WHITE HOUSE RATS.

Are So Numerous as to Make Place Almost Uninhabitable.

Every Effort Made Thus Far to Get Rid of the Pests Has Proved Unavailing-Steel Floors and Ceilings May Be Necessary.

Rats are overrunning the white house. This is one of the reasons why a new executive mansion should be built. The present residence of the president is infested and undermined with the rodent pests. This has been the case for years, and the rats have increased in numbers until the question of getting rid of them has become serious.

The danger to the building from their constant burrowing and undermining has led to repeated efforts to exterminate these executive mansion rats. Col. Bingham, the custodian of the historic building, will make a final attempt soon to run the rodents out of the holes they have used for many years. If his plan fails it is not known just what can be done, but the nuisance has reached a stage where, if relief cannot be secured, the building will be a dangerous place of abode, if not actually uninhabitable.

No one seems to know how or when the rats first came to the white house, but it is probable they came from the stables. Since their advent, however, they have made the place

Many visitors have been startled when calling upon the president by a sudden roar and rush on the floors above the cabinet room, and the sound echoing through the walls often has led people to think there must be a bowling alley in full operation in the attic, with a whole bunch of office-seekers trying to knock down the pins.

Over in the Metropolitan club, where there was a host of rats a Tew years ago, it finally became necessary to put in steel walls and ceilings. This beat the rodents, and. finding they were unable to burrow through, they quit the game. Col. Bingham, having tried poison, cats, and similar old-fashioned expedients. would like to have congress make an appropriation either to build a new white house or to put in steel walls and ceilings in the old one.

THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

Representative Cousins Says United States Consular Service Can't Be Beaten.

"Our consular service is considered the best in the world, and it is improving constantly," said Representative Cousins, of Iowa, when questioned as to the prospects of legislation reorganizing the consular service. "Germany and other nations have admitted that this service is superior to theirs and attribute the tremendous growth forts of our consular officers.

"The improvement is taking place constantly, as from time to time congress increases the salaries of the consular officers, and this enables the state department to secure the services of competent men. Promotions are being made all the time, and some of those in the consular service have been there a great many years and have acquired valuable experience.

"These officers are always alert and are prompt to report to the state department any opening for American products. The reports made by them are valuable in increasing our foreign trade, and they are better than those prepared by the representatives of any -other nation."

ARE MENDING THEIR WAYS.

Leading Railroads of Great Britain to Economise by Revolutionising Transportation Methods.

t There is a disposition on the part of several of the leading railways of Great Britain to amend their ways in the direction of economy, says the London correspondent of the New York Tribune. Railway transport in that country is at present carried on under much the same conditions as those which prevailed in the United States a quarter of a century ago and in England nearly a half a century ago. Wagons of eight to ten tons' capacity are still used, and the average mineral drainload is under 100 tons. The Laucashire & Yorkshire, ELondon & Northwestern, the Northcustern, and one or two minor British lines have recently, however, given orders to build wagous varying in capacity from 20 to 30 tons, and if ; the experiment comes up to expectations the smaller wagons will gradually be discarded. The country is ±0 intensely conservative, however, that the reform is sure to meet with opposition from the colliery companies.

Wrote and Ran,

Kipling was on the high seas, bound For South Africa, when his poem attacking the English cricketers and polo players was published. This was unfortunate, says the Chicago Record-Herald . The poet should have the courage of his rhymes.

Exceptions to All Rules.

A New York artist has bought a fine house in the fashionable district. where he intends to live, says the Chieago Record-Herald. We may yet hear of some poet building a cottage at New-

Coffee Consumption in Edrope. In Europe the greatest average consumption of coffee is in Denmark, and the least in Russia.

NOT HIS BROTHER.

But Efforts of New York Architect to Discover Missing Relative Bang Joy to Others.

