

BEST ASSET POOR MEMORY

Why James is Regarded With Favor by the Inhabitants of His Boarding House.

James is a very popular negro in a boarding house and is accounted unusually reliable. He receives, therefore, frequent gratuities and is exceedingly prosperous. This in spite of the fact that he has one of the greatest capacities for forgetting of any one to be met with even among the employes of a boarding house.

GOT AHEAD OF THE PAPERS

Height of Wisdom Exhibited by Mr. Tobe Sagg on His Periodical Visit to Kansas City.

"Whenever I am in Kansas City," stated Mr. Tobe Sagg, of Goshoknow, "and feel stealin' goin' on a low, febrile yearning to put myself in the clutches of a total stranger, ramble 'round in apocryphal places and fill my system with aqua fortis and dog feed, to be found next morning by the pious monks of St. Bernard, groping dazedly and ready to burble to the police my real name and address and the customary lie that I have been trimmed of \$2,752 in cash and notes—well, when I feel any such microbes gnawing at my I order up to my room in the hotel a pitcher of ice water and lock the door, clink the ice awhile, look through the bottom of the empty tumbler 46 consecutive times, and then go to bed with my \$25.15 under my pillow, to make next morning serenely content in the knowledge that I have deprived the newspapers of an interesting item and cheated the folks at home out of a story that would have been told on me unto the third and fourth generations of them that hate me."—Kansas City Star.

Arctic Bounty.

The account of the four years' stay of Viljalmar Stefansson and Dr. Anderson in the Arctic regions of America, during which they made long journeys alone with nothing to depend upon for a living but the hospitality of the natives and their rifles, furnishes a new illustration of the remarkable productiveness of the far north. Persons are likely to suppose that it is the tropics which are most spontaneous in the production of food for human beings. The fact is that the contrast between equatorial and Arctic regions is not so very great in this regard. Early explorers of the region of the upper Amazon found they must carry supplies or starve to death. There is game there, but it cannot be reached in the jungles. This was the experience of James Orton, the American traveler, and in his work on the mighty Pizarro, who tried to penetrate that country, but retreated from it upon a diet of figs, dogs, saddle leather and sword belts just in time to save his life. Similar experiences are to be encountered in much of tropical Africa. It is true that some tropical islands give their inhabitants a free but monotonous living, but then, so will the ice-bound country around the mouth of the Mackenzie.

Generous Offer Declined.

Dr. Portal, the favorite medical attendant of Louis XVIII. of France, was offered an unusual reward for his services. Having cured Vestrin of a severe illness, the famous dancing master said to him, "My dear doctor, I should never dream of offering you money. Between artists there can be no dealings except those of gratitude. To demonstrate mine, I will give you a valuable hint as to your department. I have often noticed that you have a most graceful way of carrying yourself. I can remedy that in a few lessons, and teach you how to enter a sick room in such a way as to please the most exacting patient. We can begin now if you like." Much to the amazement of Vestrin, Portal declined this offer, and so lost the esteem of his illustrious patient.

Device Needed by Aviators.

Aviation devotees are giving some attention to the demand for a magnetic compass which will not be affected by the vibrations of the machine. The same difficulty is being experienced by the airman as was encountered by those who had occasion to descend in submarines. Some English flyers are experimenting with a device which has been tried with more or less success in submarines and which was devised by the commander of the usual magnetic compass, floating in oil, contained in a case which rests in a bed of kerosene. The kerosene is not packed so densely, but its springiness is great and enduring, so that it makes an excellent protection against the vibrations of the motor.

SEA SERPENT REAL

Hiram Maxim Is Firm Believer in Monster.

Famous Scientist and Inventor Thinks Time Has Come When Monstrous Creatures Should Be Credited—Two Kinds Seen.

London.—Sir Hiram Maxim is a firm believer in the sea serpent. The other day he gave out this interview: "I think the time has arrived when we must submit that there are certain large animals living in the sea that are not described in any works on natural history. Messrs. C. A. Nichols & Co., Springfield, Mass., published in 1883 a very remarkable work. In this I find that in 1851, and for some years following, the sea serpent, or sea serpents, appeared very often off the New England coast.

