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Now is where can we get a suitable Xmas present for the least money. Below will be found a list of a few of our cut prices for the Holiday Season only, which will enable you to decide at once, as the time is now short

- Eight day, half hour, cathedral gong, striking Clocks, for \$3.50
- Silver Cake Baskets, (quadruple plate), 2.75
- Napkin Rings, 50c up
- Spoon Holders and Pickle Dishes, 1.50
- L. Waltham Watch with Chain (good timekeepers) 7.50
- Ladies' Genuine Gold Filled Waltham Watch, 15.00
- L. dies' Long Chains, warranted five years, 3.00
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THE DAILY EXAMINER

FEBRUARY, 12, 1898.

SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

A NEW FIELD OF WONDERS—THE AFRICANS—SPEAKING PICTURES—THE FIRST TELEGRAM WITHOUT WIRES—GOLD-BEARING WOOD—SPEED LIMITS OF THE HUMAN MACHINE—DANGER FROM TOO LITTLE POISON—NERVE VITALITY.

Remarkable possibilities have been opened up by the microphonograph, the loud-speaking and clear-toned combination of microphone and phonograph lately devised by M. F. Dussaud, of Geneva. Certain physiological facts have suggested that many deaf-mutes could be made to hear by this instrument, and in practice some persons have actually been given the sensation of sound for the first time, while others have had their defective auditory organs so trained that ordinary sounds hitherto unnoticed are now perceived. Simply as a means of educating the deaf and dumb, therefore, the apparatus must be invaluable. Another striking use already found for it is that of Messrs. Berthon and Janbert in connection with the telephone and kinematograph, and the combination of moving scenes with the attendant sounds of conversation, etc., is expected to serve in the life like reproduction of a number of naval scenes at the exhibition of 1900.

The black race is estimated by Prof. Hany to embrace one-tenth of the human species, or about 150,000,000 individuals, and while its people differ in many respects the race as a whole is distinguished from others by the combination of a dark skin and crisped hair. Of the total, one-tenth has existed outside of Africa, in Melanesia, etc., from the time when those islands formed a part of the Asiatic continent. In Africa the pure blacks are found in groups on both sides of the fifteenth parallel or north latitude from the Nile to the Atlantic, and are mostly agricultural with a knowledge of iron-making dating from remote antiquity. The dwarfs occupy a strip of five degrees on either side of the equator. The Bantu peoples, next south extend from ocean to ocean, and are physically different but alike in language, while the Bushmen and Hotentots in the far south form a separate group, with individual characteristics.

A Dutch physiologist concludes, contrary to usual belief that in man is no chemical regulation of heat, oxygen consumption being the same at all seasons.

Before the days of the photograph, Barnum, the great showman, exhibited a "talking" manakin in which the human voice was mechanically imitated to a very limited extent. Some French manufacturer has now added to this idea by giving all the voices of a small menagerie in a book of pictures that talk, the characteristic cry of each creature being obtained on pulling a string at the bottom of the page showing the picture. This interesting toy gives a surprising variety of good imitations. The roster crows, the donkey hee-haws, the lamb bleats, the little bird nestlings twitter, the cow moos, the cuckoo sings, and the little children exclaim "papa!" and "mama!" The results are very simply produced. A small bellows is enclosed in a box hidden in the book, and when the string is pulled air enters and is expelled by a spring through a special tube appropriate for each cry. At the same moment the bellows strikes certain obstacles on a wire, thus yielding variations of sound carefully studied to give the desired effect.

Wireless telegraphy, now giving such encouraging results, appears to be no new idea. It has been recalled in Paris that on the cutting of the wires during the siege of that city in 1870, M. Bourbouze, then a tutor in physics at the University of Paris, conceived the idea of communicating by electricity without wires. His experiments at last proved successful. On the night of Jan. 10-11, 1871, a dispatch was sent along the Seine from the Port National to Saint Denis, a distance of about 25 miles, the ground and water being employed as conductors. The war closed before the invention was perfected, and the work was dropped.

In the gold mines of Victoria fossil wood, and even timber supports, are often thoroughly permeated with particles of gold, which under the microscope are seen adhering in patches to crystals of iron pyrites all through the interior of the wood. A specimen of pyrites from the centre of an old tree trunk is reported to have assayed 30 ounces of gold per ton.

Arsenical poisoning from wall paper has been explained by Gassio and Emmerling as due to the volatile arsenic compounds thrown off by certain moulds having the power of living on arsenical paper. Mr. Thomas Bolas, an English chemist, now

points out that arsenic even in small quantities is poisonous to these moulds, which are able to live by feeding themselves of a little arsenic in volatile form, but would be destroyed if the poison were present in any considerable amount. The most dangerous paper is therefore likely to be that containing a mere trace of arsenic. Dyed and printed fabrics very frequently contain traces of arsenic, and it is urged that precipitated borate of copper be substituted as a green pigment for all arsenical greens.

