

A MILLION FOR EYESIGHT.

Charles Broadway House, the Blind Millionaire, Dies Without Having His Hopes Realized.

Charles Broadway House, who has just died at New York, was an interesting and enterprising character. His name was originally plain Charles House. The name Broadway was added because in the principal thoroughfare of New York he had won fortune. He was born in Woodbury, Md., in 1838. As a schoolboy he sold notions in the streets in Winchester, and when 15 became a clerk in a store at a salary of one dollar a week. In three years he had accumulated a capital of \$500, with which he went into business, and at 25 he was the wealthiest merchant in Winchester, having \$60,000 in the bank. He joined the Confederate army at the outbreak of the war, and at its close he was practically penniless, having given all his money in aid of the Southern cause. He came to this city, obtained employment as a clerk, saved his money and eventually began business supplying bargain counters, traveling merchants, five and ten cent stores and such establishments.

It is estimated that Mr. House had accumulated a fortune of \$10,000,000. He gave \$100,000 with which to erect in Richmond, Va., a memorial chapel to dead Confederates and \$50,000 to found an art scholarship for the University of Virginia. He gave Winchester a waterworks at a cost of \$30,000 and a town hall. To the city of New York he gave the Washington and Lafayette statue and in Mount Hope cemetery he erected a monument to the memory of Confederate veterans.

Ten years ago the eyesight of Mr. House began to fail and for the last six years he had been blind. He offered \$1,000,000 to any man who would restore his sight. He submitted to several experiments and finally hired a substitute, who was similarly afflicted and who underwent many operations. Nothing was found, however, which was of any avail.

A LETTER FROM LINCOLN.

Discovered in a Pile of Rubbish in New York City—Was a Sorrowing Mother.

Soiled and faded, torn and frayed, a letter written by Abraham Lincoln a few months before his assassination has been found in some rubbish and papers on Broadway near the post office. It read as follows: "Executive Mansion, Washington, November 21, 1864. To Mrs. Bixby, Boston, Mass.: I have been shown in the file of the war department a statement of the adjutant general of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement and leave only the cherished memory of loved and lost and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

"Yours very sincerely, and respectfully, A. Lincoln."

WIRELESS TELEPHONY.

E. Ducrest, the French Electrical Engineer, Explains His Remarkable Invention.

E. Ducrest, the French electrical engineer, has made the following statement concerning the system of wireless telephony which he has invented, says a Paris dispatch to the New York Journal and American: "The academy of science, to which my invention of telephoning without wires has been submitted, acknowledges its value. The transmitter and receiver are much like those in daily use for the ordinary telephone. There is this difference, that a small coil is introduced and the electrical intensity is slightly increased.

"When the instruments are put down deep in the earth messages can be transmitted over enormous distances. Forests, rivers, mountains may separate armies, yet they can communicate with each other through the earth by wireless telephony.

"Wireless telephony messages can be transmitted through sea from shore to shore or between ships. The voice is transmitted without the least difficulty and the most delicate articulations reach the ear."

Man Freed by a Ram.

Attacked by an angry ram, Peter Conger, a farmer of Middleton, N. Y., climbed a tree in his yard to escape the animal. His wife, hearing his cries, unmindful of the risk, rushed into the yard. The ram prepared for combat, but the plucky woman commenced to hurl sand from a pile in the yard at the ram so strongly, as she dodged hither and thither, that the animal, blinded by the dirt, was finally compelled to retreat and was driven into its enclosure, after which the farmer climbed down from the tree. Mrs. Conger is now suffering from nervous prostration.

Getting Our Hand In.

King Menelik of Abyssinia, wants to visit the St. Louis exposition. Come, King, exclaims the Chicago Record-Herald. We're getting so used to entertaining royalty that we'll know how to give you the time of your life. And the bonds between this country and Abyssinia need strengthening anyway.

Costly Street Improvements.

The largest sum ever spent in improving one street was \$14,500,000, on the Rue de Rivoli, Paris. New Cannon Street, London, cost \$14,750,000.