"It appears that there were two kinds of these monsters. On one occasion the animal that was seen had a fishlike head, very large eyes, gills, and a continuous fin extending the whole length of its back, supported by numerous spines, after the manner of a stickleback. It was simply a very large fish of an unknown variety."

"The monster that was seen a great number of times by numerous people had a body from eighty to ninety feet long, and about the diameter of a large oak, with a head closely resembling that of a snake."

"According to these witnesses, the monster was from eighty to ninety feet long, his head usually carried about two feet above the water; of a dark brown color, the body with thirty or more protuberances, compared by some to four-gallon kegs, by others to a string of beaus, and called by several persons bunches on the back; motion very rapid, faster than that of a whale, swimming a mile in three minutes, and sometimes more, leaving a wake behind him; chasing mackerel, herrings, and other fish, which were soon jumping out of the water fifty at a time as he approached."

"It has been suggested that this creature is a mammal. If so, it would have warm blood, and would have to breathe at least as often as a whale, but as it remains past the water for days and weeks at a time, it is safe to say that it has cold blood, and is probably some kind of a snake."

CHICAGO WOMEN NOW CHEW

Kansas City Girls Also Have Passed the Cigar Habit—Use Popular Brands.

St. Louis.—Kansas City and Chicago women who have taken up the cigar smoking habit are novices in the nicotine line, according to local tobaccoists. The women in this city, according to the same authorities, have passed the cigar stage, and are now going in for chewing.

"Were I to give you the names of several of the West End women and girls to whom we sell tobacco as regularly as we do to any of our men customers you would be tempted to discredit me," one dealer said.

"Do you have to carry a particularly mild brand of chewing tobacco for the women users of the weed?"

"No indeed, the women folk can gnaw off a chew from a plug of any of the popular brands, and do it in a businesslike way."

PUT ON ICE; ASKS \$15,000

Boy Says He Contracted St. Vitus Dance on Being Forcibly Confined in Icebox.

Louisville, Ky.—Morris Brown, under fourteen years of age, alleging that he has contracted St. Vitus dance as a result of being forcibly confined at numerous times in an icebox, filed suit against Joseph Weisberger for \$15,000 damages. Young Brown charges that on several occasions Weisberger placed him in a huge refrigerator, thereby greatly frightening him and finally resulting in his prostration. The petition states Weisberger threatened bodily harm to Brown should he tell of his enforced imprisonment.

HIGH COURT GETS \$4 SUIT

Telephone Company Appeals Service Case to Supreme Court of United States.

Little Rock, Ark.—Having lost once in the circuit court and twice in the Arkansas supreme court, the Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone company has appealed to the Supreme court of the United States in a suit originally involving only four dollars.

It was for rent for two months' telephone service. The case presents some unique features, having been in the local courts for the last four years. It involves the question of penalty for nonservice and the constitutionality of the statute of 1885 is involved.

Business School for Girls.

New York.—In accordance with the will of Miss Rosine M. Parmentier of Brooklyn, who left the Parmentier mansion and \$5,000 in cash to the Catholic sisters of St. Joseph, the sisterhood is about to erect on the property a building for the higher training of Catholic girls for business life. The new institution will be called the Parmentier Memorial High school.

GOOD FEED FOR THE INDIAN

Cactus Fruit Is Never Likely to Become Extremely Popular as a Delicacy for the White.