The nervous system, says Prof. W. H. Thomson, has a greater store of reserve vitality than all the other bodily systems together, and is the only texture that does not lose weight in death by starvation or other cause. It is the last to grow old. As to the mind, it need not grow old at all provided it is supplied with the mighty stimulus called interest, by which it will grow steadily, even while bone and flesh are wasting through age.

A difficulty of administering medicine to small children is overcome by Prof. Alseel, who affirms that a mixture of equal parts of soap liniment and aloes will act as a cathartic when rubbed in small quantity upon the abdomen.

The rapidity of thought is limited and voluntary actions of the muscles is slow in comparison with the involuntary movements of which they are capable. The researches of Messrs. Broca and Richet show that ten separate impressions is the average highest limit of brain preception. The experiments prove that each excitation of the nerves is followed by a brief period of inertia, and during this period no new or appreciable impression can be made. An individual's voluntary movements of any kind cannot exceed ten or twelve per second, although to the muscles acting independently of the will, as many as thirty or forty per second may be possible.

Calcium carbide is found by M. Yvon to furnish a simple means of obtaining absolute alcohol from common spirits, as it decomposes every trace of water but has no effect on pure alcohol.

A huge eel of the Fiji Islands, 15 feet long, is reported to have a peculiar throat formation causing it to whistle when excited.

Health and strength carry us through dangers and make us safe in the presence of peril. A perfectly strong man is rich, pure blood has nothing to fear from germs. He may breathe the bacilli of consumption with impunity. If there is a weak spot where the germs may find an entrance to the tissues, then the trouble begins. Disease germs propagate with lightning-like rapidity. Once in the blood the only way to get rid of them is to kill them. This is what Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is for. It purifies the blood. That means that it kills the germs, but that is only part of what it does. It assists digestion by stimulating the secretion of digestive fluids, so promoting assimilation and nutrition; purifies and enriches the blood and so supplies the tissues with the tissues they need. It builds up strong, healthy flesh and puts the whole body into a disease-resisting state.

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Sweden and Norway find the United States a good customer of cod liver oil and matches, those articles being the principal items of export to this country.

Gypsies are supposed to have come originally from India, and not from Egypt, as their name implies.

FOUGHT CATARRH FOR FIFTY YEARS

Eighty Years of Age When Victory Came—Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder the One Remedy.

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Not Flattering.

Some people have a faculty for taking off the edge of a neighbor's pleasure. A writer in The Temple Magazine lately gave a case in point. It happened to a doctor of divinity who was preaching some special sermons. He had scarcely got into the vestry after one of them when in rushed a well dressed man, who greeted him most effusively.

"Delighted to see you, doctor," he said. "You have given us a grand sermon. It has been a treat—a real inspiration to us all."

The doctor smiled and expressed his gratification, and the man left the vestry.

No sooner was the door closed, however, than one of the deacons looked up and remarked: "You must not take any notice of him, doctor. He's got softening of the brain."

The feelings of the doctor must have been akin to those of another minister who was preaching in Rochedale. The morning was fine and the congregation large. At the foot of the pulpit stairs one of the officials met him.

"We've had a very large congregation this morning, Mr. Brown," remarked the preacher.

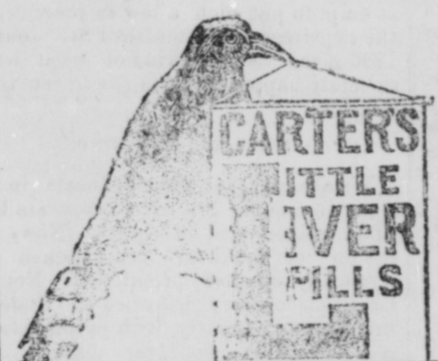
"Yes, sir," replied the guileless and outspoken brother, "a very fine congregation. You see, sir, we wasn't expecting you this morning."

Fickleness at the Races. "Yes," said young Mrs. Torkins, "I learned something at the races." "What was it?" asked her husband apprehensively. "I learned that popularity is something that cannot be depended on; that the admirers of today may be the foes of tomorrow."

Influence of the New Woman. "Borus, in your last novel you spoil the story by raising an insurmountable barrier between the hero and heroine, who certainly ought to have married each other."

"I couldn't help it, Naggus. My wife insisted that I was the hero of the story myself, and she got jealous of the heroine."—Chicago Tribune.

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