BELIEVES IN SPIRITS

New York Minister Convinced of Reality of the Supernatural.

Dr. Savage, Member of the American Society of Psychical Research, Tells of Receiving a Message from Dead Son.

"Do such things as ghost apparitions, visible to human eyes, really exist? Yes, we are convinced they do. While we recognize the fact of their existence, we may not be able to explain their origin." This statement was made by Prof. James H. Hyslop, of Columbia university, and Rev. Dr. Minot J. Savage, of the Church of the Messiah, who are members of the American Society of Psychical Research.

"I think," said Dr. Savage, "that if you were to throw a stone at random in any part of this city, you would be almost certain to strike a house in which at least some form of psychical phenomena has been observed. Perhaps there is only one member of the family who has made these observations, and he may be keeping his thoughts on the subject secret from the other members of his family."

Dr. Savage is convinced that Mrs. Piper is a genuine psychic medium. "I had sittings with her many years before our society was founded, or before it was known to the public. It was through her that I obtained a message from my son, who died about two years ago."

Dr. Savage said that during the sittings his son made known his presence through the medium, who was in a trance at the time. Mrs. Piper, he said, had never been acquainted with his son and had never seen him.

Prof. Hyslop, who is well known for his works on psychology and hypnosis, said: "I am familiar with the remarkable occurrences of which Dr. Savage speaks. I have had sittings with Mrs. Piper, and I know that she does transmit messages in writing of which she is unconscious. While the messages come from I do not know, but beyond doubt they are genuine."

NOVEL DINING CLUB SCHEME.

Charles Frederick Adams, Noted After-Dinner Speaker, Seeks to Lure Men Born in 1851.

In these days of dining clubs, many of which have no raison d'être save the gathering of good fellows to exchange pleasantries, Charles Frederick Adams, of New York, himself a noted after-dinner speaker, has hit upon a novel idea. Frankly Mr. Adams confesses that he was born in 1851. He knows of several other good fellows who have made a similar acknowledgment, among them John DeWitt Warner and Frederick W. Hinrichs. The latter was a democratic candidate for lieutenant governor a few years ago. Mr. Adams a few years ago proposed to Mr. Warner and Mr. Hinrichs the idea of organizing a dining club of men who were born in 1851. He had suggested that the club be known as the "Brotherhood of Connati of 1851."

"It seems to me," said Mr. Adams, "that this basis of fellowship constitutes a natural bond of sympathy. On a fixed anniversary—possibly New Year's eve—the annual dinner will be held. There might be a benefit feature, to be provided by purchasing, with initiation fee of, say, two dollars each, interests in tontine annuity fund."

DRAWS LINE AT KNEE PANTS.

Former Governor Hogg of Texas, Falls to See King Edward at Court Levee.

Ex-Gov. Hogg, of Texas, though busy in London putting the finishing touches to his Texas oil deal, has had time to look up the social side of that country, which he is visiting for the first time.

All the arrangements had been completed with the United States ambassador, Joseph Choate, to enable the well-known Texan to be presented to King Edward at the forthcoming levee. A hitch occurred, however, for Mr. Hogg found he must appear in knee breeches, sword, etc., the regulation court dress.

"Never!" said Mr. Hogg. "If I cannot appear in the ordinary evening dress of an American citizen I will not appear at all. A pretty sight I would look rigged up in those gew-gaws. I have not the faintest idea of trying to revolutionize or even criticize English customs, but blamed if I'll wear another country's uniform—no, not even for the sake of meeting the king."

Knows Many Family Secrets.

Sir George Lewis, the famous attorney of Ely Place, is the depository of more family secrets of the aristocracy of England than any living man. His experiences which can never be written—would make a collection of romances and family skeletons that would stir up English society to its foundations. Sir George Lewis is extremely clever, versed in every kind of legal finesse, with an unequalled knowledge of the dark side of life, but a high reputation for fair dealing and public spirit.

Where He Has Gone To.

"What has become," asks the Washington Post, "of the old-fashioned editor who used to 'glean' things from the columns of his exchanges?" The Chicago Tribune replies by saying that he retired to make room for the editor who inserts "silly Bungtown Bazzoo" about half-way down the article he clips from an exchange.