Nobody but an Indian knows how to eat a prickly pear. The fruit grows on the edge of a thick green leaf, and bristles with myriads of closely set thorns, sharp as needles and fine as hairs. Though they cannot be seen with the naked eye, they can certainly be felt, as any one who has tried the usual method of picking them with a pocket handkerchief can testify. The fine thorns penetrate the fingers and the flesh swells, festers, becomes inflamed and, if neglected, often develops into a serious case of blood poisoning. When an Indian wants to eat it he cuts a small stick, sharpens it and thrusts the point into the ripe fruit. Slicing off the pear with a sharp knife and holding it on the stick, he peels it, taking care to avoid touching the rind with his fingers. He drops the peel on the ground to the bitter sorrow of any barefoot boy who happens to step on it. A liking for cactus fruit may be acquired, like the taste for olives, but it is not likely to rival the cantaloupe or even the humble grapefruit in popular favor. It resembles cracked walnut shells moistened with water, mixed with sawdust and cork and sprinkled with brown sugar, a little lemon juice and a dash of guinine. Any one who tastes it once is satisfied to let the Indians gather the entire crop.

OF THE DAYS OF BOYHOOD

Memory of the Oldtime Desserts Evidently Still Lingers With This Writer.

In the good old days, when life was simple and sincere, when people were happier than now and didn't make so much money, when society was friendship and home was love, there were two stated and popular desserts at all parties, and particular dinner occasions, and they were float and tart.

That float! There was never anything to compare with it before or since. Those white, snowy islands floating on a golden flood were a dream just imported from elysium. It was almost profane to taste it, so like a vision of eternal happiness it seemed. But we did taste it, and the luxury of it skipped past the palate and melted into the mind, where it inspired thoughts of the loveliness of life.

And those tarts—little, crisp, white shells filled with jelly and jam or preserves of some kind. My, what gems of joy they were! We remember particularly the jellied tarts. They were winsome little desserts, as simple and modest as lilies of the valley, and sometimes we thought they were related, they were so modest and pure. Oh, the sad day when they were supplanted by ices, meringues, crackers and rotten cheese. No wonder pessimism spreads itself so vauntingly!—Ohio State Journal.

CASTING THE FLOATING FLY.

It should go without saying that properly and effectively to cast and fish the floating fly it is essential that the tackle be correctly assembled. In this regard I believe the point most in need of emphasis is the question of the right way to fit the reel to the rod, says Samuel G. Camp in Outing; that this should be done so that the reel is underneath the rod with its handle to the right (in the case of the right handed caster) is in my experience the only satisfactory and thoroughly efficient way. With the reel thus placed it is never necessary, when playing a fish, to turn the rod over so that the reel is above, as in the case when the reel is fitted to the rod with the handle to the left. After a fish is struck if it becomes necessary to use the reel the rod is simply shifted to the left hand—without the awkward necessity of turning it over to bring the reel on top—and the fingers of the right hand fall naturally upon the handle of the reel.

SOAP KNOWN TO THE ANCIENTS.

Soap in the form of vegetable ashes mixed with grease appears to have been greatly in vogue among the Egyptians in ancient days, and that the mineral alkali made by that people in the time of Pliny was composed of the ashes of plants seems pretty certain. A similar alkali was used by the Hebrews, and when the prophet Jeremiah said "Though thou wash thee with niter and take thee much soap (borak)," the latter material was probably the "borak" of the Arabs of the present day, which is procured from the ashes of the salt-worts of the desert and other plants containing saponine. Some species of the fig marigold are called by these people "the washing herbs," and contain the same cleansing property.

SLANDEROUS STORY.

An elderly woman in the recent suffrage parade in New York became greatly fatigued in the last mile or so of the journey. Turning to one of her marching comrades, she wailed: "Harriet, I just can't take another step. I'm worn out. If I have to go a block more, I'll die." "Don't despair, my dear," was her friend's pious exhortation. "Pray to the Lord for strength. She will help you."—Philadelphia Record.

VERY PLEASANT, INDEED.

Father—How is it that I find you kissing my daughter? Answer me, sir! How is it? Young Man—Fine, sir; fine!

IMMIGRANT IS 7 FT. 2 INCHES

Ship Has to Provide a Special Berth for Giant Pole, Twenty-Two Years Old.

Philadelphia, Pa.—Ignatius Ziemasus, who arrived here with 514 other immigrants on the Prinz Adalbert of the Hamburg-American line, from Hamburg, came to the United States to grow up with the country.

