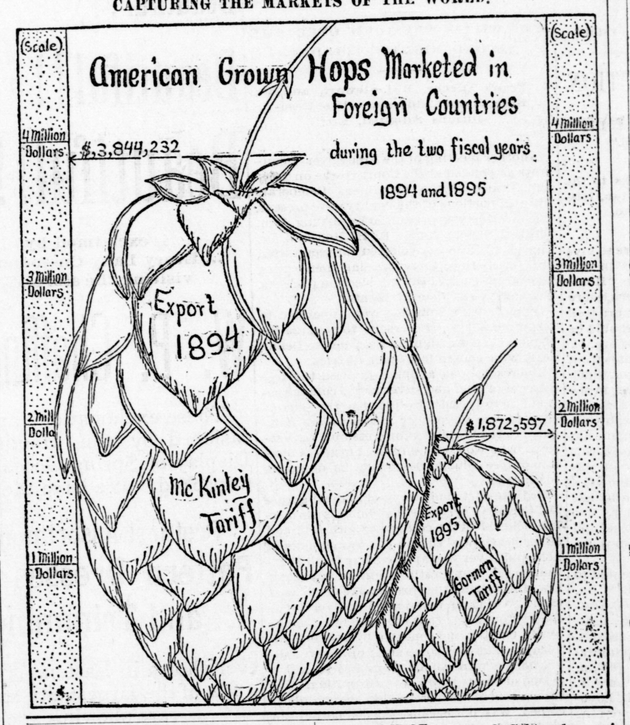
Bread Given Away.

In the little village of Broughton-in-Furness, in England, is a small baker's shop, says Tid-Bits, over the door of which is the following inscription: "One piece of bread, to be eaten on the premises, given to anyone passing through Broughton direct until 10 p. m." This extraordinary signboard was affixed to the shop eight years ago by Sawrey Cookson, of Broughton Tower, who recoups the baker for the bread which he disposes of in this singular way. As may be expected, the shop is a favorite halting place for tramps and artisans out of work, who are making their way to the busy town of Barrow-in-Furness, twelve miles from the village.

A Curious Marriage Custom.

A curious marriage custom prevails in a pleasant village near Brest. All the weddings which are to be celebrated just before Lent are grouped together and the happy unions are blessed at the same time. Last year forty-six marriages took place, but this year the total reached but thirty-four. The remainder of the day is given up to merry making and feasting, one of the peculiar features being a parade of the couples and their friends, headed by musicians.—New York Sun.

CAPTURING THE MARKETS OF THE WORLD.



THE IDLE ARTIST.

PENCIL AND BRUSH ACCUMULATE THE DUST OF TARIF REFORM.

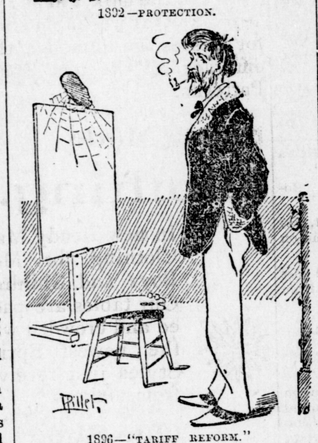
Cheap German Reproductions Largely Imported for Magazines—American Artists Injured by Democratic Theories—Want More Protection of the McKinley Kind.

ART WORKS—IMPORTS.

	Calendar years. 1894.	1895.
Free	$2,411,023	$4,580,010
Dutiable	730,887	.....
Total	$3,141,940	$4,580,010
	Free. 1894.	1895.
From		
United Kingdom	$788,178	$1,199,643
France	1,135,231	2,513,376
Germany	98,129	266,334
Italy	128,584	274,650
Other European countries	72,912	173,788
British North America	184,051	130,396
Other countries	3,968	21,823
Total	$2,411,053	$4,580,010



1892—PROTECTION.



1896—"TARIFF REFORM."

Fiscal years.	Dutiable imports.	Free imports.	Duties.
1890	$1,796,372	.....	$91,550
1891	2,014,510	.....	287,807
1892	2,030,599	.....	241,612
1893	2,366,765	.....	339,285
1894	1,484,184	.....	162,925
Calendar years:			
1894	731,887	$2,411,053	.....
1895	.....	4,580,010	*12,140

*Fiscal year.

It is mostly the cheap reproductions that are now imported for publication in American magazines. These can be secured at a trifling cost. Considering that the imports of foreign art works have so largely increased during the business depression in this country, it is evident that the quantity of foreign art works must have seriously interfered with the business of American artists.

ART WORKS—EXPORTS.

Fiscal year.	Value.	Fiscal year.	Value.
1887	$221,372	1892	$422,238
1888	271,010	1893	210,892
1889	624,413	1894	391,763
1890	228,082	1895	471,104
1891	406,374	1895*	554,175

*Calendar year.

This is what England predicted when the Gorman law was awaiting the President's pleasure:

Painters and sculptors may fairly rejoice, since oil paintings and water color drawings, and statuary, which are at present subject to a duty of fifteen per cent. will in future be admitted into the United States free of duty. We cannot doubt that the withdrawal of the duty will tend to brighten the prospects of English and French artists in their relations with the States.—London Builder.