Though disappointed just when he thought he had found the brother for whom he has been looking for two years, William T. Doherty, an architect in New York city, has the consolation of knowing that his efforts have brought joy to a family who bear the same name as his own, though they live in Charlestown, Mass. John A. Doherty, the brother of William, still remains undiscovered among the thousands of fighting men in South Africa. John P. Doherty, the son of a prominent physician of Charlestown, is now known to be a prisoner of war in Ceylon and his family, who had almost come to mourn him for dead, are preparing to take every means to procure his speedy release. John A. Doherty, who is 26 years old, was a builder, but when the Spanish war broke out he enlisted with a New York regiment and went to Cuba. After serving in the Cuban war the parents of Doherty died and the builder went to South Africa in search of a fortune. He disappeared and his brother wrote to the war department. He

received the following: "Army Headquarters, South Africa, Pretoria, Nov. 25, 1901.—In reply to your letter to Lord Kitchener asking whether any such person as your brother, John A. Doherty, is a prisoner of war in South Africa, I am to inform you that the only prisoner of war of that name is John P. Doherty, who gave his address as No. 7 Lawrence street, Charlestown, Mass. This man is now in Ceylon and will remain there until the ces-

sation of hostilities. This proved the death blow to all William Doherty's hopes, but he lost mo time in sending on the letter to Charlestown, and he has just received a reply, telling him of the happiness which his news had brought to the other family.

PUNISHMENT FITS CRIME.

How Little Kintergarten Lad Who Had Stolen a Penny Was Dealt With by His Teacher.

A small boy in one of the free kindergartens of New York city the other day was charged with stealing a penny from a small girl. In accordance with ideas of juvenile justice, the accused was tried for the charge. The teacher sat as judge, the jury was made up of the prisoner's peers, impaneled from the class. When the evidence was all in the prisoner was pronounced guilty, and judge and jury decided that, by way of punishment, he must return the penny.

But the penny was spent. The prisoner lifted a wretched face, and, weeping, said, after Kipling: "I and my father are very poor,

and I have no penny." The facts were laid before the jury, which solemn body decided that the accused must work for another penny and return it, that justice might be done. A note containing a penny was sent to the janitor by the teacher, explaining the case, and asking

that work be given the little boy. The janitor was a just man. After half an hour's hard work shoveling coal the little prisoner returned to the schoolroom, grimy, but triumphant. The penny was returned, the wrong done was satisfied, and the culprit was reinstated in kindergarten society, having paid the price of his crime, as did his first father,

Adam. SCHWAB AT MONTE CARLO.

President of United States Steel Corporation Makes Big Winnings at the Resort.

Charles M. Schwab, president of the United States Steel corporation, who has been playing roulette very high at Monte Carlo, broke the bank the other afternoon. He had backed 26 plein, and in various ways in maximums had won 50,000 francs. He left the table amid great excitement, and a large

crowd followed him. He started playing on a pair on another table, and lost 15,000 francs at even chances on five successive coups. He then resumed his practice of backing a certain number and the contiguous numbers on the cloth to the extent of 1,000, 2,600 or 3,000 francs, He lost every time, and his winnings nearly vanished. Although Schwab had occasional runs of back in the aftermoon in addition to has recent winning of 75,000 francs on two successive cours, he has already dropped several. thousand dollars. He lost ten coups of 2,000 francs in succession the other-

Toy Flying Machines,

The new st thing in children's toys is a flying machine. The fact that it cannot fly doesn't affect either its name or its popularity. "When they can make a toy fly," said some one sagely, "the time will be not far distant when we shall be taking wing." The little machine is modeled upon the Santos-Dumont affair that actually did go around the Eiffel tour in midair, but the diminutive specimen requires a string of wire to make it travel. Some shops exhibited earlier in the season a top flying machine, which, inflated by gas, really made an independent aerial flight, but this was finally given up as unsafe. Makebelieve, therefore, must still play a part in the successes of the nursery flying machine, as it does very largely in that of the grown-up affair.

All on a Pin-Head,

A Baltimore jeweler has succeeded in engraving the alphabet, in capitals, on the head of an ordinary pin, and the Chicago Tribune remarks that that partially answers the question, "what becomes of all the pins?"

CANALS IN EUROPE.

American Capital Reaching Out to Secure Control of Them.