His ambition would seem to be doomed to disappointment, for Ignatius, who is twenty-two years old, has thriven so well in his native land that he stands seven feet two inches above the earth.

Ziemasus comes from Poland, and is a farmer. He had to occupy a special berth because of his size, and at table no one could sit opposite him because of the length of his legs.

To the immigration inspectors he said he would go west to purchase a farm, and if he met a suitable young woman he would make her his wife. Ziemasus was well supplied with money.

Bad weather is chronicled for nearly every day of the voyage in the log of the Adalbert, which arrived one day late. Its 138 cabin passengers, most of them tourists returning home after a sojourn in Europe, remained below decks during a greater part of the passage.

The dark hold of the big liner was a veritable child's toyland, there being nearly three hundred big cases filled with playthings.

BOY PROVES GOOD SLEEPER

He Does Not Awaken When Thrown From Wagon into an Automobile.

Columbus, Ohio.—Ye wild-eyed victims of insomnia, who woo the soothing goddess sleep by all the means which fertile minds suggest, read this unadorned tale of an every-day event and wonder.

The strange phenomenon of an automobile running at a rapid rate, hitting the rear end of a vegetable wagon, lifting a sleeping boy out of the rear of the wagon, tossing him into the machine, which sped on for a distance, all without awakening the boy, occurred here.

The boy was Stanley Cramer, living fourteen miles northeast of the city. The automobile belonged to Walter J. Jeffrey, a local manufacturer. It was not known at first that the boy had been transferred to the automobile unharmed, and pedestrians rushed to the demolished wagon, expecting to find the boy dead and a search was commenced of nearby alleys and streets. In about an hour the boy returned and told of how he had awakened to find himself in a rapidly moving automobile.

TRUANT GOLDFISH IN RIVER

Pair 10 Years Old and 17 Inches Long Escape From Garden During a Flood.

London.—For five months now two monster Twickenham goldfish have had a lease of freedom in the Thames. They are the property of George Beale and his brother Stoneydeep house, who, since their disappearance, have offered £2 reward for the return of either of them.

"About a fortnight ago," Mrs. Beale said today, "a boy caught one of the pair. He grasped it and was startled beyond measure when he saw what a monster it was. Just then a policeman appeared and the boy, thinking he had done wrong, returned it to the water.

The goldfish swam away from home when the river overflowed into Mr. Beale's garden, where they had lived for many years.

INDIANS ADOPT BRIDAL PAIR

Journalist and Wife Are Remarried by Blackfoot Chief in Glacier National Park.

St. Paul, Minn.—Robert Heint, correspondent of Leslie's Weekly, and his bride of a few days, formerly Miss Helen Corbin of Indiana, were married again by Chief Three Bears of the Blackfoot Indians while the couple were honeymooning in Glacier National Park. The strange wedding, which means the adoption by the Blackfoot tribe of the "pale faces," was witnessed by about 100 tourists, including several from the old world. The name bestowed upon Mr. Heint is "Black Eagle" and his bride was named "Smallwoman."

IS TORTURE FOR OYSTERS

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley Hereafter Will Kill His Bivalves as Quickly as Possible.

Washington.—"Oysters on the half shell suffer untold agony when eaten," said Dr. Harvey W. Wiley. "They suffer the most excruciating pains when you jab them with a fork. It is true that they are a very low order of life, but as they eat and drink they must be live animals and have feeling.

"However, this will not deter me from indulging in the delicious half shell habit. I am going to eat each of my oysters in such a way as to save it pain. One jab with a fork, put the sauce on quickly, and then gobble it."

Blames Insane Wife. New York.—Complaining that his wife, who is now in an insane asylum at Middletown, got him to marry her through fraud, Alfred Kopetre is now asking for a divorce.

HE SAVED 83 LIVES

Capt. W. H. Chelton Held Record as Rescuer.

Took Many Desperate Risks, Braving Gale and Iceflows in Chesapeake Bay to Get Perishing Crews Ashore.

