

PREFERS HER HERO.

Kansas Girl Gives Up \$50,000 to Wed Her Soldier Lover.

Out of His Father's Will If She Persist in Marrying the Man of Her Choice—Love Wins.

Miss Agnes Derry values Private John Kenny, a Twentieth Kansas hero, at more than \$50,000. She has relinquished that sum in order that she may become the wife of the crippled soldier boy who followed the fortunes of the intrepid Fusiles in the Philippines.

Considering the hardships which Miss Derry has undergone, there is wonder that she has not given him up long ago. When Private Kenny enlisted and went away the girl's father heard that they were to be married when he came back, so he sent the girl away and no one knew her address, that the soldier in far-away lands might not know but that she had committed suicide, deserted him or married another.

But finally Miss Derry escaped from her watchers and wrote a letter to the soldier telling him all about her troubles. Then came a long letter from him, which the father captured. He went to his daughter and told her she would be thrown out of his house unless she quit writing to Kenny, and that if they were married he would disinherit her.

They kept up communication, and late in the old man died. The girl is cut off in his will if she marries Kenny, who is wounded and unable to earn a living. The fortune she will lose is over \$50,000, but the engagement of the couple has been announced just the same.

ASTOR WILL PROBABLY WED. Announcement of His Engagement to Lady Randolph Churchill Is Expected Soon.

It is generally believed that the act of W. W. Astor in becoming a British subject will be followed before long by the announcement of his engagement to Lady Randolph Churchill, formerly Miss Jennie Jerome, of New York.

Having been naturalized under the general act of 1870, Mr. Astor's children—Waldorf Astor, John Jacob Astor and Miss Pauline Astor—become British subjects also.

Mr. Astor intended to obtain naturalization by means of a special act of parliament, but was warned that such procedure was very unusual and would in all probability evoke opposition.

His application, therefore, proceeded in the regular manner of petitioning the home secretary, setting forth that he had resided in the United Kingdom for five years and desired to become a British subject and intended to reside in England. He paid the following fees: Twenty-five dollars on receiving the certificate of naturalization, \$2.50 for a copy of the certificate, \$2.50 for his registration, \$50 in counsel fees; total, \$80.

Forty-three other persons were in the hat with Mr. Astor, nearly all of them being German, Russian and Polish Jews. There were no other Americans. The only other name of prominence was that of Miss Alice Charlotte de Rothschild, daughter of Lord Rothschild.

OLD MAN DIGS HIS GRAVE. Tombstones and Coffins Are Also in Readiness When the End Comes.

John McGrew, an eccentric old bachelor, residing near Richard Center, Ind., has aroused considerable interest in himself over the preparations he has made for his death.

McGrew is 68 years old and resides in a lonely cabin on an acre of ground that he purchased years ago. He works at all sorts of odd jobs and manages to make a living. For the last several weeks he has been at work in a country cemetery a short distance from his home, and it was discovered that he had dug his own grave and boarded it up.

At the head of it he erected a headstone on which he had been working for a long time. It is an odd piece of marble that had been lying around the cemetery a long time. Over this he placed a wooden hood, so that no one can see what he has written upon it. His coffin has been built for some time and is stored away in an attic at his home.

The neighbors will allow no one to disturb old McGrew, so he goes about completing the preparations for his final taking off.

SHE CARRIED THE OBEISK.

A Once Famous Vessel That Is Now Used as a Sea Going Coal Barge.

A vessel which was once a famous steamer, but is now a commonplace seagoing coal barge, is in port loading for a New England port. The Demagog was built for the khedive of Egypt in 1864 and named the Denton. At that time she was considered one of the fastest and most beautifully appointed vessels afloat, and the khedive enjoyed her immensely for awhile. But he got tired of her and in 1879 William H. Vanderbilt bought her to transport the obelisk from Egypt to Central park, New York.

Lieut. Commander George took command of her, having been detailed for the purpose by the United States government, says the Baltimore American.