A RISING YOUNG MAN.

Rears an Elevator at Washington While He Waits for His Law Practice to Grow.

Lawyer and elevator conductor are the queer joint occupations of an industrious man employed in the Capitol building at Washington. He is an Illinoisan and in the near future will return to his native state to engage in the practice of his profession. This man came to Washington some years ago and secured his present position, but, not being satisfied with the chances of promotion it held out to him, decided to study law. This he has been doing at one of the leading law schools of this city, and a short time ago he graduated and was admitted to practice. Clients did not appear in large numbers, so the young lawyer decided to continue the work he has been performing, temporarily at least.

He rented an office up-town, hung out his shingle and has secured some clients. They are still not numerous enough to justify him in resigning his government position. His duties as an elevator conductor interfered somewhat with his professional duties, but he made an arrangement with his "partner" on the elevator by which he can absent himself when necessary.

This arrangement will be continued until the young lawyer can save enough money to return to Illinois and establish an office, when he will engage exclusively in the practice of law.

BEHOLD AN HONEST MAN.

How Mrs. Huntington Took Away the Breath of the Customs Officials of New York.

Mrs. Arabella D. Huntington, widow of Collis P. Huntington, has paid \$31,800 in cash as customs duty. Officials at New York who frequently have to haggle with women over the tribute to Uncle Sam declared that she was a paragon of travelers.

Mrs. Huntington, who returned from a trip to Europe on the Oceanic, with her son, Archer Huntington, and Mrs. Archer Huntington, staggered the young man who, as acting deputy collector asked her to make a declaration of her purchases abroad.

It was on board the steamer coming up the bay. Young Huntington had the list carefully prepared. The sum total of his mother's purchases abroad was \$75,000, the largest amount ever declared by a traveler in the port of New York, and probably in the world. The duty was also the largest ever paid.

There was a score of large flat trunks containing rich gowns bought in Paris, London and Berlin. Most of the tax paid by Mrs. Huntington was 60 per cent. on made-up gowns of linen, silk and woolen. There was a large amount of jewelry and precious stones, on which she paid 60 per cent. On a lot of perfume 60 per cent. ad valorem was paid. Her rugs were taxed at ten cents per square foot and 40 per cent. on their value. Bronzes also paid 45 per cent. on their value.

DOG FINDS BABY IN WOODS.

The Big St. Bernard Then Carries the Half-Frozen Infant to His Kennel.

Nero, a full-blooded St. Bernard dog belonging to John Oliver, a farmer of Gates, N. Y., attracted the attention of his master the other morning by his peculiar actions. The animal would rush to the door, whine and paw the panels until some one came out, and then rush off to his kennel.

After repeating this performance some time he was followed to the doghouse, where an investigation revealed a half-frozen infant, scantily dressed and almost buried in the straw. The baby was hastily carried into the house and medical aid summoned, while Nero showed his joy at being understood by uttering short barks and running around his master.

Upon further investigation tracks in the deep snow were discovered, showing that the dog, true to his early training in the Alps, had half carried, half dragged the baby across fields from the woods nearly a mile distant, where the infant either was lost or had been abandoned. An old blanket and some infant clothing that had slipped off when Nero attempted to carry the baby home showed where the child had lain in the snow.

English Beauty on Canvas.

Lady Feodorovna Stuart, sister of the earl of Hardwicke, and wife of the eldest son of Baron Alington, is the subject of a striking portrait by Baron Adolph de Meyer. Lady "Feo," as she is known to her intimate friends, is one of the beauties of English society, tall, dark and stately. Books and music are her chief hobbies. Her house is a treasure house of rare books and works of art, and her collection of jewelry is one of the most magnificent in the United Kingdom. When she takes part in tableaux at charitable entertainments she has a detective at hand to keep an eye on her jewels.

Possibility of the Future.

If Eastern Siberia grows in the next 50 years as our western states have grown in the last half century, remarks the Chicago Inter Ocean, the people of Siberia and the United States will be singing "Hands Across the Sea" to a new tune.

