

A few years ago the late Empress Elizabeth of Austria, after her cure at Laugenschwalbach, gave her drinking glass to the waitress. It fell into the hands of a curiosity collector at Wiesbaden, who has now sold it for 20,000 marks to two Austrian gentlemen, who intend presenting it to Francis Joseph.

A French investigator has recently come to the conclusion that the brains of military men give out most quickly. He states that out of every 100,000 military men 199 are hopeless lunatics. Of the liberal professions, artists are the first to succumb to the brain strain, next the lawyers, followed at some distance by doctors, clerics, men, literary men and civil servants. Striking an average of this group 117 go mad to each 100,000.

Charles Henry Gibbs, keeper of the "bug light" at Nantucket, annually about July 20 receives a check for \$1, his yearly salary. This old lighthouse has been put out of action by shifting sands on the south side of Nantucket harbor, but the government allows this aged mariner to live in it and pays him the smallest of federal salaries.

A favorite trick of Alsatian market women is to place six or eight eggs in a small basket, and to declare that those are all the absolutely fresh ones they have. The victim buys them, thinking that if the woman was dishonest she would have offered more "fresh eggs." Afterward the market woman takes six or more out of a larger basket which is carefully covered over.

Both the queen and Princess Victoria have been making an album of photographs taken in the Western Isles during their recent yachting cruise. Before leaving the royal yacht her majesty the queen was photographed in the midst of all the officers on board—an act of graciousness which was much appreciated by all concerned.

Berlin has stamp museum which is a part of the general post office. It contains a stamp collection owned by the German government, all mounted in many blank albums. They are from all countries. Many hours can be spent in looking through the albums. Then on the walls are frames filled with stamps and original envelopes, and in big glass cases are some of the most valuable stamps in existence.

An English writer maintains that the foul air in smoking rooms greatly diminishes the pleasure derived from tobacco. He calls attention to the fact that a pipe of tobacco, when smoked in the open fresh air, and particularly on a bright day with a sharp wind blowing, is peculiarly fragrant. The effect, he adds, is enhanced by ozone, and tobacco smoke in the presence of static electrical apparatus develops a very agreeable aroma.

The prevalent belief that suicide is a product of the higher civilization is contradicted by the fact that suicides by opium are committed by the natives for the most trivial reasons, even children destroying themselves after being scolded, and wives because husbands complain of their fingers. There are no regulations for the sale of poison, and anybody can go into a bazaar and buy as much as he wants.

A queer improvement is being introduced in hotels in Europe. It is to furnish every guest on his arrival with slippers. These slippers are made of paper. The soles are of pasteboard and the rest is made of white or brown paper, stitched with heavy cotton to prevent tearing. There are various qualities. The most expensive is made of an extra good quality of white paper. The cheapest is made of common brown straw paper.

The 1902 rice crop of Japan, according to a recently issued estimate of the Japanese department of agriculture and commerce, shows a decrease of upwards of 15 per cent. from the extraordinarily heavy crop of the previous year. That the present crop, however, can not be called a poor one, is indicated by the fact that, as compared with the average crop of the four previous years (1898-1901), it shows a decrease of less than one-half of 1 per cent.

The largest automobile in the world is now at the Chicago Automobile club on Michigan avenue. While its speed is much less than that of some of the "devil wagons" seen on the streets, it is in a way the most marvelous machine ever constructed. Transportation of heavy and bulky merchandise is what it was built for. Its maximum speed is only five miles per hour. The machine cost \$150,000 to build, as all the machinery used in its manufacture had to be specially made.

The Spanish chamber of deputies has been petitioned to take immediate measures to preserve from destruction the Alhambra, the most famous Moorish building in the world. The Alhambra is menaced by the presence in the neighborhood of a powder factory. A storehouse has recently been added in which 45 tons of smokeless powder are stored, and the Spanish people refuse to submit to such disregard of the safety of a monument which they prize above all others, and which has stood revered for hundreds of years.

DECREASE IN THE DEFICIT

Finances of the Post Office Department Show a Much Better Condition.

REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

Important Recommendations for Improvement of the Service—Progress of Rural Free Delivery—Growth of the Money Order Business—Postal Check Favored.

Washington, Nov. 28.—The annual report of Postmaster General Henry C. Payne has been made public. Besides the report of the conditions of the various divisions of the postal system, it contains important recommendations for improvement. One is a reduction in the rates of foreign postage, to be arranged with Great Britain, Germany and France. There are several recommendations looking toward the betterment of the conditions of the employees of the department. There are recommendations for legislation for the improvement and extension of various divisions and the checking of many abuses of the postal service and for inauguration of new ideas.

