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PASSING OF THE SWORD.

It Attracts Too Much Attention by Its Flashing. The sword for military purposes is clearly marked for extinction. There have been hints of the passing of the implement and now we have so good an authority as Colonel Arthur L. Wagner, assistant adjutant general, chief umpire at the Fort Riley Manoeuvres on the side of the abandonment of the sword.

"You say the evening wore on. What did it wear?" "Why the close of the day, of course."—University of Minnesota Punch Bowl.

A Policeman's College in Russia.

There is a policeman's college in St. Petersburg to train applicants for the force. There is a museum combined with the school where the pupils make themselves familiar with the tools of criminals—jimmies, drills, chisels, and contrivances for robbing collection boxes, a special field of Russian thieves.

He: "What lovely flowers! Do you know, they remind me of you." She: "Why, they are artificial." He: "Yes, I know; but it requires close examination to detect it."

The snow falls alike on the sidewalk of the just and the unjust, even as the just and the unjust alike slip and measure themselves gracefully on the sidewalks upon which the snow falls.—"Judge."

The Sunshine of True Health and Life After Sickness and Suffering.

Paine's Celery Compound Rescues a Sufferer Who Was in a Perilous Condition.

The liver, the largest and one of the most important organs of the body is, to thousands of young and old, a source of suffering. It has been truly said that a diseased liver means physical and mental tortures and dangers.

Are you a victim of liver complaint? Do you experience any of the symptoms noted above? If so, do not fail to make immediate use of Paine's Celery Compound, the only medicine that directly strikes the root of the trouble, and that infuses new life into every inactive organ.

STRANGE EXPERIENCE OF A LONDON FIREMAN.

Why People are Sometimes Burnt to Death in The Flames. During my career as an officer of the London Fire Brigade I came across many peculiar incidents in connection with fires in the Metropolis.

Some people seem to imagine that firemen instinctively know of the outbreak of a fire, and when they see one in progress they stand and view it, neglecting entirely to pull the alarm in the post which may be close at hand, or to send or take a message to the nearest fire station.

I dare say quite half-a-dozen times I have seen an unusual light in the sky, and sending a man on the look-out have found it to be from a building blazing away within half a mile of us. Under those circumstances I immediately turned out my engines, taking care to send a telephonic message to the superintendent's station to say that there was a light from a fire bearing so-and-so from our station and that our engines and all our men were out for it.

Arrived at the job we are met with a buzz of admiration from the crowd, evoked by the ascent of a shower of sparks, and by remarks such as "Oh, how lovely!" And some of the people have the audacity to

JEER AT US FOR BEING LATE, little thinking that we should not have been there then had we waited for a call. Such almost criminal thoughtlessness sometimes has fatal results. One night, when everything in the station was ready to respond to a call at a minute's notice, a fire broke out within six houses of the station.

rushed it along ourselves. In five minutes we had the fire out, but

SIX PERSONS WERE BURNED TO DEATH.

At the inquest it was proved that, although the brigade station almost adjoined, twenty minutes elapsed after the fire broke out before anyone attempted to call the firemen to the burning building. And it was evident that had a reasonable call been given not one life would have been lost.

Sometimes one receives the most misleading information from responsible people at fires. Not long ago I was at one where a shop and house of about eight rooms were involved. The premises were well alight, and the neighbours informed me that the inmates had all got out in safety.

There were no signs of life within, but nevertheless, had we not received the information, an attempt would have been made to enter and search the house while there was a chance to do so. As I stood there directing operations the head of the house, who was absent when the fire broke out, ran up and ANXIOUSLY INQUIRED IF HIS FAMILY WAS SAFE.

I replied in the affirmative, and a neighbour pointed out to him where they were being accommodated.

I well remember how grateful he was at the reassuring news, and his remark: "Thank Heaven for that! I am glad they are safe. It does not matter about my few sticks of furniture. I dare say I shall soon be able to get them together again."

When the fire was sufficiently subdued to permit of it I ascended a ladder and entered a window on the first floor. On getting a foothold inside I tread on something soft. My suspicions were aroused, and on turning my light on the object I found, as I expected that it was a human body.

A search was promptly instituted, and we discovered that instead of the inmates being saved they were every one burnt to death. Reverently we gathered up the remains of the five children and their mother, and putting them in coffins removed them to a mortuary.

THE GRIEF OF THE HUSBAND AND FATHER was indescribable, and I was truly sorry for being instrumental in assisting to build up his hopes that they were all saved. Frequently the rewards offered for the saving of life from fire have a result contrary to that intended. I know of cases where a call has intentionally been withheld from the brigade so as to enable unprincipled men to attempt to save life, not from heroic or generous motives, but from interested ones.

Quite recently a case happened where a private house was on fire, and an early attendance of appliances would have soon extinguished it. However, as a man was entering the building to save a woman who was known to be therein a boy offered to call the brigade. The man stopped him with the remark, "Hold on, lad; give us a chance before you call the firemen." That woman's life was sacrificed.

Many incidents similar to the one quoted came to the knowledge of the firemen, but a sort of professional etiquette prevents them from communicating the information to the authorities.

A News special cable from London says:—"The Daily Mail is publishing a series of articles to show that Australia is bankrupt. It points to the decreased birth rate and immigration, drought, heavy borrowings for unproductive works, old age pensions and national railways as causes of the serious position of Australia.

A lady from the country recently entered a bric-a-brac shop in town with a view to purchasing something odd, and, looking about, noticed a quaint figure, the head and shoulders of which appeared above the counter. "What is that Japanese idol over there worth?" she inquired.

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