

MAKE PRISON A HOME

OFFENDERS RECEIVE EXCEEDINGLY LIGHT PUNISHMENT.

Even the Food of the Convicts Is Far Above That in Many Homes—Wastefulness Is Barred—Men Well Treated.

Washington.—There is nothing inhuman in the treatment of United States prisoners in the penitentiaries and jails belonging to the government. Punishment is far lighter than most men think it ought to be, and if a prisoner halfway behaves himself he is better cared for and more kindly treated than he would be outside the great stone walls.

Despite the fact that the average cost a day to feed a prisoner at Fort Leavenworth is 11 cents and at Atlanta 12 cents, the daily bill of fare is far above that found in many thousands of homes in every state in the country. It equals that of the average workingman's home. The cheapness is due wholly to the fact that the government raises much of its own vegetables and some of its meat and that the work is all done by prisoners.

On June 24, 1905, the breakfast at the Atlanta penitentiary, where 354 men were confined for various offenses consisted of bologna sausage, potatoes, bread, butter and coffee; for dinner the bill of fare was soup, beef, potatoes, wheat bread, tea, water, and for supper it was bread, butter and coffee. But for the milk and vegetables raised on the farm the cost would have exceeded 12 cents a prisoner on that day. On June 22 the bill of fare at each meal was as follows: Breakfast, oatmeal, milk and sugar, bread, butter, coffee; dinner, salt pork, potatoes, tomatoes, wheat bread, tea, water; supper, liver, bread, butter, coffee. All kinds of meats are used during each month and the attempt is made to have the bill of fare vary as much as possible.

No prisoner is prevented from getting as much as he wants. All prisoners are seated in one dining hall. Their positions must be erect, their arms folded and their eyes to the front until the signal is given to commence eating. Strict silence must be observed during the meal. Staring at visitors, talking or laughing or gazing about are forbidden. Eating or drinking before or after the bell sounds using vinegar in the drinking water or putting meat on the table are prohibited. A man who wants more food makes his wants known to the many waiters by signals—if bread, holding up the right hand; if coffee or water, holding up a cup; if meat, a fork; if soup, a spoon; if vegetables, a knife. If it is necessary to speak to an officer about the food or service the left hand is held up and the officer goes forward and listens to what is said.

Wastefulness in food is prohibited and a prisoner is required to prevent the water placing more food on his plate than he can eat. At the conclusion of the meal pieces of bread must be left on the left side of the plate and knives, forks and spoons on the right side. So long as a convict has a good record and obeys the rules he is entitled to one ration of chewing and smoking tobacco each week, sufficient to last him all week; to permission to write once in two weeks; to see friends once in four weeks; to receive newspapers, magazines, books, etc., as may be approved by the warden; to receive family photographs, combs, brushes, powder, soap, tooth brushes and other small articles. One of the first punishments for disobedience of rules is a reprimand. The next is the loss of the tobacco privilege; the third, loss of the letter privilege; fourth, loss of good time; fifth, imprisonment in solitary confinement on restricted diet; sixth, imprisonment in solitary confinement on restricted diet, handcuffed to the door; seventh, reduction in grade; eighth, reduction to stripes; ninth, loss of all good time.

FIND SAURIAN WAS HEAVY.

About 77,000 Pounds Claimed for Large Ancient Monster by Yale Scientists.

New Haven, Conn.—An interesting experiment has lately been completed at the Peabody museum, of Yale university, to ascertain the original weight when alive, of one of the great saurians, the fossil remains of which were found in the Bad Lands of Wyoming by the late Prof. O. C. Marsh.

An exact model on a small scale was made of the saurian, based upon the skeleton, and using the displaced water for test, and carrying out the computation the original weight was ascertained as about 77,000 pounds, or 35½ tons.

The Peabody museum owns the complete specimen of a skeleton and has already mounted the high quarter which stands to a height of somewhat more than 16 feet. The saurian it will be about 75 feet long.