Baltimore, Md.—Capt. William H. Chelton, a Chesapeake bay commander, died at his home in Lawsonia, a suburb of this city, the other day, aged sixty-nine years. Captain Chelton had been a sailor from his youth and commanded a vessel when he was fifteen years old.

Captain Chelton had a record unequalled in America for saving human lives, the score to his credit being 83, and his work in this direction beginning in August, 1859, when, as a boy of fifteen years, he leaped into the basin in Baltimore, at the foot of Calvert street and saved a girl who had fallen overboard. An effort was made to raise a purse for the lad, but he refused to accept anything and he never for his subsequent rescues earned a cent.

To his dying day, however, he was proud of a United States medal awarded by congress in 1902, following the publication in the Sun of an account of his lifework of humane endeavor.

Captain Chelton, though a great lifesaver, has also taken a life. This was when he was a deputy sheriff of Somerset county. On May 28, 1897, he attempted to arrest Frederick Long, who was wanted for larceny. He ordered Long to surrender, but the man fired twice at him and then Chelton fired his pistol. The man shot twice again and ran through a field, where he was found dying with a bullet in his lungs. On that occasion, too, he drove several miles with the wounded man to get medical aid.

Captain Chelton was born in Northumberland county, Virginia, in 1844, but lived in Maryland during nearly all of his life. He was of medium height, but had the breadth of shoulders and depth of chest which betoken great strength and a pair of sturdy legs which stood him in good stead in many feats of swimming by which he saved men on the deep. He also made several rescues on land and saved three women from being killed by trains.

He is said to have had ample cause for believing republics ungrateful, for he joined the Union army at the outbreak of the Civil war, expecting a bounty of \$300 besides his pay for a long service. When his term of enlistment was over and he settled up with Uncle Sam he received a check for \$6 which, he was told, was all that was coming to him. He never cashed the check, but kept it as a souvenir.

During a greater part of his time in the army he was piloting federal gunboats in Maryland and Virginia waters on blockade duty. In this service he piloted three gunboats in an attack on Cherrystone, the fight lasting from early afternoon until the next morning.

Rescues by Capt. W. H. Chelton:

- 1859—August—Rescued girl at head of basin.
- 1863—Fourteen United States soldiers.
- 1863—Two men at Pungoteague, swimming 100 yards to reach them.
- 1871—Man clinging to North point buoy.
- 1871—John W. Crisfield at Crisfield Md.
- 1872—Girl at Crisfield.
- 1874—Girl, fifteen years old, Crisfield.
- 1878—Nine men from a boat off Sharpe Island.
- 1878—Nine members of crew of schooner Northampton in Magohy river.
- 1887—Captain and crew of five from sloop Samuel Bruster at Hog Island in the Potomac.
- 1888—Captain and crew of three of schooner Steffull at Tally point, Maryland.
- 1889—Captain and son and crew of four of pungy Fleetwing in Tangier sound.
- 1889—Picked up two men adrift in boat on coast of North Carolina.
- 1890—Man, two girls and a boy at Tangier Island.
- 1895—February 13—Captain and crew of five from schooner E. C. Thomas at Point Lookout.
- 1895—February 15—Thirteen men from schooners R. H. Dougherty and Lightning, landing them in the Patuxent.

Rescues on land:

- Woman at Salisbury pulled from in front of an engine.
- Misses Mary Tawes and Nettie Crockett, knocked into a ditch at Salisbury, Md., from in front of a train.

Cattle Thrive on Spineless Cactus.

Santa Rosa, Cal.—Two cows put upon a rigid diet of spineless cactus on a ranch near here with the object of exhibiting them the interest of dairymen, are attracting the interest of dairymen. On the third day their milk output had increased five pounds, on the fourth day seven pounds and on the first day nine pounds. Two hogs also fed solely upon the spineless cactus are thriving.

Look for the Pink Tint.

Washington, D. C.—"Girls with pink-tinted teeth have a loving disposition and will make good wives," declared Dr. Jacob S. Walls, a prominent dentist of Fargo, N. D., at the National Dentists' convention here.

