

3,000,000 LETTERS

THEY CAME IN ANSWER TO ONE SHORT MESSAGE.

Letter Chain Out of Which Grew an Uncle Sam's Post Office—Work for Many.

Kaneville, Ill.—An Illinois girl wrote a letter and got 3,000,000 replies.

Edna Brown's heart went out to the crippled girl and she set going that wonderfully active agency known as the endless letter chain that once started in Kaneville, Ill.

And here is another strange feature of the story, which shows that Providence watches over such matters.

Edna Brown was postmaster at Kaneville when the chain was started. He says that the letters came in small packages and then larger bundles.

Surgeon's Skill Saved Wife. In the American Magazine for October Edith Barnard, in "The Gate of Understanding," presents the case of a surgeon who found it exceedingly difficult to perform a certain operation because the wife of the patient made her appeal for her husband's life so personal.

He'd Blow His Horn. The Christmas preceding Malcolm's third birthday he received as a gift a "medical horn," made from a cow's horn.

HITS NEW SWINDLE

"GOLD BRICK" SCHEME ALMOST SUCCEEDS ON BRITISHERS.

Novel Variation of Old Fraud Tried by Gang of American Confidence Men Comes Within Ace of Netting \$35,000.

London.—The experience of two people who narrowly escaped being victims of an American "gold brick" gang is related in this week's Truth.

The opening act of this particular swindle is to address from America letters to some man recently deceased, and whose will has been proved.

In this instance a woman, identified only as Mrs. S., and her brother-in-law, were tempted to go to New York and meet "G. James Cromwell," who wrote the letters.

It then appeared that the vein of gold encroached on an adjoining property, but the owner was unaware of it, so they had to go cautiously to work and purchase the land from him.

One of the Family. "Are you the editor that takes in society news?" inquired the caller, an undersized man, with a tired and timid appealing look on his face.

The Age of a Watch. Does any one know the average age of a watch? I mean its age of usefulness. Thousands of hand-me-downs are seen daily, but like some of our river steamboats, they have been altered and repaired so frequently that nothing of the original is left.

Popular Department Official. Truman Newberry, assistant secretary of the navy, is a popular official because he is a sailor himself, knows the needs of the men, and has besides, been an officer in the navy.

For External Use Only. A lady resident of Weston hung out her stockings to dry the other day, unmindful of the fact that a hungry calf was ransacking the yard.

He'd Blow His Horn. The Christmas preceding Malcolm's third birthday he received as a gift a "medical horn," made from a cow's horn.

BEST FOOD FOR HENS

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT TO MAKE EXPERIMENTS.

Will Try to Learn if Mash Should Be Moist or Dry—Hope to Increase Production of Eggs.

Washington.—The department of agriculture has started a new experiment station at Halethorpe, near Baltimore. The experiments are to be conducted under the supervision of Robert R. Slocum, an expert who was recently added to the staff of the bureau of animal industry for a particular line of investigation.

The fowls in pen No. 1 will receive, morning and night, a mixture of whole or cracked grains scattered in the litter, and at noon a moistened mash. Those in pen No. 2 will receive morning and night the same grain mixture fed in the litter exactly as with pen No. 1 and the same mash at noon.

The fowls in pen No. 3 will be fed on precisely the same feed as those in the other pens, but will be fed from two self-feeding hoppers, one containing the grain and the other dry mash.

White Plymouth Rock fowls will be used, not because of any special preference for this variety, but for reasons of convenience. Pulletts will be raised from the various pens and the test repeated twice to confirm results and note the effects of the different systems of vitality.

SENTENCES BOY TO BE SPANKED

Justice Decries Whipping in Public by Father as Penalty.

Fond du Lac, Wis.—A spanking administered by his father in public court is the sentence pronounced on Guy Higgins, a 15-year-old boy, by Justice of the Peace D. F. Blewett.

The mayor appeared against the boy on a charge of disorderly conduct. Justice Blewett found him guilty, but said he would suspend sentence if the boy's father would administer a good, old-fashioned spanking.

CANNOT EXTINGUISH FIRE.

