

PUTS END TO DELAYS

Show Devise Plan for Hastening Delivery of Express Matter.

Companies to Deposit Lump Sums with Treasury Department and the Imported Packages Will Be at Once Released.

The treasury department has determined on a new method of handling express matter from abroad through the customs port at New York which will expedite its delivery from eight to ten days. The new plan is the result of a personal investigation by Secretary Shaw.

Hereafter each morning the express companies will deposit a lump sum with the treasury department and the imported packages will be at once released. Upon its arrival all express matter will be sent to the general storage. There, in the presence of a representative of the collector of the port, a representative of the express companies and a representative of the appraiser the packages will be unpacked and examined. The duties will be paid from the deposit in the treasury and packages released and forwarded.

In connection with this new procedure an arrangement has been made which will relieve the incoming tourists of annoyance at the piers. Customs authorities are forbidden by law to accept anything but actual cash in payment of duties. Checks and drafts are not accepted, and frequently it has been the experience of persons who were fully able to pay but had no currency that their baggage was held until they could secure the checks and have checks cashed. This regulation frequently necessitated sending baggage to general stores, for which service a charge was made.

Under this new plan tourists can pay the customs on personal baggage through the express companies, the latter paying the customs by a transfer order on the funds deposited in the treasury. Under the new arrangement tourists arriving without currency and desiring to pay customs charges on baggage can give the express company a draft or check or any other satisfactory security and an order will be given by the express company transferring from its deposit in the treasury an amount sufficient to cover the duties of the tourist.

RESTORE A FEUDAL CASTLE.

Emperor William and Many Nobles Take Part in the Ceremony of Completion.

In the presence of Emperor William and the empress, many diplomats, members of the royalty and German nobles, the work of restoring the ancient castle of Marienburg was officially completed the other day. The castle in the middle ages was the seat of the grand masters of the Teutonic order.

The ceremonies were rendered remarkably brilliant by the revival of ancient costumes of the order of the Knights of St. John. His majesty stood at the gateway of the castle while the knights of St. John and other deputations filed through, with the church bells ringing and the choir raising a song of thanksgiving.

The emperor afterwards proceeded to the chapter hall, where he held a brief reception. The consecration of the building by the chaplain, followed. Later there was a banquet at which the emperor and the royal personages were present.

HONORS AMERICAN WOMAN.

Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnson Invited to the Coronation in England by King Edward.

Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnson, who, as the beautiful Harriet Lane, was first lady of the land during the administration of her uncle, President Buchanan, has been invited by King Edward to the coronation. Miss Lane was mistress of the white house when the king, then the prince of Wales, visited this country in 1860. The honor is bestowed in return for the hospitality he enjoyed. She received in 1861 a fine collection of portraits, which yet adorn the walls of her home in Washington. In 1866 Miss Lane was married at Wheatland to Henry Elliott Johnson, of Baltimore. After the death of her uncle Wheatland became Mrs. Johnson's summer home, and here she has spent many happy months. Mrs. Johnson now makes her residence in Washington.

Go on Nightly Miles on Road.

All speed records on Colorado railroads were lowered the other day for the Pueblo real estate exchange in the special run made by the Colorado & Southern Railway over the Santa Fe tracks. The train covered the distance, 118 miles, in 2 hours and 31 minutes, the actual running time being 2 hours and 17 minutes. A portion of the run was at the rate of 80 miles an hour.

Lions as Coronation Gifts.

Col. Harrington, who is accompanying the envoy of King Menelik, Ras Miskonnen, the famous Abyssinian general, to the coronation of King Edward, has arrived ahead of the envoy's caravan. Col. Harrington brought with him 12 lions and 12 zebras. King Menelik's gift to King Edward.

Won't Get Rid of the Taxes. The British public, says the Chicago Tribune, will find that the war taxes will linger a little while longer.

Danger in Horseless Carriage. A horse is a vain thing for safety—but, says the Chicago Tribune, so is a horseless carriage.

PITH AND POINT.