The report shows the total receipts of the department for the year 1902 to be \$121,848,047.86, as against \$111,631,193.39 in 1901; total expenditures for 1902, \$124,785,697.07, as against \$115,554,920.87 for 1901; excess of expenditures over receipts, 1902, \$2,937,649.81; 1901, \$3,923,727.48—a decrease in the deficit from the previous year of \$956,077.67.

Rural Free Delivery. Of the rural free delivery system the report says: Rural free delivery service has become an established fact. It is no longer in the experimental stage and undoubtedly congress will continue to increase the appropriation for this service until all the people of the country are reached where it is thickly enough settled to warrant it. If congress shall make the necessary appropriations, it is believed that within the next three years the extension of the service will have been completed.

It is further stated that the rural free delivery system has increased postal receipts, enhanced the value of farm lands at least five per cent., brought the farmers in close touch with the markets, and conferred many other advantages on those communities where it is in use.

Money Order Growth. The money order business has largely increased during the fiscal year, both in number and amount of money transmitted. Domestic money orders to the number of 40,474,327 were issued for \$318,553,279, and 1,311,111 foreign money orders for \$5,821,729. A new departure proposed is a "postal check."

Registered letters and parcels to the number of 22,831,400 were transmitted through the mails during the year, with a loss of only 171 of them. Over a billion and a half dollars was carried by the department in registered parcels, and only 34,577 were lost.

The department has received applications with England, France, Italy and other European countries, similar to that now in force between this country and Germany, is recommended.

Fraud orders to the number of 24 were issued against the promoters of various schemes. The postal service handled 745,742,672 pounds of mail matter, from which a postage revenue of \$116,728,644 was received. Fourteen per cent. of this weight was first-class matter, and this class produced 78 per cent. of the revenue.

Much space is devoted to mail transportation and routes in this country, Porto Rico, Hawaii and Alaska.

RAILWAY DISASTER

Train on the Big Four Road Ditched Near Avon, Ind.—Heavy Loss of Life Feared.

Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 28.—The St. Louis flyer on the Big Four railroad, which left here at five minutes after midnight, is in the ditch half a mile west of Avon, 30 miles west of Indianapolis, and it is feared a large number of lives have been lost. The train consisted of eight sleepers; and according to reports received by the railroad officials four of them are piled in a heap in a cornfield. The train struck a broken rail while running at the rate of 50 miles an hour. The place where the wreck occurred is at the center of a "high fill," the embankment being 80 feet high.

Died at the Age of 123. Newton, Kan., Nov. 28.—Mrs. Kate Vance, a colored woman of this city, died here Friday night, aged 123 years. Mrs. Vance had a daughter 90 years of age, and her husband died at the age of 105. She remembered with distinctness Jefferson's administration and the war of 1812.

Died at His Residence. Marshall, Mo., Nov. 29.—Bunce Quarles, of Booneville, the young Kemper college student injured here two weeks ago in the football game between Wentworth academy and Kemper college teams, died Friday from his injuries. His neck was dislocated.

Found Parents Dead. Chicago, Nov. 28.—William McIlwain and wife were found asphyxiated in their home, 687 Park avenue, by Mrs. William Blair, their daughter, who had come from Berlin to attend a family reunion. Death was caused by a leak in the kitchen range.

HOPES ARE DASHED

Operators Suddenly End All Negotiations with the Miners for Strike Settlement.

Washington, Nov. 26.—All prospects for an understanding between the United Mine Workers and the coal operators outside the anthracite coal strike commission came to a sudden termination late Tuesday afternoon through the receipt of a dispatch to Mr. Wayne MacVeagh, representing the Pennsylvania Coal company and the Hillside coal and iron company, notifying him that at a meeting of the anthracite coal roadmen in New York it had been decided not to grant an interview to Mr. Mitchell and his associates, which had been suggested for Friday next. The announcement says: "The conditions are such that no substantial progress can be made by the suggested meeting. The general judgment of the operators is that it will be best for the present to go on with the hearing."

The announcement, coming as it did after an all day conference in this city between Mr. MacVeagh and Mr. Mitchell and his associates, attended part of the time by Carroll D. Wright in an endeavor to adjust some details of the proposed agreement between the operators and the miners, completely surprised every one here. From a reliable source it is learned that the proposition that the operators meet Mr. Mitchell on Friday next was made at the instance of Mr. MacVeagh, who was no less surprised than Mr. Mitchell himself at the turn affairs had taken.

From statements made by Mr. Darrow early in the day, the impression had spread that a complete agreement would be effected at the conference, but when the meeting broke up Mr. Darrow read to the newspaper men in the corridor outside his room in Willard's hotel a statement which made it clear that no final agreement had been reached, and that no further conferences were likely. The statement was as follows:

"The conference Tuesday was simply a continuation of the conferences held at Scranton and with precisely the same object—that of trying to reach a basis of hopeful discussion for an amicable settlement. Mr. MacVeagh has not been in Scranton since Thursday and some matters developed as to which a further conference might be useful before either the operators or the representatives of the miners approach the serious task of formulating a definite agreement for their signatures."