Plan Is to Obtain All Water Routes for American Cargoes from Inland Ports in America to Inland Ports in Europe.

One of the most important of American commercial enterprises in Europe has just culminated at London. It consists in the securing of all water routes for American cargoes of grain and other commodities from inland ports in the United States to inland ports in Europe, and embraces the purchase by American capital of several British and other

Frank W. Hawley, vice president of the Erie Canal Traction company, has been in Europe several months quietly securing concessions for the operation of European canals by electricity. The Erie concern has secured control of about 5,000 miles of canals in England and on the continent. As a result cargoes will shortly be shipped on the same bill of lading from Duluth, Minn., to Brussels, Bruges, Ghent and Cologne and, later, to many points in the United Kingdom; France, Germany

At the forthcoming session of parliament the British lecislators will be asked to grant permission for the erection of central power stations for the propulsion of tradic on at least two British canals. These will be operated with American capital, though their control will nominally remain in British hands.

Mr. dawley said: struction company is making considerable progress in securing on water routes by electrically operated cana's throughout Europe. I cannot tell you yet the names of the English canals which will figure in parliament. There are in the United Kingdom, 1,138 miles of canals owned by railroads which do not make a very good financial showing; but 2.768 miles of English canals independent of railroads show earnings of \$729 per mile which are greater than those shown by many American railroads. However, we have been able to get control of a portion of these, because their operation and maintenance expenses are over 70 per cent, of their gross receipts. The largest canals in England, viz., the Birmingham, Grand Junction, Leeds and Liverpool, Oxford and Bridgewater, are not far removed from sources of electric power supply, at least nothing like so far removed as is the canal at Oakland, Cal., where the power is trans-mitted from the Yuba river, a distance of 140 miles. Therefore it is merely a question of getting the necessary consent of parliament for the conveyance of this electric energy before the English canals will be equal to the canals of American and Bel-gium where electrical energy has resulted in increased facilities with a corresponding reduction in the cost of operation."

THE SPINE HOME OF THE SOUL

Professor at Ann Arbor University Declares He Has Proven This by Experiments.

Prof. Lombard, of Ann Arbor, Mich., instructor of physiology in the University of Michigan, believes that he has located the dwelling place of the soul in the spinal column. He has arrived at this conclusion after many months of experiments with

Besults of the last two days' experiments seem to demonstrate that death through the medium of the brain does not terminate the control of the muscles. Thursday the professor produced before his class a live frog, from which he removed the brain. It was then suspended by its under jaw. An hour later a drop of acetic acid was touched to its foot. Instantly the frog began to jerk and twitch to get away from the stings of the acid. Twenty-four hours later, a tiny bit of filter paper saturated with the acid was placed against the body. The frog kicked with both legs and dislodged the paper. Placed upon its back, the paper was shaken off. Every time it was placed on any part of the body the legs sent it.

flying. Prof. Lombard calls this activity "reason movements," and will continue the experiments for the purpose of ascertaining how far the reasoning instinct may go.

THE OLDEST MAN AGAIN.

Claim of Napoleon (0.) Man Disputed by Noah Raby, Who Claims to Be 129 Years Old.

The claim of Martin Head, of Naphleon, O., to being the oldest man in the United States is not well founded. Noah Raby, of New Jersey, who is at the Piscataway poor farm, located near New Brunswick, claims to be between 129 and 130 years old. The old man was feeling well and said that he expected to live to be 150. In appearance Raby bears out his claim to his great age. His form is bent almost double and the wrinkles form an intricate network on his face. He was born at Eatontown, N. C., on April 1, 1772. For several months he worked for a blacksmith. Then he worked as a locktender at Norfolk and Portsmouth. Va. He served on the old training-ship Constitution for a year, followed by a term of service on the Brandywine under Admiral Farragut and after that worked in the Brooklyn navy yard for three years.

Auto Ambulance for Hornes.

Mile. Chossegros, who left 2,000,000 francs to the Societe Protectrice des Animaux, of Paris, made provision for the creation of an automobile van for removing injured horses from the streets. The society has opened a competition among automobile constructors for the new ambulance. which is to cost 20,000 francs, Baron de Zuyler having the project in charge.