Irish Maid—"Do you want a good beating, Master Jimmy, or do you not? Because, if you don't behave yourself, this minute, you'll get both."—Punch.

A man lost his job and his wife, instead of fretting about it, said that she was glad; that he really needed a vacation. That's looking on the bright side for you.—Atchison Globe.

"Unfortunate in love, you say?" "Well, rather. I always seem to select a girl who admires physical prowess, and then I find I have a rival who is bigger than I am."—Chicago Post.

Hilton—"I notice you never take off your hat when you address a lady." "No; I lost one girl by lifting my hat. She really appeared to fancy me until she saw my bald head. I don't run any risks now."—Boston Transcript.

Going for Good.—Crabbe—"To-day for the first time I was really delighted to hear Miss Nezdore's piano going." "Ascum—"Something worth listening to, eh?" "Crabbe—"I should say so. I heard the installment men taking it away."—Philadelphia Press.

Thrilling Moments.—"Johnnie," called the mother, "I want you to go to the store for me." "Wait a second, maw," replied the youth, who was absorbed in a five-cent volume; "Paperhole Pete has 37 injuns to kill, an' it'll only take him about two minutes."—Columbus (O.) State Journal.

THE GIANT CACTUS.

Wonders of the Natural World That Are Found Only in Our Southwestern Deserts.

No one ever saw the giant cactus on the sandy deserts of Africa; the primeval architects of the Nile never knew this motive for their colossal dreams, says Harriet Monroe, in Atlantic. Here alone do these tall monuments guard the graves of I worlds, and perhaps this very one I gaze on was scarcely begun when Ramezès was born. Day and night I question it, by sunlight and moonlight and the unfalling stars, until gradually the unfamiliar harmonies of its sun-searched life justify themselves to my soul. The sense of uncleanliness, of monstrosity, passes away; the emotion no longer appalls and reads me, but soothes with immensities of restfulness.

To go out on the desert day after day and meet these cacti is like whispering into the ear of the sphinx and listening at her locked lips. So wise they are, so old with the age of the world, so majestically still in those cataclysmic solitudes! And to go out in April and see them suddenly bloom is as though the lips of the sphinx should part and utter solemn words. A bunch of white flowers at the tip of the obelisk, flowers springing white and wonderful out of this dead, gaunt, prickly thing—is not that nature's consummate miracle, a symbol of resurrection more profound than the lily of the fields? And in April also the lesser cacti are abloom with gorgeous flaming colors—each dragon bears a jewel in its teeth as a tribute to the fervid sun. And the paloverde puts forth its delicate, downy, yellow plumage, and the sagebrush renews its silver. Even the changeless desert must follow the changing year, must greet the spring with renewal of life, must unroll its banners to the sun. And if a few drops of rain just moisten its crust, it is strange how suddenly the sternness of its mood will change; the entire face of the pale earth will become softly green in a night, gratefully veiling itself close with a silvery leafage tiny and tender and delicate; and masses of California poppies will spread out their patches of cloth of gold.

LOOK OUT FOR OPHTHALMIA.

New York Physicians Place the Disease on List of the Contagious Maladies.

Because of the discovery that ophthalmia, a disease of the eyes, is prevalent among a large proportion of the pupils in the public schools of New York city, the board of health has placed it on the list of contagious diseases, and physicians hereafter will be compelled to make reports of each case found in their private practice. Through investigations made in two of the public schools, where the eyes of about 2,000 children were examined, it was found that at least 18 per cent. had the disease. In one of the schools 20 per cent. of the children were afflicted, and in the other 15 per cent.

According to the physician who made the investigation, the disease may be contracted through using a handkerchief or towel that has been previously used by an afflicted person.

TOO MANY WEDDING GIFTS.

Express Agent at Greenwich, Conn., Resigns Because He Cannot Handle Them All.

—So many car loads of wedding presents have come to Greenwich, Conn., by express to be delivered to the May and June brides that the local agent, Charles D. Nowrey, and his assistants, Harry Burnett and George Jermain, have thrown up their positions. There have been numerous weddings among society folks this season, among which were the Lauder-Rowland and Rowland-Hubbell nuptials, and the agent found that delivering the hundreds of presents along with the usual run of business was too much for him. He found it impossible to deliver the gifts and other merchandise on time, although he and his force of four men worked 15 hours a day, and more weddings were coming, so finally in disgust he threw up the position.