ANANIAS ON CARPETS.

A Mendacious Free Trade Organ Gets All Tangled Up.

"McKinley newspapers tell their readers that the imports of carpets have been largely increased under the present tariff. This is not true. Compare last year's total of $1,361,465 with the total of $1,580,814 in 1893, under the McKinley tariff. Why, the annual average for the first three years



of that tariff was $1,413,211, or more than last year's total. How McKinleyism has encouraged the industry of lying!"—New York Times, February 10, 1896.

The free trade Ananias of the New York Times is getting all tangled up with his carpets and tacks. The facts won't indorse his theories. He twists and turns his figures, but still his carpet lies won't keep down. His free trade tacks won't stand against good, strong protection points. The statistical abstract issued by the Treasury Department gives the quantities and values of our imports of carpets during the four McKinley tariff years, as follows:

IMPORTS OF CARPETS.

Year ending June 30.	Square yards.	Value.
1891	658,006	$1,373,162
1892	622,982	1,285,657
1893	688,364	1,580,814
1894	421,758	959,526
Protection average	597,778	$1,299,790
1895	873,558	$1,428,684
Free trade increase	275,780	$128,894

The 1895 figures are for the calendar year, this being the only complete twelve months under free trade in wool. We leave our readers to imagine in what direction "the industry of lying" has been encouraged. Again we quote:

"But a very large part of the imports classed as carpets is composed of Eastern hand made rugs. The value of real machine made carpets brought into this country is small."

We suppose that the "Eastern hand made rugs," made possible by labor that is even cheaper than the miserably paid British help, do not take the place of American carpets, that people buy both when they need only one, placing the rugs on top of the carpets, or, perhaps, feed them to moths in the attic. No matter where the rugs or carpets come from, each one of them takes the place of an American product.

Now let us see how "small" is the proportion of machine made carpets. Last year the United Kingdom sent us 556,267 square yards out of a total of 873,558 square yards of carpets imported, over sixty per cent. of the whole. Other European countries sent us 245,696 square yards, leaving only 71,500 square yards sent here from Japan and other countries in the Orient and elsewhere. As for our exports of carpets, they were 75,000 square yards less under free wool in 1895 than in 1894.

There used to be some display of skill and artifice in the mendacious methods of the New York Times, but we are sorry to note that it has now degenerated into nothing better than a blundering, don't-care-a-hang, every day sort of liar, so that a ready reference to the official Democratic statistics promptly exposes the fraud. But we suppose it must lie for a living.

WHY NOT BUY THE BEST?



Children's Carriages

A SPECIALTY.

~100 STYLES~

Write for Catalogue and Prices.

THE ADAMS CARRIAGE CO.,
Canal Dover, Ohio.

CARPETS, ART SQUARES AND RUGS

Prettier and cheaper than you ever heard of—don't fail to see them. Our stock of Table Covers, Portieres, Lace Curtains, Table Linen, Napkins, Towels, Bed Spreads and all House Furnishings, is very full, and prices extremely low. Ladies' and Misses' Wraps just received, cheaper than the cheapest. Last season's Wraps at your own price.

The largest stock and lowest prices in Queensware, Glassware, Lamps, etc. See our $3.50 Tea Sets.

A full and complete line of Fresh and Pure Groceries, Fruits, etc.

New Home and American Sewing Machine. A first-class Machine at $18.00 and $20.00.

Agent for Old Staten Island Dyeing establishment. A call will be appreciated by Your Friend,

J. E. SHANNAHAN.

COMFORT IN COOKING ON A



Monarch Vapor Stove.

LIGHTS LIKE GAS. MAKES NO SMOKE.

RELIEVES GRINDING TOIL IN THE HOUSEHOLD.

Ask your stove dealer about it.

THE MONARCH STOVE CO.,
MANSFIELD, OHIO.

BANTA'S CHEWING GRAINS OF PEPSIN PEPSIN GUM

IT CURES Dyspepsia, Heartburn and Sour Stomach, and Sweetens the breath



The finest piece of pure, unadulterated Chicle Chewing Gum on the market.

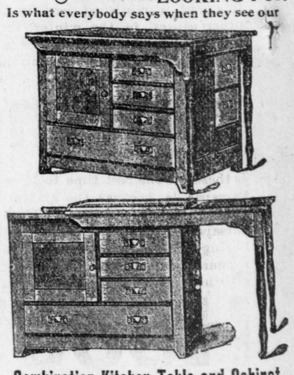
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JUST WHAT I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR

Is what everybody says when they see our



Combination Kitchen Table and Cabinet.

It has one flour bin that holds 100 lbs.; two meal drawers in end that hold about 25 lbs. each; has four drawers in front; a zinc-lined bread cabinet; kneading-board and rolling-pin. Size of top, 30 x 42 inches. Ask your furniture dealer for it.

MADE BY THE

AMERICAN FOLDING BED CO.,

Write for catalogue. Sheboygan, Wis.