MAKES THE HAIR FLUFFY.

Scalp Massage Proves Successful and Popular with the Society Women of New York.

The new method of making the hair fluffy, and, what is yet more important, manageable-namely, by massage—is gaining converts daily at New York. The straightest and stiffest locks may, by this method, become graceful.

All that is needed is willing and active finger tips, which, once a day at least, and, if possible, oftener, will lightly knead the scalp at the temples and forehead until the hair is in that state of fluff admired by all but possessed naturally, alas, by few. There is really no art nor mystery about the process. Moreover, any one can do it for herself.

The result is just the same as that once supposed to be attainable only from shampooing, but it is much more satisfactory. For days after a shampooing the hair is unmanageable; massage makes it but the more manageable. Shampooing, too, must not be indulged in often. A daily massage of the scalp edges, where the hair is liable to become thin, is beneficial in the highest degree to the health of the hair and of the

When you see a woman nowadays whose otherwise straight hair fluffs not artificially but becomingly about her face in a way to recall the French saying that "The ugliest woman may be made beautiful if she but know how to comb her hair," you may know that such a woman is indulging in daily scalp massage.

THE ROUGH RIDER DODGE.

Pretext Upon Which Scores of Visitors to the White House Ask to See President.

"If all these fellows who present themselves here and claim the attention of the president on the score of having been rough riders during the Spanish-American war are genuine productions," said an attache of the white house, "there are enough of them to form a line two abreast from here to New York. The records of the war department do not give half as many rough riders who did service in the war as have presented themselves here and asked to see President Roosevelt on that score.

"Another class also numerous, is made up of cowboys, who, on account of the presdient's hunting exploits, expect consideration."

This is true, for Saturday alone brought a large number, who insisted on an entrance to the president, saying they knew he would not turn down a rough rider.

A cowboy of the dime novel sort also called and wanted to go up to see President Roosevelt, saying he had hunted with him. He was gotten up in typical style, and, while on account of the close district laws in reference. to carrying concealed weapons, he had only an empty case for his revolver. he looked formidable enough to ront any sort of game that came in his way. He was firmly but politely turned away.

WANTS TO WIN DERBY.

Richard Croker's One Ambition Is to Have Winning Horse on English Turf.

Richard Croker in an interview with a reporter said among other things: "I have not decided on my future plans and don't know just when I will sail for England. I am going to try and win the Derby-that has always been one of the great ambitions of my life. I have two entries in this year's Derby and five in next year's. It will be run about June 1. The king always has entries, and will try for the Derby again this year. The uncertainty of horse racing is what gives the charm to it. I shall continue to breed race horses and hope for a Derby witner. A man hopes to have his children do as well as they can in the world, and watches them with anxlous pride as they grow up. He wants them to amount to something. Every poor man who has a son hopes to see him president some day. There is something like this in a horseman's heart as he watches the colts he breeds develop and I am watching with eagerness for a winner of the big race among mine."

Duck Tronsers of West Pointers. It will require the purchase of a thousand dollars' worth of machinery to keep the white transers of the millitary academy callets in presentable condition. It is found it will be necessary to make some special provision. for the means to keep such garments. in the best order. It is proposed to spend, as soon as congress will appropriate the money, about a thousand dollars in the purchase of laundry machinery, including two ironers. one starch separator and one starch tumbling machine. The use of this machinery will save time and labor in the ironing of the 2,000 pairs of white trausers which must be done each

Spanish Game of Pelota. The Spanish game pelota is to be

introduced in New York, where it is expected to become popular, and to this end a syndicate, composed chiefly of Havana capitalists, has secured a block near Central park, on which a building is to be erected to be devoted to the game. The proposed expenditure, it is said, is \$400,-000 on the court and arena.

Arkansas Forests. In Arkansas vast belts of forest lands still lie untouched by the ax of the woodman.