FIND VEINS OF FREE GOLD.

Miners Rush to Newly-Discovered Region in Arizona That Promises Rich Returns.

Particulars reached Phoenix, Ariz., the other day of sensational gold strikes in Picocho, Blanco county, north of Castle creek. The main find was in Exposition group, where at 40 feet in depth a great body of ore filled with nuggets and flake gold was struck. Some of the ore assayed here showed \$125,000 to the ton, while none of the samples showed less than \$1,000. On the Joe Dany claims in the Tribby group another find of lesser richness was made. Scores of smaller finds have been made in the last few days and a tremendous rush into the district followed.

What Made Mark Twain Weep. Mark Twain wept when he visited the scene of his boyhood the other day, says the Chicago Record-Herald. He was probably thinking of the digestion he had when he left those dear old haunts.

DANGEROUS DISEASE.

Tuberculosis Declared to be Acute and Infectious Malady.

American Congress on Tuberculosis Takes Important Action—Makes Strong Recommendations of Preventive Measures.

The American congress on tuberculosis, which has just adjourned its session at New York city, adopted strong resolutions that "tuberculosis is an acute, infectious disease" and urging precautionary measures. The resolutions follow:

"Whereas, Tuberculosis is an infectious disease, ordinarily communicated from person to person by means of the dried sputum of a consumptive patient; and

"Whereas, The spread of tuberculosis could be largely controlled by proper care of such sputum and the enforcement of comparatively simple measures; therefore be it

"Resolved, By the American congress on tuberculosis, that the health authorities be urged to disseminate to the widest extent possible, through the public press and otherwise, correct information as to the manner in which this disease is produced and the means to be employed for its prevention.

"Resolved, That we believe it to be the duty of the national, state and municipal governments to enact rational methods for the prevention of tuberculosis, and we recommend the establishment of institutions for the care of indigent consumptives.

"Resolved, That there should be state and municipal supervision of all public conveyances for the transportation of passengers, and in view of the fact that spitting on the floors of public conveyances favors the spread of tuberculosis and is injurious to the public health, it is recommended that transportation companies be induced to pass and to enforce rules against this act.

"Resolved, That appropriations should be requested from state and municipal governments for the publication and distribution of literature as a means of education in the prevention of the spread of tuberculosis.

"Resolved, That all cases of tuberculosis should be reported by the attending physician to the health boards for the purpose of disinfection of houses occupied by consumptives."

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DOES AWAY WITH DYNAMOS.

Canary Island Scientist Utilizes Atmospheric Electricity Without Chemicals or Dynamos.

The Las Palmas correspondent of the London Daily Mail sends a remarkable account of a great scientific discovery. According to the correspondent, the discovery is a method of directly using atmospheric electricity without chemicals or dynamos, and practically applying it without any motive force. The discoverer is Clemente Fugueras, engineer of woods and forests for the Canary Islands, and for many years professor of physics at St. Augustin's college, Las Palmas, and long known as a scientific student.

Hitherto he has jealously guarded the secret of his labors, fearing that a premature revelation might rob him of his reward. Even now, while he claims to have entirely succeeded, he remains silent concerning the exact principles of his discovery.

He claims, however, to have invented a generator which can collect the electric fluid, to be able to store it, and to apply it to an infinite number of purposes; for instance, in connection with ships, railways and manufacturing. He says he expects the effect of his discovery will be a tremendous economic and industrial revolution. He will not give the key to his invention, but declares that the only extraordinary point about it is that it has taken so long to discover a simple scientific fact.

Prof. Fugueras is shortly going to Madrid and Berlin to patent his invention. A German electrical company is reported to have offered a large sum for the invention, while a syndicate in Barcelona has also made a generous offer. Neither advance has been accepted. This, the correspondent adds, is all that is possible to obtain at present. No opinion can be expressed as to the value of the discovery until further details are known.