Mine Has Been Burning for Two Weeks—Loss Heavy.

Bismarck, N. D.—The Wilton coal mine, the largest in the state, is on fire, and all mining work has been suspended in an effort to extinguish the flames.

A hole is now being sunk from the surface down 70 feet to where the fire is raving, with an idea of drawing off the gas and permitting the burning chamber to be sealed.

COAL OUTPUT INCREASES.

Big Increase of Product in 1905 Shown by Government Report.

Washington.—The geological survey has made public statistics on the production of coal in the United States in 1905. From these it appears that both in quantity and value the production surpassed all previous records in this country.

Of the total production of 1906, 69,339,152 long tons, equivalent to 77,699,850 short tons, were Pennsylvania anthracite, with a value at the mines of \$141,875,000. The total production of bituminous coal and lignite was 315,259,491 short tons, valued at \$334,877,963.

The production of coke in the United States during 1905 surpassed all previous records in the history of coke-making in this country. The total output of coke in the United States last year amounted to 32,231,129 short tons, against 23,661,106 short tons in 1904.

DOG JOURNEYS 500 MILES.

Animal Travels from Nebraska to Old Home in Iowa.

Des Moines, Ia.—Thin and gaunt, and with no other instinct to guide him save the memory of a warm kennel, good food and an occasional caress, a little Scotch collie dog sold to a man at Valentine, Neb., by D. Weeks, of this city, returned 500 miles to its former master in Des Moines.

Just how long the dog was making the distance has not yet been ascertained, but with unerring instinct he made his way over hill and prairie, through timber and across rivers, finally arriving in Des Moines, where he was given a hearty welcome, a warm kennel and a hot bowl of milk for a starter.

Mr. Weeks was awakened by a slight scratching at the front door. On opening it he saw a shaggy, thin, dirty little collie, and from his actions at first judged he was mad. He soon recognized his former pet, however, and declares he would not now part with the animal for twice its value.

MUST PAY FORMER LOVE.

Media, Pa.—The \$5,000 verdict given pretty Miss Lenora Hill, of Chester, in her breach of promise suit against Horace Witsell, the real estate dealer, has been sustained by Judge Johnson.

FAREWELL TO WHITE SUGAR.

New York.—Unless the United States pure food commission changes its mind, the people of the United States hereafter will have to use granulated and other sugars that have a distinctly yellowish tinge.

Hongkong Greatest Port. London.—New statistics show Hongkong to be the foremost port of the world as regards import and export tonnage, with 19,042,839 tons.

BIG IOWA CORN RANCH

ONE FIELD EXPECTED TO YIELD 525,000 BUSHELS.

Is Largest in the World—Farmhouses on It Make a Small Town—Owner Passes His Winters in Chicago.

Odebolt, Ia.—When it is considered that there are such corn fields in Iowa as Adams' 15,000-acre ranch at this place, producing 525,000 bushels every season, and employing regularly 105 men, it is little wonder that the state of Iowa has a 400,000-bushel corn crop for 1906.

This corn field is the largest in the world. The full 15,000 acres was planted with tested seed and is expected to yield an average of more than 35 bushels to the acre.

Thirty-seven double stalk cutters will be used to bind the corn in the field this fall. Mules are employed almost everywhere to do the heavy draft work on the farm, and there are over 200 of these animals kept there constantly.

The affairs at the farm are conducted with as much system as in any large business office in this city. There is a main office and headquarters where the manager of the farm has his desk.

All the houses of the employes are located in one place near the center of the farm, making a small town. A schoolhouse is also erected here for the children of the workers.

There is another farm in Sac county, Iowa, which contains 5,990 acres. The land there is not all tilled as on the Adams ranch, and hence it is not of so general interest to the public.

TWINS TO DIVORCE TWINS.

Brothers Whose Lives Seem to Run in Parallel Lines.

Kansas City—Miles J. Farris and Miles M. Farris, born 32 years ago on a corn farm near the twin cities of Iowa, did not diverge much when they went into business for one became a barber and the other a butcher—not such a great difference after all, as Miles expressed it recently.