Count Boni's Latest Epistle.

Count Boni de Castellane, says the Chicago Record-Herald, has just written—no, not for money—a letter on the Panama canal question.

COEDS A "NUISANCE."

Men Students at Chicago University So Declare Against Them.

In Vote Taken by the Dean in His Sociology Class the Boys Favor Separation, While Girls Are Solid for Mixed Classes.

Men students of the University of Chicago the other day declared themselves in favor of isolating the coeds from the college halls and recitation rooms. Just as many coeds were strong in their opposition to such a plan.

The test took place in Dean George E. Vincent's class of sociology, and Prof. Vincent was so startled at the lack of gallantry shown that he took up the cudgel in behalf of the women.

"We don't want to be separated from the men and from college life," the girls said. "Girls are a nuisance," said the men.

It all happened in the morning when Dean Vincent undertook to make a psychological test in his sociology class. He said that he wanted to find out how nearly alike the minds of the class ran on a certain question.

He passed papers around and told them to write their opinions on the following proposition: "What do you think of the plan to separate the sexes of the undergraduate body by putting all the women on one side of the campus, with their separate recitation-rooms and dormitories, and all the men on the other side, with their separate buildings?"

Every girl expressed herself as strongly against the plan, while nearly every man thought that it would be a good move. Dean Vincent said the test was a failure, for evidently both men and women had diverse opinions on the subject.

"It would spoil all our social life here. We would never see the men, and how would they invite us anywhere?" said one girl.

"The men would get to be regular bears socially and in the classrooms," said another girl. "They would become rude and rough and careless as to their behavior in the classroom." She thought that under present conditions the girls kept the men in good behavior.

"It is only through association with the girls that the men learn how to act," said another woman student, "and if separation came about they would soon forget how to treat a woman."

Another girl claimed that the men would get careless and unkept as to their clothes. Most of the girls thought that in such a move they saw the hopes of most college girls to be an educational footing with men dashed to the ground.

The men were emphatic in approval of the suggestion. "Girls are nuisances," said one man. "I can't say half the things in class that I would like to."

"They take my attention away from my work," said another. "They are generally so good-looking that I have to keep my eyes on them, many times to the sacrifice of my standing."

Another opinion was that they spoiled the men's college life, because a man student always has to be careful what he says and does for fear some girl will hear or see him.

AMERICAN HOSPITAL IN PARIS.

Wealthy Bostonian Offers to Defray the Entire Expense of Establishing the Institution.

Edward Tuck, a wealthy Bostonian, who has resided in Paris for many years, has decided to defray the entire expense of establishing the free American hospital in Paris, announcement of which has already been made and the ground for which has been bought in the Passy Quarter. The hospital is to be named Franklin hospital, and besides being built on the latest American model, will be managed entirely by American physicians and nurses. Mr. Tuck will also donate a sufficient fund to maintain the hospital permanently without outside help.

That the proposed hospital will fill a deeply felt want in Paris is shown by the fact that the services of several American nurses who came to Paris recently have been in constant demand.

Franklin hospital will be situated in one of the most healthful parts of Paris and will be inclosed by extensive grounds. Dr. Maguin, a well-known physician at Paris, will be the director. Building will be commenced in a few weeks, and it is expected that the hospital will be opened in 1904.

New Anesthetic Discovered.

Acoline is the name of an interesting product which is destined to oust cocaine, morphine, chloral, anti-pyrine and other anesthetics. A little pinch dropped into a gnawing tooth instantly banishes pain. Acoline's properties were recently reported to the French Academy of Medicine by Dr. Chauvel, and are based on divers experiments. Acoline has the great advantage of not being toxic.

Triumph for American Girl.

Miss Rose Reida, of San Francisco, sang "Traviata" at the Theater des Westens at Berlin the other night. This was her first appearance in Germany, and she was most favorably received. After three weeks there she will go to Milan to sing in grand opera there.

A BINDING AFFAIR.

New Jersey Couple Sign Agreements to Wait to Wed.