The London Mail adds that it has learned from other sources that Prof. Fugueras has constructed a rough apparatus, by which he obtains a current of 350 volts, which he utilizes in lighting his house and driving a 30-horse power motor. He is shortly coming to London with a perfected working apparatus. His inventions comprise a generator, motor, and sort of governor or regulator. This whole apparatus is so simple that a child could work it.

TALKS OF PAST AUTOS.

Thomas Edison Given the Ride of His Life—Can Build Machine That Will Beat the Wind.

As the result of a wild cross-country ride in a big gasoline automobile with E. E. Britton, of the Automobile Club of America, Thomas A. Edison is working on a new device for his storage battery. "I learned several important points in my ride," said Mr. Edison. "I have drawn plans to work them out, but I cannot make them public."

Mr. Edison's ride ended at midnight, when the Britton machine ran into an iron bar on the road near Paterson and punctured a tire. A farmer's rig was hired to take Mr. Edison and Mr. Britton home.

"I never rode so fast in my life," said Mr. Edison. "We speeded up and down the avenue so rapidly that all I saw was a streak of trees." Mrs. Edison and her daughter were next taken aboard the machine and given the ride of their lives.

"I can make an electric automobile that will go so fast a man cannot sit in it," Mr. Edison said. The speed of storage machines is unlimited. I am no sport and do not care to ride fast, so I don't think I'll ever make such a machine. It is a simple matter and all depends on how fast a man can ride and live."

MARRIED ELOPING DAUGHTER.

Married Minister Performs Ceremony for His Own Child, Set Recognizing Rev.

Rev. Thomas Brown, a prominent clergyman of Tioga county, Pa., married his eloping daughter to J. W. Stone, of Allegheny, by mistake. Dr. Brown, who is very near-sighted, was spending two weeks at Bowersville, in New York state, near the state line. His daughter, Miss Susie, a student at Bryn Mawr, he supposed was on a visit to friends in Philadelphia. She had, however, arranged to meet young Stone and elope. After a two-week stay in that city Stone brought her to his aunt's residence, near Bowersville, and the couple drove to the parsonage.

The regular minister was there, but Rev. Mr. Brown performed the ceremony, not recognizing his daughter in her traveling dress. She saw the dilemma she was in, but gave her mother's name, which was her middle name, and at the conclusion of the ceremony and the signing of the certificate made known her identity to her father. He was extremely indignant at first but a reconciliation has been effected.

Make No Difference to Public.

The awful discovery has been made that some of the English crown jewels are paste. Luckily, however, says the Chicago Record-Herald, the public will not have a chance to get near enough to them to see which ones are spurious.

Not Worth Saving.

Mrs. Laura Dainty Peilham thinks 48¢ time is to be the salvation of American music, and the Chicago Record-Herald remarks: "But is American music worth saving under such a condition?"

Roadhouse in the Yukon.

Roadhouses, where meals are served for \$1.50 each, have been established at convenient distances in the upper Yukon country.

ACCEPTS THE INVITATION.

President Roosevelt Will Be the Guest of His "Terrors" at Los Angeles, Cal.

President Roosevelt has accepted the invitation to be the guest of Teddy's Terrors at Los Angeles, Cal., next spring. John F. Hughes, who organized Teddy's Terrors, accompanied by Representative McLaughlin, of California, called at the white house and once more extended the invitation, which was formally presented some weeks ago. It will be remembered the invitation was burned upon a calfskin, couched in cowboy language, which was severely criticized as being anything but good form, the cowboys taking great liberty with the president.

Col. Roosevelt said he would be the guest of Teddy's Terrors next spring. Another invitation has been extended the president. Former Representative William M. Springer, of Illinois, counsel for the National Live Stock association, invited the president to be the guest of the organization at its annual convention to be held at Kansas City, Mo., on January 13 to 16 next, and to address the convention. There will be 1,500 members of the association present. President Roosevelt took the matter under advisement.

SKY SCRAPER FOR LONDON.