The museum also owns part of a skeleton of a considerably larger prehistoric animal which has not as yet been mounted.

Dr. Oler's Job.

We shall not believe in Olerism until we have some proof that Dr. Oler made as bright a speech on his five-tenth birthday as Mark Twain did on the seventh.

CRAZYMAN'S CASTLE.

NOVEL STRUCTURE ERECTED BY CIVIL WAR VETERAN.

For Forty-Two Years the Builder Labored at It Daily, But Never Completed His Task.

For 40 years passengers on the steamboats plying the Mississippi river between St. Paul and St. Louis have risen at daylight, stayed up till dark, or passed by their meals that they might see the far-famed "Crazyman's castle," on the right bank of the Mississippi river, about 50 miles south of St. Paul, near the village of Minneka, Minn.

There is something intensely interesting about the castle that excites the wonder and admiration of all beholders, for it was the work of one man, covering a period of more than 40 years, and that man a "man of mystery," without education as an architect or builder, though a polished accomplished gentleman.

The castle was erected on a plateau of rock near the river bank under the shadows of a towering bluff, and stands out prominently like the home of some feudal lord.

There came to Minneka 42 years ago, Putnam Gray, straight from the battlefields of the civil war. Why he came here nobody knows. Whether he came to seek seclusion from the world and bury himself from friends and relatives no one has ever been able to discover. When he arrived he was still ill from a wound in his head, caused by the bursting shell on the field of battle at Shiloh.

For 42 years Putnam Gray has labored daily to complete his novel structure, the only ambition of his life, and for which he was often heard to say that he wished his life would be spared. He began collecting logs, driftwood and wreckage, of which his "castle" is constructed, a circumstance which makes his achievement in building it the more remarkable.

During the first year of his residence here he earned a few dollars by tending the government lights on the river at that point, but aside from this period he has never sought employment, other than that of building his "castle." He accomplished his work without nails or other building material, save that which he obtained from floating wrecks, broken lumber, and logs that came down to him on the current of the Mississippi river. The main part of the castle is three stories high.

The lower story and foundation is built of logs, carefully dressed. The second story is constructed from the hulls of three wrecked steamboats, while the upper part is made of lighter material, such as the upper decks of steamboats. Several frowning towers are seen rising to twice or three times the height of the main structure, while at each corner is a watch tower. Bubbling up in the center of the ground floor is a spring of pure ice-cold water, which has bubbled incessantly as the old man toiled to complete his life work.

Putnam Gray is not insane. When he first began to erect his "castle," the steamboat men called it a crazy affair, and this term has been applied to him and his home, though since the steamboat men have been compelled to acknowledge that his work, with scant tools and raw material, would do credit to many first-class mechanics. He is now 75 years old, and the first mishap which came to him, after weathering the storms of 40 years, occurred last summer, when a terrific storm swept the river and partially demolished his still uncompleted "castle."

"I can't finish it now," he cried. "I am too old and feeble, and it was almost completed." The tears came to the old man's eyes and his voice trembled as he gave vent to his feelings, but he did something he never did before. The silent man became talkative, and to the few sightseers who ever came to view the storm's work, he told where the various parts of the building had come from—the stairways, moldings, and windows from this or that steamboat which had floated ashore after being wrecked, but he gave the curious visitors no further information concerning himself.

Thousands of passengers on the passing steamboats and as many visitors have admired "Crazyman's Castle" for more than a quarter of a century, and none will forget it or the strange old man who built it.

Tommy's Conclusions. "I just heard to-day, mamma," said little Tommy, "that saurians are made of dogs, but it isn't so, is it?" "Why, certainly it isn't so, Tommy," said the little boy's mother, smiling at the open mouthed wonder in which he asked the question.

"I didn't quite believe it, mamma, but I thought if it was so that the saurians that come like fishballs must be made of pups, and the long ones that are built like bananas must be made of greyhounds."—N. Y. Times.

TREATIES MADE BY TEXAS.

Documents Relating to Time When State Was a Republic Treasured by Official.