PREVENTION OF HYDROPHOBIA

Muzzling of Dogs Has Stamped Out the Disease Throughout Great

There was a great outery among owners of dogs throughout the United Kingdom over an order of the board of agriculture requiring the muzzling of all dogs running at large, The purpose of the board was the prevention of hydrophobia. Thousands, even among medical men, disputed the assumption of the board and declared that as a prevention of rables muzzling would be inefficacious, while it was wanton cruelty to the animals. Results, however, as shown by a report just issued, have demonstrated the wisdom of the plan. The authorities are now able to announce that hydrophobia has been entirely stamped out of the United Kingdom and that the special muzzling ordinances have therefore been repealed. They do not intend, however, that there shall be any importation of it from abroad and so the precautions against dogs coming from foreign places will still be enforced as rigorously as ever up to March 15.

After that date a new regulation will come into force. All dogs will then be subject to a six months' quarantibe at the expense and on the responsibility of their owners. They will have to be under the direct care or at least under the supervision of a veterinary surgeon. If they die during that interval their death must be reported. Places of detention are to be provided and care is to be taken that they travel in "a suitable hamper, crate, box or other receptacle." The owner who neglects to comply with these rules will be held to have committed an offense. Dogs which are left on the hands of the authorities will be disposed of. Exception-will be made for dogs in transit. They will be allowed to pass if their stay is not prolonged beyond 24 hours, and performing dogs will also have a privilege.

BRILLIANT COURT SCENES.

Splendor of the Coronation Foreshadowed by Elaborate Plans for Opening of Parliament,

The return of the king and queen to Marlborough house for the opening of parliament marks the beginning of the festivities of the coronation year. The king's council and cabinet meeting were formalities required for putting the finishing touches on the address from the throne and for the arrangements for the military and parliamentary pageants. The ceremonial last February will be repeated, with more pages, equerries, horses, carriages and color. Lori Salisbury, instead of carrying the sword of state, as he would be forced to do if he were foreign secretary, is favored by tradition and will stand at the left of the king, as lord of the privy seal, with the lord chancellor at the king's right hand, and this portion of the tableau will be a parable of the dependence of the medieval manarchy upon the two officials whose seals were indispensable for authenticating any royal decree. The duke of Devonshire will either carry the imperial crown or the sword of state. The marquis of Winchester will bear the cup of maintenance and Lord Wolselev will be the gold stick. The college of heralds will bring into the picture every figure that belongs there by virtue of ancient tradition.

MONEY ORDERS POPULAR.

Great Increase in the Business Done at the New York City Post-Office Last Year,

Joseph Elliott, the superintendent of the money order department of the general post office at New York, has just handed to Postmaster Van Cott the annual statement of his department for the year just ended. It shows that 3.512,527 domestic money orders were paid, amounting to \$22,-295,511; an increase in number of 485,-546, or 16 percent, and in amount \$4. 256,531, or 25 per cent, over the year 1900. Of international money orders there were paid in 1901 99,386, the amount paid being \$1,160,422. The domestic money orders issued and fees received were: Number, 112,528; fees received, \$1.394.947, an increase over 1900 in number of 8,454, and in amount of fees of \$92,079. Of international money orders there were issued in 1901 27,302, the amount of the fees received being \$453,248, an increase in number issued of 1,633, and in amount of fees received of \$19,339 over 1900.

Crucifix de Marquette's,

Evidence was found the other day that proves almost beyond a doubt that the erucifix found at Frankfort, Mich., last summer by workmen exeavating for the foundation for the Ann Arbor summer hotel there was the property of Father Marquette, the famous Indian missionary. Its possession has been disputed since its finding, but it has now been turned over to the Ann Arbor Railroad company. The rust was cleaned from its pedestal and the date 1664 was found on one side, while on the opposite side was found the inscription "M. & C. Quebec." Marquette left Quebec for upper Michigan in 1668 and was buried at Frankfort.

London to Have American Exhibit. At a meeting of 40 American business men located in London it was decided to support the American exhibition at the Crystal palace at Sydenham next summer. It was also resolved to send memorials to the governors of the various states of the United States, asking for their cooperation. Subcommittees were appointed on various matters in connection with the سائسان الماسان

IT BOBS · UP AGAIN.