The obelisk, which weighs 196 tons, was far from the shore line, and buried, besides, deep in sand. It was altogether too heavy for ordinary machinery to be used, and it was carried down on immense platforms with cannon balls under them for rollers. Then it was placed in a crib fixed on a pontoon. The pontoon and ship were lifted in a graving dry dock, head on to each other, and when this had been accomplished a hole 20 feet long and 12 feet high was cut in the starboard bow of the boat below the water line.

CARRIES MEALS TO WORKMEN. How an Enterprising Pennsylvania Boy Is Laying the Foundation of a Fortune.

Thomas Minter, a 14-year-old lad of Conshohocken, is probably the most energetic youngster in Montgomery county, says the Philadelphia Record. Through his own devices he earns \$15 a week, and only works on an average of six hours a day. His business is meal carrier. About three months ago Tommy called on the employes of the different mills and offered to carry their meals for 15 cents a week. As many of the mills are running night and day, his offer included suppers as well as dinners. Most of the employes were paying 25 cents a week for the same service, and the boy's offer was promptly accepted. At first Tommy was able to carry the dinners in a large express wagon, which was hauled by a goat, but as he steadily gained customers it became necessary to get a large push cart, which he fitted up with shelves. His business finally increased so much that he had to hire a horse and wagon. His customers now number 130.

QUEEREST OF ALL DUELS. One of the Most Remarkable Affairs of Honor Ever Placed on Record.

Letters from Buenos Ayres give details of a remarkable duel, of which the famous Italian fencing master, Chevalier Pini, was the hero. Pini recently opened a school of arms in the Argentine republic and, having been subjected to some criticism by a local journalist, told the scribe in his own frank, pleasant way what he thought of him. Reparation was demanded and pistols were the weapons selected. The conditions of the meeting were singular. The adversaries were to be placed back to back, and at the word of command were each to take 15 steps forward and then to turn around and fire simultaneously. On the ground the men were placed as arranged and, at the given signal, began to march forward, one of the seconds counting the steps. Pini had only made five strides when he heard a report and the whistle of a bullet past his ear. He turned and saw his adversary with the smoking pistol in his hand. Pini, in a furious rage, dropped his weapon, rushed at his man and gave him a sound thrashing with his fists. The seconds took sides for their respective principals and a general melee went forward until some gendarmes arrived. Pini's adversary then took to his heels and has not since been seen.

Victoria's Letter to Napoleon. An autograph letter from Queen Victoria, addressed to the emperor of the French, dated Osborne, June 29, 1855 (No French), was sold recently in London. The letter, which deplores the ministerial crisis at that time existing and apprehends others to follow, assures the emperor that no change of government would ever compromise that good understanding existing between the two countries. The price realized was two guineas.

Yearly Executions in China. At Canton the average number of executions is about 200 per year, but in 1882 50,000 rebels were beheaded. The headsman formerly received about four dollars a head, but the supply and competition have reduced the wage to 50 cents apiece. Most of the criminals who are beheaded are water pirates or bandits.

THE OLD MAMMY WON.

Court Awards Custody of Two White Children to a Negress.

The Rival Claimant Was the Mother of the Two Girls—Remarkable Suit at New Orleans.

Lizzie Jefferson, an old negro "mammy" of New Orleans, has been awarded the custody of Annie and Lucy Galaw, little girls eight and ten years of age, respectively, her rival claimant for the children being the mother. The suit which resulted in the negress obtaining permanent custody of the children was the first of its kind ever decided in Louisiana, inasmuch as "mammy" is as black as the proverbial ace of spades and the children have not a drop of negro blood in their veins.

But in spite of the fact that they are white, Lucy and Annie, who were weeping bitterly during the progress of the case, in fear of being given back to their mother, rejoiced exceedingly when Judge Aucoin pronounced judgment in favor of the negress. Behind the case there is an unusual story.