Time went on, and to the families had come a little Miles M. and as well a little Miles J. But with neither, it seemed, domestic harmony at the fireside prevailed, for one day a petition for divorce was filed by Miles M. against Martha A. Farris, and on the following morning an attorney appeared at the county court house with a petition for a divorce for Miles J. Farris from his wife, Attie Farris.

KINDNESS BROUGHT A FORTUNE.

Good Samaritan Receives One-Fifth of Rich Man's Estate.

Denver, Colo.—Because he befriended Dr. Albert B. Cummings, of Pittsburgh, Pa., many years ago, W. P. Harris, of Denver, has received \$13,500.

Harris recently received a letter from the lawyer of Dr. Cummings, stating that the physician had died and in his will bequeathed young Harris his entire estate, valued at between \$50,000 and \$75,000.

Graphophones as Soul Savers. Cleveland, O.—Graphophones will be used by the local Salvation Army for the purpose of saving souls. The plan will be put in practice during the coming harvest festival.

STATUE WANTED TO TRAVEL.

Strange Appeal of a Rome Shipkeeper Loosens Iowa Woman's Purse.

Davenport, Ia.—A Davenport woman brought home from Europe recently a letter which she considers one of the most interesting souvenirs of her trip. It came to her the day after her visit to a curio shop in Rome, where the proprietor wanted \$60 for a statuette of David in Carrara marble after Michael Anneti.

"Roma, 11th March—Dear Madam: Tonight I have made a dream. I saw David alive! he was very angry with me. He asked me, 'Why don't you let me go to America? The beautiful lady will take care of me. I want to see the new world! I won't stay in Rome any longer! I want to travel as a tourist.'"

"I could not say anything against and have decided to deliver it at the price of \$6 dollars. Now the difference between your offer and mine is only 6 dollars, and hope you won't have any objection to buy it."

"This morning entering my store David had a bad look! He looked as if he would throw his stone to me instead of throwing it to Golia! I was frightened! Good lady, buy it! otherwise David will die of a broken heart and I—will go after him."

"Best wishes to the gentleman and the gentle Signorina who was with you yesterday, and hoping to see you again, I am much obliged for your kindness. Yours truly, 'C. MANETTI, Sculptor.'"

BABE WEARS FAMOUS DRESS.

Infant Has Frock Once Worn by William Henry Harrison.

Emporia, Kan.—Marianna, the 16-month-old daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Horace Whittlesey of Emporia, is the owner of a dress worn by William Henry Harrison, once president of the United States, when he was a baby in old Virginia.

The pretty little garment is made with low neck and short sleeves, and is one piece from neck to hem. It is shirred at the top, the hem finished in genuine Mount Mellick embroidery, and French knots are scattered over the dress. The material is the finest linen.

AMERICA LEADS IN MOTORS.

French Manufacturers Outtrapped in the Race Already.

Paris—"Just as American agricultural machines do practically all the work in the fields throughout Europe, so it will certainly be in a couple of years with American automobiles on all the roads in Europe. France pointed out the automobile way, America will reap all the profit by walking in it."

So laments the trade journal of the French motor car makers. It asserts that careful scrutiny of the machines touring the great auto routes in Europe this summer proves that the United States is rapidly making for supremacy in the construction of automobiles, a supremacy which France occupied only a year or two ago and from which it seemed she never was to be dethroned.

Foreign travelers now bring over their own machines and these are often American, even while their owners are not. The writer says, almost tearfully, that most of the safest, strongest and most nearly silent motor cars he met in various countries were American made.

Germany and Italy make most of the scooters and racers. Finds Hand Imbedded in Rock. Pierre, S. D.—Ralph Bagby, a farm boy living near Okoboji, Sully county, while working in the Fox Ridge country near Moorea river, found a large bowlder which was set thickly with fossil specimens of fish, turtles and lower orders of life.

"After all," said the dyspeptic philosopher, "what a man is depends largely on what a man eats and how he digests it. The cook is the most responsible factor in our civilization." "Quite true," answered Miss Cayenne. "The old song should be changed from 'Hail to the Chief,' to 'Hail to the Chef!'"