WISDOM OF GREAT PAINTER

Meissonier's Comments Show That He Was a Philosopher as Well as a Superb Artist.

We always like to know what a great man has said about his work, and how he feels about other things that are of interest to every one. Fortunately, Meissonier left a record of many of his feelings and opinions, published as his "Conversations." Of all the painters, Rembrandt was his favorite.

Among his sayings were the following:

"Let well enough alone" is the motto of the lazy.

"The man who leaves good work behind adds to the inheritance of the human race."

"The master is an artist whose works never recall those of some other artist."

"I would have drawing made the basis of education in all schools. It is the universal language."

"No artist would paint if he knew he was never to show his work, if he felt no human eye would ever rest upon it."

"I never sign a picture until my whole soul is satisfied with my work."

"To will is to do" has been my motto. I have always willed. Oh! how I regret the lost time that can never be made up. As I grow older, I work harder than ever.—From Charles L. Barstow's "Famous Portraits" (Meissonier), in St. Nicholas.

REAL LAND OF THE AUTOMAT

Germany, Probably More Than Any Other Country, Makes Use of These Simple Devices.

Germany might almost be called "the land of the automat." Automatic devices of all kinds are popular and are used for a thousand purposes. At all postoffices, stamps and post cards are sold by automatic machines; at the railway stations, platform tickets and suburban tickets are sold by automats; automat restaurants, where one can secure a glass of beer, wine, or liquor, a sandwich, square meal, cup of coffee, chocolate, etc., by dropping a coin in the slot, abound everywhere. Every city of 15,000 or 20,000 population and over has from one to several hundred such restaurants. At railway stations automats sell chocolate, candy, picture post cards, and even a little kit of "first aid to the injured," containing a few drops of pain-killer, bandages, needle, thread, etc. Ten pennings in a slot opens the doors of toilet compartments, delivering a towel or piece of soap. A coin in a slot obtains a cigar, a tune from a mechanical music box, a pair of shoe strings, a collar button, or a visiting card.

Editorial Confessions. The following confessions have been made by Thomas E. Thompson: "I once had on it—about the size of a silver quarter. Occasionally when at church I found myself dead broke. I would drop that key check into the hat for a bluff and the next day the brother treasurer would bring it around and I would redeem it. But one time it went out and never came back, and now I have to put in the coin or give the sign of distress.

"Once when I was on earth the first time I tried to make love to a giggly girl. She laughed me out of court and I was firmly convinced that she was not capable of a sensible, serious thought. I saw her not long ago and she looked as if she hadn't giggled or even smiled for a score of years and I was glad she treated me as a joke in the other days."—Kansas City Star.

Fit Word.

The class had been discussing recent affairs in China. A few days later the fate of a man who was eaten by his savage enemies was referred to. Anxious to enlarge the limited vocabulary of the children, the teacher asked what name was given to men who ate other human beings.

"Savages" and "man-eaters" were the only words most of them could give. At last the eagerness of a bright-eyed boy indicated that he thought he had a better word. He had. It was "Manchus."—Youth's Companion.

Nature's Sun Dial.

There is no need for clocks on the Aegean sea any day when the sun is shining. There nature does not vary, though the centuries pass. This natural time-maker is the largest sun dial in the world. Projecting into the blue waters of the sea is a large promontory which lifts its head 3,000 feet above the waves. As the sun swings round the pointed shadow of the mountain just touches one after the other of a number of small islands, which are at exact distances apart and act as hour marks on the great dial.

To Tax Bill Boards.

The newspapers of Paris the beautiful are loudly demanding that the "gigantesque panneaux reclame"—gigantic bill boards—that disfigure some of the most prominent places in the city be eliminated. They hold that the only means to obviate this barbaric invasion is for the city to tax these boards at such a high figure as to discourage the big advertisers from using them. The French parliament has already passed a law taxing bill boards in the country, where they do not add to the beauty of the landscape.