RIGHTS OF THE NEGRO

The President Won't Discriminate Against the Blacks in Making Appointments.

Washington, Nov. 23.—President Roosevelt, in answering the letter of prominent citizens of Charleston, S. C., who objected to the appointment of a negro to a federal office, declared that he would show no race discrimination and that the negro who shows ability and good character shall be the equal of any white man showing the same virtues. He declared he will not discriminate against any man solely on account of his color, and says that the good of the nation—the white and the black—depends upon the granting of virtue to whoever is found. The letter was written by the president in response to objections raised to the appointment of Dr. Crum, as collector of the port of Charleston. President Roosevelt promises to investigate fully the individual case, but in his letter deals with the principles involved.

FUGITIVE ARRESTED

Charles F. Kelly, Under Indictment in St. Louis, Is Captured in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, Nov. 29.—After eluding arrest for several months, Charles F. Kelly, the former speaker of the St. Louis house of delegates, who is wanted in the western city in connection with the bribery cases unearthed there some time ago, was arrested in this city at 1:19 o'clock Friday afternoon. Kelly arrived in New York on the steamer Celtic in the morning from Liverpool, and had just stepped from the western express in the Broad street station of the Pennsylvania railroad here when he was taken into custody by Detective James Tate, Sr., of the detective bureau of this city. He admitted his identity.

Building a Canal. New York, Nov. 28.—Since the arrival here of Rear Admiral Higginson's fleet the blue-jackets of that command have been engaged, says a Herald dispatch from Culebra, W. I., in cutting a canal across the narrow neck of land which separates Great Harbor from the larger bay, thus affording easy passage from one harbor into the other.

Quarantine Ordered. Washington, Nov. 28.—Secretary of Agriculture Wilson has ordered a quarantine against cattle, sheep and swine in New England and prohibited their exportation or shipment elsewhere. The foot and mouth disease is epidemic in four states.

Acquitted. Chicago, Nov. 28.—James H. Gornley was acquitted of alleged Masonic temple tax fraud by the jury, after 16 hours' deliberation. The vote was 8 to 4 for conviction. Efforts to punish supposed gang of "tax fixers" will now probably be dropped.

The Cuban Treaty. Washington, Nov. 28.—The Cuban treaty may satisfy a reciprocity treaty with the United States, provided a 25 per cent. reduction on tariff duties is granted.

BIG STEAMER GOES DOWN

The Sylvanus J. Macey Founders on Lake Erie During a Furious Gale.

OFFICERS AND CREW PROBABLY DROWN

They Number Eighteen Men, and Have Not Been Heard From—The Bannockburn, with Twenty Men, Thought to Have Been Lost on Lake Superior.

Detroit, Mich., Nov. 28.—The steamer Sylvanus J. Macey, with a crew of 18 men, went to the bottom of Lake Erie Sunday night during a furious south-west gale. The news was brought to Amherstburg Thursday by the barge Mabel Wilson, which was in tow of the wrecked steamer until the gale parted them.

It is also feared that the steamer Bannockburn, with a crew of 20 men, is lost in Lake Superior. The Bannockburn sailed from Port Arthur and is overdue since last Friday. Tugs are scouring Lake Superior, but the marine underwriters have given up the steamer for lost.

As the personnel of the crew of the steamer changes at nearly every port visited, a complete list is not available in the office. The crew of the Macey probably numbered 18, as that is the number necessary to man a ship of its size.

The Macey, with the Wilson in tow, left Buffalo last Saturday with a cargo of coal. When half way up Lake Erie the gale was encountered, and when abreast of Port Burwell the tow line of the barge was thrown off by the crew of the Macey, leaving the schooner to shift for itself. When last seen by the crew of the Wilson the Macey was laboring heavily in the sea and was evidently making for shelter. If the crew had time to leave their ship before the plunge to the bottom it is not believed that the small boats could have lived long in the terrible sea running. That nothing has been heard of them has convinced the owners that all are lost.

Five Miles of Wreckage. News of the disaster was also reported by Capt. J. J. Antterson, of the steamer Albright, which passed up the river early Thursday morning. He reported having passed through five miles of wreckage Wednesday 30 miles southwest of Long Point, consisting of parts of the cabin, life preservers, and doors of some vessel. The cabin was painted white, but there were no distinguishing marks to tell what vessel it was from. The arrival of the Wilson, however, identified the wreckage as that from the Macey, as the last seen of that steamer was in the near vicinity.