Question as to Number of Verb Which Goes with United States.

House Committee the Last to Run Up Against the Pussling Question, But Usage Forces the Adoption of Singular Form.

The house committee on the revision of laws, in the course of some tinkering with the statutes, ran up against the time-worn proposition whether a singular or plural verb goes with the United States. There was much discussion among the members, and the worshipers of the constitution, quoting from that instrument, had much the best of the argument, when it was suggested that the committee consult any authority on the subject that could be found.

Accordingly the librarian of congress, the supreme court officials, and others were asked to throw light on the matter. The result showed that while the constitution and nearly all the laws, documents and messages in the early days of the republic used the plural verb, the tendency had been steadily toward the singular form, while for the last 15 or 20 years the latter had obtained almost exclusively.

The question was practically settled, however, as far as the committee was concerned, by the discovery of a pamphlet written by former Secretary of State John W. Foster, with the title "Are or Is?" In this pamphlet Mr. Foster traced the course of the changing use of the words and quoted from Hamilton, Webster, Benton, Motley, C. F. Adams, Jefferson, Marcy, Seward, Fish, Evarts, Blaine, Frelinghuysen, Bayard, Gresham and Olney, who used it in the singular.

In the earlier message President Jackson used the singular form, and in later years Lincoln, and since the civil war particularly, Grant, Cleveland, Harrison and McKinley used it exclusively.

Mr. Foster also quoted from the decisions of the superior court, those of recent years invariably using the singular in connection with the United States.

In no class of documents is greater attention paid to the language employed than in drafting treaties, and up to 1890 the plural form was used. Since then, however, the singular form has been adopted, and Mr. Foster pointed to the fur seal treaty of 1892, the arbitration treaty of 1897, and, lastly, the Hay-Pauncefote canal treaty, as conspicuous examples of

After reading the arguments and authorities of Mr. Foster the committee has decided that, legally at least, the United States "is."

MACMONNIES WAS HUMESICK. American Sculptor Glad to Get Back

to the United States-To Take m Rest. Frederick MacMonnies, the American sculptor who has been working in France for 17 years, and who has just

arrived at New York, announces that it is his intention of making that city his home in the future. In an interview he said: "I got tired of living abroad. I was homesick and I decided to come back. I am glad to get here and expect to remain here permanently. When I first went abroad I used to come home every year, but it is seven years since I was here last."

"Is it true that you intend to devote yourself entirely to painting?" he was

"No; I'm going to take a rest for a year. I think it is a good thing for one, who has been working at one thing. steadily for a long time to stop and get a new point of view. It gives one an opportunity to look at the work of others and his own work from the outside. Of course I shall not stop working. A man can't stop that way. A few of my friends have asked meto paint portraits for them, and I shall do them."

"It has been reported that you are to exhibit some pictures at the Royal academy and in the salon."

"I don't know how that became known. I thought I had only told that to myself. I only selected them for the framer the day before I left. To the Royal academy I shall send the portrait of Mr. Roundebush, and that of Miss May Paimer. At the Salon I will exhibit the portrait of the Abbe and + one of countess of Trobriand. I shall also have at the Salon the statue of, Gen. Slocum."

Divorce Ends Romance.

A decree of absolute divorce was granted in the supreme court the other day to Ida Cuthbert, a daughter of Capt. Nelson Bronson, U. S. A., retired, from Frederick R. Cuthbert, a basso. The couple eloped to Albany seven years ago, when she was only 15 years old. The old captain discovered the whereabouts of his little girl and took Ida away from her young husband and brought her home. A little boy was born to her, Roland Jerome Cuthbert, now six years old. He has never seen his father, but has lived with his grandfather all his life. Mr. and Mrs. Cuthbert never lived together, except for their seven days' honeymoon at Albany. Ida's mother is descended from a North American Indian chief.

Marrying Into Society,

Dr. Nichols' list shows in several places that if one can't buy his way into the "real smart set," says the Chicago Record-Herald, he may still mar-

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