Austin, Tex.—There are many interesting documents relating to the time when Texas was a republic on file among the archives in the secretary of state's office here. A number of treaties which were entered into between Texas and foreign governments are still carefully preserved.

Among the treaties are three between England and the republic of Texas, and each of them bears the bold, but at that time youthful, signature of Queen Victoria. The first treaty, with England provides for the suppression of African trade between the two countries, while the third relates to an offer of mediation by England for peace between Texas and Mexico. All bear date of May 26, 1842.

Another important treaty is one between the republic of Texas and France, which bears the signature of Louis Philippe and is dated October 12, 1839. It is a treaty of amity, immigration and commerce. There is also a treaty between the republic of Texas and the Netherlands. It is signed by Willem, the reigning monarch of that period. This treaty is dated June 10, 1841.

These archives also contain all the state and diplomatic papers of Austin and the first advance made by Texas for admission of the then republic into the union of the United States. These papers would fill several volumes of interesting matter. Most of the writing is in the hands of Austin, Archer and Morton, the commission appointed to negotiate with the United States in the matter.

SHELTERS ROOSEVELT'S KIN

Sauerkraut Day Not All Distinction Held by Ackley, Ia.—Town of Many Germans.

Eldora, Ia.—Besides being the town which originated the celebration of "sauerkraut" day, Ackley, in this county, enjoys another claim to distinction, and that is as being the home of some near relatives of the president of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt. Van V. Roosevelt and Theodore Roosevelt are two brothers, one of whom greatly resembles the president in personal appearance, and has many of the chief executive's mannerisms, and has a son named Theodore, while his brother is the father of Miss Alice Roosevelt, a little miss who has a very pretty voice and who recently gained the recognition of her famed namesake in the White House by singing in a phonograph record and sending it to the president's daughter.

Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., of Ackley, is a bright student at Iowa university at Iowa City. Ackley people yearly celebrate "sauerkraut" day and, as the majority of the population of the city are of German descent, the day is given over exclusively in honor of the favorite cabbage dish of the fatherland and invitations are extended to celebrities all over the whole country, including the president of the United States and his cabinet, senators, judges and representatives.

GREAT DEARTH OF DIMES.

High Rates of Expressage Paid for Shipping the Coin Over the Country.

Washington.—The approach of the holidays has brought on the United States treasury an unprecedented demand from the merchants all over the country for small coins.

The need seems to be greater for dimes than for anything else. United States Treasurer Charles H. Treat has made every effort to supply the demand and has had over \$400,000 of dimes sent up from New Orleans at a uniform transportation rate of five dollars per 10,000, and \$200,000 has been shipped across from San Francisco at a high rate of expressage to meet the requirements of trade and avoid a famine of dimes.

The Philadelphia mint has been set running night and day coining nickels so that any shortage likely to occur in dimes may be met by the substitution of the lesser coin.

REALIZES HIS DREAM; DIES

Investor Sacrifices All for Engine; Wins Too Late—Water Craft a Wonder.

Philadelphia, Pa.—For 20 years Edward Waldron, an inventor, suffered privations in order to perfect his theory of an engine that would revolutionize the speed of water craft, only to die the day before his triumph was to be realized.

He was found dead in his room in Vine street. His new steel motor-boat Waldron was to have been launched from the yards of Pusey & Jones, in Wilmington, Del.

The new craft was fitted with a flexible rotary engine, upon which he had repeatedly experimented in speed-driving, and it was his boast that the new engine would make the Waldron the swiftest boat of its kind in the world.

Finds Kin in Moving Picture. Christmas was a day of unusual rejoicing in the home of Adolph Gebhardt in Lincoln, Neb., because of the return of his long lost brother, George. Adolph at a moving picture exhibition recently was startled by strange familiarity in one of the figures on the screen. He visited the place again and recognized the familiar figure as that of his brother. He then learned that George was an actor in New York and urged him to spend Christmas in Lincoln.

A NEW ANAESTHETIC.