Man Enlists for Service in Philippines to Remain Single Until He Can Return and Claim Girl Who Promises to Be True.

Lemuel Meekins, of Fairview, N. J., wants to be a soldier in the Philippines for three years, and to make sure of a wife upon his return, he called on the Justice of the Peace George F. Seymour at Hoboken the other night, in company with Miss Laura Morgenson, of Granton, whom he intends to make his bride. Miss Morgenson is about 20 and is a telegraph operator in New York city. Meekins is 25, and he will resign a position in a New York department store in order to enlist. The couple had drawn up two agreements which they formally signed before the justice. The agreement is as follows:

"I, Lemuel Charles Meekins, do solemnly vow to remain unmarried and unengaged for a period of three years and six months from date. To pay no marked attentions to any unmarried woman or widow during said period, other than the attentions due from any gentleman. To carry on no correspondence by mail or communication by telephone with any unmarried woman or widow; or, wounded on the field of battle, to receive care or attention only from those employed regularly as nurses, and to receive no attention from any school-teacher who may be in the Philippines during said period, and I do further agree to save from my regular pay 75 per cent. of all moneys received from the United States government during the term of my enlistment."

Miss Morgenson's agreement is equally interesting. It is as follows:

"I, Laura Amelia Morgenson, do solemnly vow to remain unmarried and unengaged for the period of three years and six months from date; to receive no marked attention from any unmarried man or widow during the period of three years and six months; not to be escorted to or from, or to be present at, any church service, church social entertainment, concert, musical, picnic, excursion, outing, theater, baseball game or any place of public amusement, or reception, with any unmarried man or widow, or any man other than members of my immediate family. And I do solemnly vow not to carry on any communication or correspond by mail or by phone with any unmarried man or widow, or encourage, promote or foster any courtship whatsoever during the said period of three years and six months."

LOVE LEADS TO DISASTER.

Widow of a Locomotive Engineer, Falls to Recover Damages Because Kiss Caused Wreck.

The supreme court of Ohio has affirmed the judgment of the superior court of Cincinnati against Mrs. John G. Price, who brought suit for \$10,000 damages for the death of her husband, an engineer on the Baltimore & Ohio, who was killed in a collision.

It was Price's habit when the train passed his house to throw a kiss to his wife, who was always on the lookout for the expected greeting. One day the look toward the home and woman that he loved proved fatal. On account of the presence of a Vanderbilt special train on the road schedules had been disarranged and but a short distance from the spot where Price's home stood was a train waiting on the track. Disaster would have been averted had the engineer's eyes been fixed on the track ahead. The casualty was one of the worst that ever happened in Cincinnati, half a dozen persons being killed and many injured.

WILL TEACH JOURNALISM.

New School May Be Established in Some Centrally Located City of Germany.

A school of journalism is proposed for Germany. The leading press associations are being sounded by the promoters of the scheme and asked to give an opinion on its feasibility.

It is proposed to begin in some central city. Frankfurt-on-the-Main and Dresden are suggested. The curriculum will not embrace stenography or mechanics.

Lectures will be given on leadership, feuilleton-writing, editing telegraph, "padding," foreign press methods, especially English and American, arrangement of news, etc. Instruction will be given, also, in the business of journalism.

To Tour Europe in an Auto.

W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., expects to sail in a few days for Europe for a three months' automobile tour. The date depends upon the health of Mrs. Vanderbilt, who is to accompany him. After a brief sojourn in London, and later in Paris, they will go to Calwstadt, Germany, where the machine in which they will make the tour has recently been completed.

Hoaxed Morgan's Fans.

A man who once boxed J. Pierpont Morgan's ears for "cutting up" in a church gallery is still alive, says the Chicago Record-Herald. He ought to have little trouble in making himself dear to the hearts of the American people.

First Vessel on the Lakes.

The Griffin, the first sailing vessel on the great lakes, passed through Detroit river in 1679.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

Cast Iron Blocks Are to be Used in Paving Huddersfield (England) Tramways.

The microbe of tuberculosis may live in a book 103 days, as has been shown by experiment.