V. Galaw, the father of the little girls, died eight years ago. He was very poor and was not on the best of terms with his wife. He knew "Aunt Lizzie," and just before death claimed him he asked the old woman to see that his children did not come to want. The faithful negress gave him the promise, and for the last seven years she has worked night and day for her charges, clothing them nicely, and since they have been old enough, sending them to the public schools.

"Aunt Lizzie" is a caterer in a small way and earns a comfortable living. She announced her intention not long ago of sending the elder girl to Europe to complete her education, for the child is very bright. The devotion of the negress to her "babies" has long been the talk of the neighborhood. Not long ago the mother married again and demanded that "Aunt Lizzie" give her and her husband, rent free, a room in the house which was sheltering her girls. The negress refused and the mother brought suit to recover her children. All these facts were brought out in court.

NEW DRUG HABIT. A Druggist of New York Addicted to the Use of Pilocarpine Hypodermically Injected.

Thomas Frazer, a druggist of 2336 Second avenue, New York, has acquired a unique habit, which, according to the physicians in the Harlem hospital, has no known parallel. Eight years ago Frazer was treated in St. Luke's hospital, where he received injections of pilocarpine varied with morphine and cocaine. After he was discharged he continued the use of the drugs. He was taken to the Harlem hospital the other day. Dr. Muller, who is treating him, said:

"We find that Frazer is a slave to the drugs he learned to use while in St. Luke's. His arm is full of sores made by the needles of hypodermic syringes. Every two hours he requires an injection of pilocarpine. Half an hour after the pilocarpine he must take two grains of morphine, and half an hour later three grains of cocaine. It is the first case on record, so far as we know, where a man has acquired the pilocarpine habit." Pilocarpine when taken inwardly constricts the blood vessels.

QUITTING PUBLIC SERVICE. As Result of Mistaken Economy Navy Department Is Losing Its Draftsmen.

As a result of mistaken economy the navy department is losing its draftsmen and designers, most of whom are stationed at the navy yards and shipyards where government work is carried on under contract. Private concerns are taking advantage of the experience gained by these employes and are engaging their service at higher salaries than the department is willing to pay. Rear Admiral Hichborn, chief constructor of the navy, has repeatedly recommended an increase in the pay of naval draftsmen, who receive four and five dollars per day for their services, but nothing has yet been done, and the government finds itself in the position of being short-handed at a time when there is a large amount of work to be done. The situation is described by Chief Constructor Hichborn as a serious one, of great embarrassment at this time to the programme of speedy construction.

WOMEN SHIPPED BY EXPRESS. Two Wives Sent to Their Husbands in the Klondike as Freight on Transportation Line.

The Nugget express has evolved a scheme that eclipses all for uniqueness. The other night it shipped from Seattle, Wash., by the City of Seattle two wives, Mrs. Mullerkey and Mrs. Jones, to their husbands in the Klondike. The ladies are sent as express matter. The Nugget express, for a stipulated sum of money, is conveying them, also their children, to Dawson.

Candy by Mail. A San Francisco dressmaker, ate some candy that she received by mail, but it is thought she will recover. This proves, suggests the Chicago Times-Herald, that candy which comes by mail is not necessarily fatal if you keep antidotes handy.

PATENT OF A DENTIST.

Invents a Method of Bridging Teeth and Has Just Obtained a Court Decision Upholding His Rights.

Lucius T. Sheffield, dentist, has triumphed. He patented the process known as "bridge work" in 1881. He patented the process, and then he sold to dentists the right to bridge teeth for \$25 a year and 15 per cent. of their receipts. At first dentists derided the new process. But in spite of their opposition the invention grew in popularity, and his income from his royalties became a fortune. The dentists of New York state alone paid him \$25,000 in one year.

Finding that teeth-wearers insisted on having bridges the dentists of the country organized for the purpose of proving that Dr. Sheffield's patents were invalid. They retained high-priced lawyers to fight their cause in the courts. Long litigation was the result.