RECENTLY-FOUND SUBSTITUTE PROVES A SUCCESS.

Detroit Doctors Become Enthusiastic Over What Was Once Used for Eye Treatment—Strong Points in Its Favor Seen.

Detroit, Mich.—Doctors of this city are enthusiastic over the results obtained by a new use of the substance called "Scopolamin." This was formerly utilized in eye work for dilating the pupils, but in this capacity it did not give ideal results and has been discontinued.

A recent discovery of its anaesthetic properties has caused it to be used in operations where quantities of dangerous chloroform or ether would ordinarily be necessary. A minute quantity, in conjunction with morphine, is used. As little as 1-100 of a grain, combined with one-sixth of a grain of morphine in 20 minims of water and injected with a syringe into any part of the body is enough to cause a deep and almost natural sleep within an hour, and this insensibility is deep enough to permit the surgeon to do his work. Lack of feeling persists for at least two hours which ought to be long enough for anyone to be on an operating table.

In capital operations it is necessary to give either chloroform or ether in order to secure proper relaxation of the muscles, but when the scopolamin-morphine treatment has first been given only about one-third of the usual amount is required. More than that, the patient comes out of unconsciousness free from the disagreeable experience that accompany awakening from the average operation, and difficulty in breathing is almost entirely missing.

Another advantage of the use of the new substance is that it relieves patients of the fear that almost always precedes an operation, particularly among ignorant people. One Detroit doctor tells of a Hungarian laborer who took a month to make up his mind that he would undergo a necessary operation. A fight was looked for, since these men usually struggle hard against the chloroform, but an injection of scopolamin and morphine quieted him so that he made no resistance to the regular anaesthetic when the cone was placed over his face.

It is not suitable for emergency work, owing to the length of time that is required before it becomes effective. One or two hours, or even more, elapse before the patient is fully unconscious. Nor is it suitable for minor operations, because the absence of feeling lasts for five or six hours and the patient must be watched carefully all of this time. Many of the more prominent European hospitals make use of the new anaesthetic, and it has been suggested that it will be of much use in the medical departments of the armies and navies of the world. Its small bulk and the possibility of keeping comparatively large quantities of it, with morphine, on hand, are strong factors in its favor. Patients wake from its influence without the slightest recollection of pain.

MUSIC AS GRAFT CURE.

Prof. W. L. Tomlins Advances New Remedy for Evil Which Threatens the Age.

Milwaukee.—Prof. William L. Tomlins, of Chicago, says that music will cure graft. In an address to the Wisconsin Teachers' association Prof. Tomlins said: "Give the girls and boys of this country the inner conception of the higher life as it can be given unconsciously through music properly taught, and you will have the solution of graft and all other material evils."

"So thoroughly have I been convinced of this fact that for the last nine years I have given my entire attention to this work. When I first began the work with children I saw what could be done with them, but I did not realize the philosophy of it until several years ago. My experience has taught the regenerating effect of music."

Prof. Tomlins then related his experience in New York some years ago with classes composed not only of the lower elements, but of some of the most virtuous boys of the Bowery district. Bravery was their sin, he said, because they knew no better. But with their musical training came a new spirit, until when one saw another boy pinch his fist to strike his mate he caught the hand and unclenched the fingers with the remark: "Aw, forget it!"

How to Blow Noses.

Withdrawing their attention for the time from the art of deep breathing, British medical experts are now calling the attention of the public to the importance of performing the nose-blowing operation in a scientific and hygienic manner. First one nostril and then the other should be blown without undue violence. Doctors state that the two nasal passages should never be closed at the same time. If they are obstructed, as in the case of a cold, the back of the throat is filled with compressed air, and this, together with the discharge and the microbes which it contains may be driven through the eustachian tube into the middle ear, and lead to serious results.

It's the Early Bird.

A French scientist has discovered a compound that brings worms to the surface and makes them squirm themselves to death, according to the New York Telegram. However, we still pin our faith to the old reliable early bird.