Manchester, England, is to test the utility of a system of wireless telephony by a series of practical experiments.

In Nuremberg, Germany, 800 workmen are employed making lead soldiers and lead toys. They turn out about 100,000 lead soldiers a day.

A new disease of the horse has appeared in the Darling river district, Australia. It makes the horses almost blind for a time, but recovery is usual. Asiatic Turkey is to be rescued from semibarbarism by the construction of \$100,000,000 worth of railroads, one of which will run through the Euphrates valley from end to end. The new roads will follow the old caravan routes, and they will touch all the principal cities and towns of Bible lands.

A new Russian apparatus for restoring hearing consists of a light rubber shell furnished with a miniature microphone which is connected to a small galvanic battery. It is claimed that the microphone causes even the softest speech to repeat on the auditory nerve of the deaf when the apparatus is placed to the ear.

Excavations in southern Germany have apparently established the fact that in pre-historic times Europe was inhabited by pygmies. Remains of a mixed race have also been found in Switzerland and the Pyrenees. The skeletons which have been found are so small that they can be placed in an ordinary museum drawer. None of them is longer than 5 1/2 inches, and many are smaller.

COST OF WIRELESS MESSAGES.

May Be No More Than Tea Costs to Be Signaled Half Way Around the World.

It is rather needless to say that Marconi's splendid demonstration of trans-oceanic signaling means, in the near future, a big reduction in cable tolls. Marconi himself says that cent a word is within sight. But even this is a purely arbitrary figure. In England, where the public telegraph is not run to enrich rich people, it is possible to send a 12-word message anywhere in the kingdom for sixpence. There is no good reason why, with healthy competition, a 20-word message from New York to London, Paris or Manila should not be sent and delivered for a dime; or, for that matter, anywhere in the United States, says Carl Snyder in the monthly Review of Reviews.

The first cost is small. A wireless telegraph station is more complicated than an ordinary Morse station, and costs more. But, needing neither cables, wires, insulators, nor poles, the stations are practically the whole of the expense. Such an installation as those of the Marconi company on board the ocean ships probably costs between \$200 and \$300, at retail. The largest expense is a good induction coil, which, for a 12-inch spark, costs between \$150 and \$200; the rest of the apparatus, any clever mechanic, once he has seen it and read the descriptions, of which the scientific journals teem, can rig up for himself.

And the field is free. The shower of patents has been larger. Sig. Marconi alone has taken out 132. But they relate chiefly to minor improvements and special devices, which, while doubtless often of individual value, are not a block to others to try their hand. If, for example, Prof. Branly had patented his discovery, and had applied it to the reception of signals himself, instead of leaving that to Prof. Lodge and others, then we might have had another Bell telephone monopoly. As it is, wireless telephony has been made possible by men who do not take out patents, and whose work is not done for money.

HOW SHE RAISED THE FEE.

The Bride Was Determined to Get Married and She Pawned the Priest's Hat.

A poor couple living in the Emerald Isle went to the priest for marriage and were met with a demand for the marriage fee. It was not forthcoming. Both the consenting parties were rich in love and in their prospects, but destitute of financial resources. The father was obdurate. "No money, no marriage," said the blushing bride, "to go and get the money."

It was given, and she stepped forth on the delicate mission of raising a marriage fee out of pure nothing. After a short interval she returned with the sum of money and the ceremony was completed to the satisfaction of all. When the parting was taking place the newly made wife seemed a little uneasy. "Anything on your mind, Catherine?" said the father. "Well, your reverence, I would like to know if this marriage could not be spoiled now?" "Certainly not, Catherine. No man can put you asunder."

"Could you not do it yourself, father? Could you not spoil the marriage?" "No, no, Catherine. You are past me now. I have nothing more to do with your marriage."

"That aises me mind," said Catherine, "and God bless your reverence. There's the ticket for your hat. I picked it up in the lobby and pawned it."

And the Interest, Too.

"The widow seems to take great interest in old Goldwaite." "She thinks that if she takes interest now she'll have the principal later."—Stray Stories.