Two cases were decided against him, and for the last few years he has received nothing from his royalties and licenses. But victory has come at last. Judge Townsend, of the appellate court, has rendered a decision in the case of Dr. Sheffield against Dentist Howard O. Kyle. The decision declares that Dr. Sheffield's patent is valid.

The patent has now expired, so that in the future Dr. Sheffield can collect no royalties, but every dentist who has infringed on his patent since 1881, when it was issued, will have to pay him at his own price.

"The amount due me," said Dr. Sheffield, "is nearly \$8,000,000. Of course, I don't expect to realize anything like that sum, but I do expect to receive enough to make me comfortably rich for the rest of my life."

EAGLE FIGHTS MAN AND WIFE. The Huge Bird Is Driven Off After Severely Injuring Its Human Contestants.

A huge bald eagle swooped down on the farm of Lincoln Rogers, near the village of Naples, N. Y., the other afternoon and seized a chicken in its talons. Mrs. Rogers, who heard a disturbance, rushed out to see what was the matter and the eagle made for her. She turned and fled, screaming, and attracted the attention of her husband, who was working in a field not far away. He grabbed a stick and hurried to the assistance of his wife, who had stopped in her flight and attempted to beat the bird off with a club. When the eagle saw Mr. Rogers it turned on him and then attacked each in turn. Man and wife tried to beat the bird, but in their excitement few blows took effect, and those that did seemed only to increase the eagle's anger and cause it to fight all the harder.

Mrs. Rogers lost her club and tried to fight the bird with her hands. In so doing she was badly scratched. Mr. Rogers also received numerous scratches and bruises, but eventually put the bird to flight. Another eagle was seen in Geneva a few days ago by the family of Fred Pitz, and on the shores of Lake Ontario near there eagles have been seen frequently, and one was killed in a fight similar to that experienced by Mr. and Mrs. Rogers.

NEW BANK FOR HAWAII. National Institution to Be Established as Soon as United States Congress Makes It Possible.

The first and only national bank outside of the continental boundaries of the United States is about to be established in Honolulu. Col. McFarland, who was chamberlain to Queen Liliuokalani, has arrived at San Francisco from the islands to perfect the organization of the bank, and later to return with gold coin representing the stock subscribed for by San Francisco and New York capitalists. A charter for the bank has already been procured from the United States government by Perry S. Heath, assistant postmaster-general, but it cannot be used until congress places the Hawaiian islands under the territorial laws of this country. In the meantime the new financial institution will be known as the First American bank, a charter for which has just been granted by the Hawaiian government. The corporation is capitalized at \$1,000,000, and one-half of that amount will be in the vaults, as required by the banking laws of the island, when the bank opens its doors on September 1.

TESTS OF HOLLAND BOAT. Trials of the Submarine Vessel by the Government Said to Be a Decided Success.

The trials of the Holland submarine torpedo boat over the government course in Peconic bay were a decided success. The trials, which consisted of going under water for a mile, diving and coming to the surface for rapid observations, were given for the board of naval officers appointed to pass on the application of the Holland Torpedo Boat company to change the motor power of the plunger when on the surface or "swash" from steam to gas.

On her first trial the boat was submerged and run for one mile, coming to the surface for rapid observation and again disappearing. At the beginning of the second trial Naval Constructor Varney and Lieut. Ridgrave went on board and examined the vessel when submerged. The time taken for the boat to dive and come to the surface in the first trial was about seven seconds, while on the second trial the time was nine seconds.

Missouri Lead Mines. Eight thousand men are engaged in mining lead and zinc in Missouri. The total output for 1893 was 74,000 tons of lead and 140,000 tons of zinc.

WOULD BE ONE AMONG MANY.

Foreign Count Who Was Engaged to Several American Women Gets Into Trouble.