SNAKE'S HEART AS A CURE

Girl Says Rattler's Vital Organ Stopped the White Plague—Physicians Astonished.

Williamsport, Pa.—The apparent cure of a case of consumption, the family claim, through the efficacy of the heart of a rattlesnake, has astounded the physicians here.

Members of the medical profession are watching the case of Miss Stella Woolver, wondering whether a new cure for the white plague has been discovered. The case is a remarkable one, the more so because it bears out claims made by the girl's parents regarding the cure, and apparently corroborates stories which were regarded as fertile imagination.

Miss Woolver was in the last stages of consumption. The physicians attending her, after a consultation, assured her parents that she could not live a week. Then it was that they insisted on trying the cure they had spoken of several times, that of swallowing the heart of a rattlesnake as soon after the death of the reptile as possible. While it was regarded as merely a superstition, the physicians said that it could do no harm, and the experiment followed.

A rattlesnake was found, after a hunt, and killed before it could bite itself. The heart was removed and was washed down the girl's throat with water. To the astonishment of the physicians, the patient, who is 20 years old, showed almost immediate improvement. The following day she had no striking spell, and the next day was much better. Later the left side of the bed she had occupied and walked to the home of a neighbor.

The consulting physicians held another consultation and decided to advise that another heart be given the girl. A hunt is now going on in the neighborhood for the snake that is to furnish the heart.

QUAINTEST GIFT RECORDED

Lishman Makes Old Provision for Daughter in Will, Disposing of \$250,000.

London.—One of the quaintest bequests on record is to be found in the will, just proved, of Mr. Thomas Hayes, of Leopoldstown Park, Stirlingshire, Dun. It.

Mr. Hayes was a director of T. Lyons & Co. limited, drapers, and left a personal estate valued at \$250,000.

By his will, which consists of about 100 folios of 9,000 words, the testator left his estate in trust for such person as his daughter, Gertrude Frances Talbot Power, wife of James T. Talbot Power, shall appoint.

In default of such appointment or subject to such appointment, Mr. Hayes directed that \$350,000 should be paid to his said daughter on the first day after his death (should she so long survive him), \$500,000 on the second day after his death (should she so long survive him).

This phrase is repeated throughout the will for each day until the two hundred and fiftieth day after his death, reached. It is added that the sum thus paid was to be for Mrs. Power's own separate use.

PIPE-ORGAN ALARM CLOCK.

Carnegie Hires Noted Musician to Awaken Him Daily from Slumbers of Night.

New York.—Andrew Carnegie is awakened every morning by music.

Just as the clock strikes eight, each day the first notes of "Lead, Kindly Light" or "Silent Night," his two favorite tunes, roll out of the pipes of an immense organ in his home in Fifth avenue, rousing the steel king of the day and starting the machinery of the household to work.

Whether Mr. Carnegie wakes when the first note is played, or whether he gradually roused from slumber, depends, he says, on how tired he is. At any rate, he believes in being brought back to consciousness by the music of some hymn he loves, so that the first thoughts will be restful, soothing, and give him inspiration for the day.

The instrument is played by Walter C. Gale, organist of the Broadway Tabernacle, every morning, Sunday included.

MAKES "FORGERY" LAWFUL

Court Decides Buyer of Railway Ticket Can Sign Seller's Name to It Without Peril.

New York.—The right to sign another man's name to a railroad ticket which has been sold by one passenger to another has been affirmed by the supreme court here. The decision establishes a precedent.

The decision was given by Justice Leventritt in the case of Archibald C. Newburn, accused of having forged the name of George E. Whitcomb to a railroad ticket. Whitcomb was the original purchaser of this ticket and sold it to Newburn.

Newburn was arrested when he signed Whitcomb's name to the ticket. Justice Leventritt held the mere sale of the ticket carried with it the purchaser's right to sign to it the name of the man from whom he bought it.

Has a Large Stock.

As Santa Domingo always keeps a large surplus supply of presidents on hand the disappearance of one now and then cannot make much difference.

