

## Facts and Fallacies

TERMS: FIFTEEN CENTS A LINE PER WEEK.

Payable strictly in advance.

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION.

PUBLISHED BY

CHARLES H. SMITH, - Brushton, N. Y.

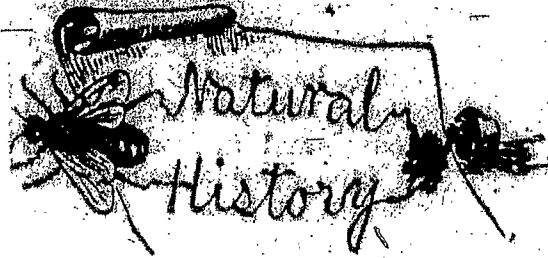
JOB PRINTING of all kinds executed promptly, and at reasonable prices, at this office.

Whatever Canada may have failed in, she has at least made a distinguished success in demonstrating the fact that international boundary lines on the North American continent are not only superfluous, but a nuisance.

There has been a wonderful growth in the value of our postal issues in recent years. In 1881 the total number of pieces was 1,499,773,498, and the receipts therefrom were \$34,483,508. For the last fiscal year the number of pieces was 5,162,020,525, and the revenue \$92,659,167. The number of pieces had increased to nearly four times what it was in 1881, and the revenue nearly three times as much.

There are no statistics to show that appendicitis is more prevalent among those who ride than those who do not, and there is not the slightest evidence of any kind to trace the injury of appendicitis directly to bicycling or to any other form of exercise. The bicycle may have its sins to answer for, but before being held guilty of causing death by appendicitis it is entitled to the presumption of innocence and to proof positive of its guilt.

A suggestive feature of the remarkable development of American manufacturing in the first half of 1899 is found in the cotton-mill movement in the southern states. At the end of the last fiscal year there were 425 mills in operation in the section, which, with more than four million spindles, had used more than a million and a quarter bales. So far this year fifty new mills have been built or projected in the South, representing a capital investment of \$11,500,000, and thirty-nine old mills have been improved at a cost of \$5,600,000. The new and improved mills will require an aggregate of 1,100,000 additional spindles, nearly as many as the entire south had nine years ago.



When a snake has partaken of a very large meal its skin in places is so stretched that the scales are quite separated one from the other.

Animals are often able to bear very protracted fasting. In the Italian earthquakes of 1795 two hogs were buried at Soriano in the ruins of a building. They were taken out alive forty-two days later, but very lean and weak. A dog, at the same time and place, was buried twenty-three days and recovered.

It is a noteworthy fact that instead of being the enemies of the farmer moles are really his friends, and on land where the industrious little tunnel-makers have been ruthlessly destroyed they would gladly be welcomed back, were this possible. They are of immense use in destroying injurious grubs, especially the wire worm, which does so much damage to root crops. Another benefit they confer is that of to some extent draining pasture, and to this may be attributed the fact that sheep always thrive best on land infested by these quaint little quadrupeds.

A curious illustration of canine intelligence—and its limitations—was observed by a writer in the Outlook a few days ago. Passing down a street he saw a fine Airedale terrier lying down and with both fore paws and muzzled nose scrubbing the surface of an iron grating with a bone, as if to bring it to a high state of polish. The owner saw and explained. The grating is just over a cellar in which the terrier sleeps. His muzzle prevents him from attacking bones to advantage by day, so he brings the bones of his finding to the grating, hoping to push them through and gnaw luxuriously when unmuzzled at night. But the little chap had but the vaguest ideas of the size limits of the grating, and as the ordinary sizes of bones go, he must have had at least two failures to every success. Yet, with real terrier ingenuity, he turned even his failure to account, for after vigorously trying every hole in the grating he would quietly stop, lick the entire grating clean of the grease and meat juice rubbed off the bone, then rub off another layer and repeat the licking.

### Man Could Not Live.

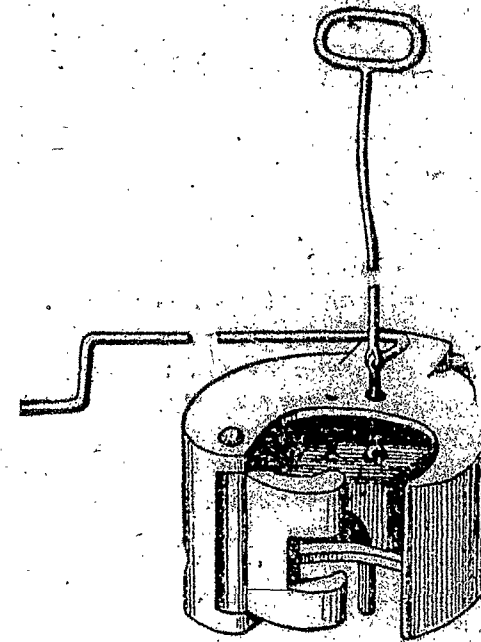
A French naturalist says that if the world were to become birdless man could not inhabit it after nine years' time. In spite of all the sprays and poisons that could be manufactured for the destruction of insects the bugs and slugs would simply eat up orchards and crops.

### ANOTHER CAR COUPLER.

This One Is Released from the Top or Side of the Car.

A New York correspondent contributes a plan which has for its basis the Janney, or "M. C. B." coupler. Upon the original plan of Janney a number of minor improvements have been made in mere details, and it is possible that still further ones can be made.

In a Janney coupler the principal moving part is a huge hook, called the "knuckle." This is open when the cars are uncoupled, and when they come together it swings around and engages the corresponding hook in the



CAR COUPLER.

other coupler. In order to release the knuckle a number of methods have been devised. Our correspondent puts a coil spring in back of the inner arm of the knuckle, which tends to throw the thing around into position which will release the other car whenever the knuckle itself is unlocked. In order to render the knuckle free to swing, the unlocking apparatus inside the drawhead is connected both with a vertical rod running to the top of the car and to a crank which reaches out to the side of the car. Thus it is possible to open the coupler either from the ground or from the top of the train.

### A Filter for Travelers.

A simple pocket filter, which may save cyclists and other travelers from disease germs, is a short rubber tube with a mouthpiece at one end and a wire netting at the other. Inside the netting is a small portion of powdered charcoal in a little net coil. When the charcoal end of the tube is inserted in the water the germs are not allowed to pass, and the charcoal frees the water from all impurities which may be contained in it. The tube acts as a straw through which the water is drawn pure and clear. It is a convenient way to drink from a brook when riding through the country, and the filter is a great safeguard against all possible impurity.

"Time is money," said the poet, as his "uncle" handed him the ticket for his watch.

Have your

PRINT

Done at the

Prices right

Work right

Ray Camera

Are unequalled

QUALITY

34 Styles. Price

Free Trip

Expos

\$100.00 in goods

other prizes

amateur

Ray Camera

Send for Free Catalogue

ask for same at our

Charles

Ray Camera Co.

E. L. W.

Opt

Specialist in lens  
at the parlors of the  
day, Sept. 1, 1899.  
Brasher Falls, Aug.  
thereafter. Exam  
guaranteed. Con  
correctly fitted for