Enterprising foreigners desiring to enter into matrimonial relations with American women would do well to ponder on the case of Count Malte Liewen Stierngran, son of the chamberlain of King Oscar of Sweden, who is now in jail in New York city on a charge of breach of promise preferred by a young lady of wealth and position. The count is a good example of the noble foreigner who cometh to Columbia to seek a bride and a fortune. He was arrested two weeks ago at the suit of Miss Lesbia M. Boswick, who alleged in her petition that she had reason to believe that the count was about to sail for Sweden, and not marry her, as he had promised. The count was immediately arrested, and, being unable to give \$500 bail, was committed to jail.

The count is a tall, handsome-looking young man of 27 years, and has all the appearance of a gentleman born and bred. It is evident that he does not consider the offense a particularly heinous one, and is more surprised at the incarceration than concerned as to his fate. He explained to the justice before whom he was arraigned:

"I was not aware that I was obliged to marry her simply because I had become engaged. It was my impression that I could become engaged to as many girls as I desired, and did not necessarily have to marry any of them until I really found that one had suited me best."

He was informed that although such might be the custom in Sweden, it could not go in America, and reserved his decision. His father is one of the richest and most influential men on the Scandinavian peninsula, and although it is improbable that \$50,000 will be paid over to the unhappy lady whose affections the stalwart Swede has stolen, he will undoubtedly be made to pay dearly for his presumption.

COBRA VENOM FOR LEPROSY. Poison of the Serpent May Rid the World of a Malady—How Discovery Was Made.

Dr. Bertrand Wilkinson, of Omaha, general surgeon of the Union Pacific Railroad company, was at the Victoria hotel, New York city, the other day, and he said that if Dr. Thomas J. Biggs, a former surgeon of the United States army, was on the right track the new century would rejoice to see the dreadful scourge of leprosy, if not totally removed from among human ailments, at least reduced to a minimum. He said: "Starting as this announcement may seem, stranger still is the means Dr. Biggs proposes to employ to rid suffering humanity of the awful pest. The remedy whose effectiveness he hopes to demonstrate is nothing more nor less than the deadly venom of the cobra. Curious, too, that the idea of inoculating the leprosy patient was suggested by the savage, demon-worshipping hill tribes of far-off India. Many of these people, seeking to die by means of the cobra's bite, have been cured of leprosy.

TO KEEP REINA MERCEDES. Former Spanish War Craft to Remain Federal "Show Ship"—Effort Made to Buy Her.

An offer from a prominent firm of ship brokers doing a large business to purchase the Reina Mercedes and any and all of the other war craft captured during the late war has aroused a suspicion that Spain is trying in this indirect manner to obtain possession of the vessel and thus remove the offense to Spanish pride caused by the floating of the American flag over her ships. The offer mentioned no figures, but simply requested that the navy department name its price for the Mercedes and the remainder of the captured Spanish ships.

THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT WILL NOT sell any of these vessels, and that answer will be returned to the writer of the letter. Secretary Long has decided that it would not pay to attempt to renovate the Mercedes and use her as a warship. The cost would be not less than \$500,000, and the ship would, when repaired, be of old type and not up to the requirements of a modern naval ship. Therefore the repairs to be made upon her will be confined to a little painting and cleaning and patching, and the Mercedes will be left as a show ship, like the old Constitution, to gratify the patriotism of the American people.

UGHT TO BE UNIFORM. Attention of Congress to Be Called to Different Emblems in Use by Army, Navy and Coast Survey.

Attention of congress will be called to the advisability of establishing uniform flags for the army, navy and coast survey services. Each of these services has ships in commission, and if the president were to board vessels representing them one after the other three distinct flags would be hoisted in his honor.

NEED ROOF GARDENS.

Evangelist Moody Suggests Them for New York Churches.

Believes They Would Be Means of Saving Souls—Would Have Them as Attractive as Theater Roof Gardens.