An Oversight.

A wealthy spinster of Ithaca, N. Y., has announced the town by marrying her coachman. She should have been up to date when taken the chauffeur.

THE HOLIDAY FAKIR.

SHREWD STREET MEN WHO ARE UP TO TRICKS.

They Are Familiar Figures in New York and Other Large Cities—Some of Their Sly Dodges.

Among the many peculiar shops that abound downtown, there is one that has little attraction for the thousands of passers-by, yet with its confines there are hundreds of curious articles that ultimately find their way to the fakirs' wagons and are quickly sold. The New York Post, to the good-natured pedestrians that cluster to crowds around them, augmented by numbers of others whose one thought is to see what new and cheap contrivance is on sale; for a fakir's wagon often contains relics, a history of which might show hours of labor on the part of an inventive genius, yet are unobtainable through the ordinary channels of trade.

The continued building of skyscrapers downtown has caused this class of sidewalk tradesman to diminish in numbers, as the janitors of these buildings found their presence made it impossible to properly cater to the needs of tenants. They have thus been forced to take up "ten-minute" positions in front of older buildings, away from the scenes of their former dickering, yet their stock in trade has the same interest for the messenger boy and the hurrying business man as in the past.

Many of these fakirs present a respectable appearance, unlike the pushcart peddler so common on the East side. Their success in always collecting a crowd may partly be ascribed to this fact, especially on holidays when fakirs who are not seen on other days make this time a harvest for themselves, relying mainly on impatience and curiosity of out-of-town visitors.

On holidays there can always be found the man with a basket of handkerchiefs, who deals out his wares thus:

"Now, gentlemen, I am going to give you the biggest quarter's worth you ever got in your life. You see this handkerchiefs handkerchiefs—that's No. 1. Now here's one for beauty, and here's one for Murphy, and this little one for baby, and one for the old man, now to show you my new goods, here's another for you, and one for uncle and another for Teddy. A. I haven't any paper to wrap them in, I'll tie them up with two more, and you can have the whole bundle for a quarter. That's cheaper than a Chinaman will wash them for you, the whole lot for a quarter." Emphasis is put on the last phrase for each sale, and the price is delivered to a purchaser, but two are found in the basket, the balance having been secretly slipped back in the basket.

A number known as "trough-top men" are added at the same time, and papers are handed to the people to properly carry out the game. A small sack, filled with bones of a certain size, is slung around the neck, it is all that is required. A crowd, as usual, soon collects and the fakir always begins with "Ladies and gentlemen, 'this here' is a contribution 'bones of cough' rope that contain money, from five cents to half-dollar. 'This is the way the first advertisement one day a year and today's the day. The price is only a quarter and there's no mistake."

After this elaborate "trough-top" steps forward, purchases a box, and empties it in his hand. In emptying the contents he looses money that had been deposited in the palm and for the moment interspersed with more "trough-top" begin to buy. The latter always "find the money, but the former of course, get nothing but the "troughs."

After several boxes have been disposed of, the fakir disappears among the crowd, to begin operations in some other section.

Roosevelt's Rifle.

The rifle which President Roosevelt used in his recent hunting trip has been received at Springfield (Mass.) armory. Extensive repairs are necessary as a result of rough usage. The rifle, which was made for President Roosevelt under the direction of Col. F. H. Phipps, commandant at the armory, is essentially a magazine army rifle, with slight changes from the regulation model to make it more suitable for sporting purposes.

Roosting in Church.

This is how a preacher stopped the tendency of his people to occupy the back seats. Coming into his prayer meeting one evening and finding all the front seats unoccupied he quietly took his place at the desk, and said: "If I was preaching in a truss-ate lot I believe you people would roost on the farthest fence." This hint was sufficient, and the people took the front seats without delay.

Unreasonable.

"Yes, she is trying to get a divorce from her husband because he, none in his right mind."

When Does She Want Him to Appear?

—Houston Post.