The Macey was owned by P. J. Ralph & Co. of Detroit, and was insured for \$16,500. It was one of the older type of wooden steamers, registering 752 tons, and built in 1881.

RAVAGES OF FEVER

Killing People by Scores in Colombia—Residents Are Unable to Bury the Dead.

Barranquilla, Nov. 28.—Surgeon E. X. Varsand, of the steamer City of Panama, which has arrived from Barranquilla, says that on a trip into the interior of Colombia he found things quiet enough as far as the revolution was concerned, but saw on every hand the effects of the fever which, he says, is killing the people by the score. So great was the mortality in some places through which he passed that no attempt was made to give burial to the victims. They were dying by dozens. As they died, says Dr. Varsand, their bodies were taken out into the open and left for the buzzards.

THANKSGIVING DAY

Washington, Nov. 28.—The president devoted nearly all of Thanksgiving day to his family and friends. Dinner was served in the state dining-room, after a long horseback ride into the country. The day was celebrated throughout the United States and by Americans in London, Paris, Berlin, Vienna and other foreign cities. "It was first observance of the day in this country."

RAISED LARGE SUM

Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 29.—It is officially announced that the national headquarters of the mine workers that when the miners meet in national convention here in January to prepare a new wage scale, Secretary Wilson will report the amount of money raised by them for the strike. It is understood that the total was over \$2,000,000, distributed among 2,000,000 miners.

BIG SHIPMENT OF COAL

Pittsburg, Nov. 28.—About 3,250,000 bushels of coal were shipped to the southern markets by the Pittsburg river shippers, Thursday. A swell in the Monongahela river made these shipments possible.

Will Represent China. Pekin, Nov. 28.—The dwager empress has decided to appoint Prince Chun to be the principal representative of China at the St. Louis exposition.



Fibroid Tumors Cured.

A distressing case of Fibroid Tumor, which baffled the skill of Boston doctors. Mrs. Hayes, of Boston, Mass., in the following letter tells how she was cured, after everything else failed, by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Mrs. Hayes' First Letter Appealing to Mrs. Pinkham for Help: "DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I have been under Boston doctors' treatment for a long time without any relief. They tell me I have a fibroid tumor. I cannot sit down without great pain, and the soreness extends up my spine. I have bearing-down pains both back and front. My abdomen is swollen, and I have had flowing spells for three years. My appetite is not good. I cannot walk or be on my feet for any length of time. The symptoms of Fibroid Tumor given in your little book accurately describe my case, so I write to you for advice."—(Signed) Mrs. E. F. Hayes, 252 Dudley St., (Roxbury) Boston, Mass.

Note the result of Mrs. Pinkham's advice—although she advised Mrs. Hayes, of Boston, to take her medicine—which she knew would help her—her letter contained a mass of additional instructions as to treatment, all of which helped to bring about the happy result.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—Sometime ago I wrote to you describing my symptoms and asked your advice. You replied, and I followed all your directions carefully, and to-day I am a well woman. "The use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound entirely expelled the tumor and strengthened my whole system. I can walk miles now. "Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is worth five dollars a drop. I advise all women who are afflicted with tumors or female trouble of any kind to give it a faithful trial."—(Signed) Mrs. E. F. Hayes, 252 Dudley St., (Roxbury) Boston, Mass.

Mountains of gold could not purchase such testimony—or take the place of the health and happiness which Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound brought to Mrs. Hayes.

Such testimony should be accepted by all women as convincing evidence that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound stands without a peer as a remedy for all the distressing ills of women; all ovarian troubles; tumors; inflammations; ulceration; falling and displacements of the womb; backache; irregular, suppressed or painful menstruation. Surely the volume and character of the testimonial letters we are daily printing in the newspapers can leave no room for doubt.

Mrs. Hayes at her above address will gladly answer any letters which sick women may write for fuller information about her illness. Her gratitude to Mrs. Pinkham and Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is so genuine and heartfelt that she thinks no trouble is too great for her to take in return for her health and happiness. Truly it is said that it is Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound that is curing so many women, and no other medicine; don't forget this when some druggist wants to sell you something else.

\$5000 FORFEIT if we cannot forthwith produce the original letters and signatures of above testimonials, which will prove their absolute genuineness. Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass.

Advertisement for the Northern Pacific Railway, highlighting its service between St. Paul and Portland, including details about train schedules, amenities like dining cars and sleeping cars, and the quality of the service.

Large advertisement for Castoria, featuring a portrait of a woman and the signature of Dr. J. C. Fletcher. The text promotes Castoria as a safe and effective remedy for infants and children, particularly for ailments like colic, diarrhea, and constipation. It also mentions that the product has been used for over thirty years.

Advertisement for Mexican Mustang Liniment, describing it as the best for cuts, old sores, and all open wounds. The text emphasizes its effectiveness and long history of use.