"It is no use talking," said Evangelist Dwight L. Moody, "but things have got to be revolutionized in New York before we can reach the masses. Some people may be surprised, and even scandalized, but I unhesitatingly state that every church in New York should have a roof garden." Mr. Moody, who has been doing evangelistic work in New York during the last two days, went to Brooklyn and preached there Sunday in the Church of the Pilgrims.

"I am convinced," he said, "that we must do some hard work in New York and other great cities during the summer months. The talk about everybody going out of town during the hot weather is all bosh. Just because you see a few brown stone mansions in the neighborhood of Fifth avenue boarded up in the summer, you must not imagine that New York leaves New York and goes into the country.

"I say that the summer is the best time to reach the people. You do not then have to go into the house to do it. You can find them outside, whole families sitting on the stoops. In the winter you have to go inside to rout them out.

"Every church in New York should have a roof garden. The thing is perfectly practicable, and there is no reason in the world why we should not convert as many sinners in a roof garden as in a church.

"I would make the church roof gardens as attractive as the theater roof gardens. The services would be the same as in the stuffy churches, and there should be plenty of good singing and good preaching.

"Sell lemonade. Why, certainly, I would sell all kinds of temperance drinks.

"Over in Liverpool we have hundreds of little coffee places where a man can go and treat his friend. There is no reason why we should not do the same thing here, and do it in proper and well-arranged roof gardens."

A FIELD FOR ENTERPRISE. Russia Offers Better Returns to American Trade Than Do South American Countries.

"For the last five years," writes Vice Consul-General Llanes at Frankfurt, "our National Association of Manufacturers in the United States and other trade associations and steamship and transportation lines have directed their efforts towards increasing our trade with Latin-America. While I endorse all attempts to increase our exports, I believe an equal amount of money, time and energy expended upon furthering our trade relations with the Russian empire would prove more profitable.

"Russia has not only a much larger population than Latin-America, thus affording a wider market, but the empire offers the best and most profitable field for our promoters of railway, electric and other enterprises; for the construction of waterworks and drainage systems, building streets and canals, works in iron, making dry docks and harbors and opening mines. Americans have the most favorable chances to employ their capital and skill in Russia, as the people of that country are rather jealous of Europeans, who figure in the role of pioneers, whereas they have no fear of American assistance in developing the resources of their country. I would recommend my countrymen to 'go east' and employ their talent, time, money and energy in Russia, which will return them ample compensation."

STEEL VIADUCT FOR INDIA. Shipment of Parts for Huge Structure Over Gokteik Gorge by American Concerns.

The Pennsylvania Steel company has shipped 43 carloads of bridges and construction steel to one of the Pennsylvania railroad docks in New York city, and from there it will be sent by ship to India. It comprises one-half of the iron to be used in the building of the huge viaduct across the Gokteik gorge, about 80 miles west of Mandalay. The company will get \$700,000 for the piece of work. Twenty-five of the steel company's own force of expert workmen will accompany the steel on its long trip across the ocean to superintend the work of construction.

The remaining half of the big commitment will be shipped late in the fall, and the construction will be begun in November, after the close of the rainy season.

Sale of Works of French Authors. Of Emile Zola's works 90,000 copies are sold yearly on the average; of Alphonse Daudet's, 80,000; of Octave Feuillet's, 50,000; of Pierre Lotis and Georges Ohnet's, 45,000 each; of Ludovic Halévy's, 40,000; of Guy de Maupassant's, 35,000; of Paul Bourget's, 35,000; 25,000 copies in the annual average for the works of the De Goncourts, and 8,000 each for those of Gyp, Catulle Mendès, Marcel Prevost, Andre Theuriet and Francis Coppee.

Weak Enough to Steal Into Heaven. Somebody broke into a Wakefield (N. Y.) church the other night and stole the pulpit Bible. That thief would probably steal into Heaven, says the Chicago Times-Herald, if he got half a chance.

Best Sugar. This year's production of beet sugar in the United States is estimated at 122,000 tons from 144,000 acres. This is a fourfold increase in one year.