American Office Building Will Be Built in the Great English Metropolis.

That huge American office building for London announced some time ago and afterward declared to be impossible, is not only to be built, but work on it is to begin in August unless there is some further hitch in the negotiations with the London county council, the body from whom the land must be rented. The company wanted 999 years' lease of the land, but it is said that the county council would listen to nothing more than 99 years and that the business has been arranged on that basis. The company is to pay \$150,000 a year rent for the land and at the expiration of the 99 years their \$10,000,000 building will become the property of the municipality. On the other hand, the site on the Strand at the foot of the broad thoroughfare now being cut through to Holborn is undoubtedly the best site in London for a skyscraper building. It is said that the company expects to have its 16-story structure opened ready for occupancy 18 months from the time the ground is broken.

NO MORE CARPET TACKS.

Indiana Inventor Claims to Have a New Scheme to Replace Them.

Harry O. Butler, of Franklin, Ind., has invented an appliance for holding carpets, and is intended to do away with the old carpet tack system. The idea is clear as the article is a plain plate of light durable metal, one-half by one-quarter of an inch in size, with a hook which holds the carpet. In the plate are holes for screws or small nails, which hold the plate fast to the floor next to the quarter round. The hook is pointed over so that the carpet is laid on the floor and hooked on these permanent hooks as the carpet is stretched. The carpet can be put down or removed in a very short time, and the person experiences no mashed fingers or other painful accidents usual in laying carpets. These small metal hooks are made of very durable metal and will last several years. Mr. Butler has already received several hundred offers for his patent, but has not yet accepted any of them.

KAISER GIVES UP SOUVENIRS.

Emperor Turns Over to Museum the Presents Made to Prince Henry in America.

Emperor William has turned over several hundred souvenirs of the trip of Prince Henry to the United States to the Hohenzollern museum. Conspicuous in this collection is a cartoon representing President Roosevelt in the uniform of the German garde du corps and Emperor William in the uniform of an officer of the United States army, both bowing profoundly. Below this cartoon are copies of the emperor's message to President Roosevelt announcing Prince Henry's trip and President Roosevelt's reply. The collection includes a silver plate engraved with the music of the German song sung by the American sangerbund, which took the Emperor William prize. Copies of engrossed resolutions presented to Prince Henry by various societies and menu cards in gold frames are also in the collection.

WEALTH OF INDIANAFARMS.

State Makes Good Showing from an Agricultural Point of View According to Census Statistics.

The census bureau has issued a bulletin giving the final agricultural statistics of Indiana. It shows that the 221,897 farms enumerated in Indiana on June 1, 1900, were valued at \$841,733,340, of which 82 per cent. represents the land and improvements thereon other than buildings. The value of farm implements and machinery was \$27,320,370, and of live stock \$109,558,761.

These make the total value of farm property \$978,616,471. The total value of farm products in 1899 was \$204,450,196, of which 40 per cent. was in animal products and 60 per cent. in crops, including forest products. The total value of farm products exceeded the total gross farm income of Indiana for 1899 was \$115,990,796 and the gross income upon investment 16 per cent.

NOW BUYS CATTLE.

Britain Makes Contract for Texas Steers for South Africa.

The Boer Farms to Be Restocked with Animals from the Great Southwestern Ranches—Fifty Thousand Head Purchased.

One of the most comprehensive deals in Texas cattle had its initiation in the shipment of 650 head of stock from Pecos, Fla., particularly of which have just been given out, at Fort Worth, Tex. The shipment was made by Maude & Carrow and is the beginning of shipments of thousands of Texas cattle to be used in restocking Boer farms in South Africa.

Walter D. Maude was at one time a member of the Sixty-seventh Highlanders, later the owner of the Moon ranch in the Texas Panhandle and later a lieutenant in a British regiment in the Boer war. At present he holds a major's commission in the British army. Richard Carrow, the other member of the firm, is the owner of the Windhorst ranch in Clay county.

It is understood that these two men have a contract to supply the British government with breeding cattle in South Africa. The shipment from Pecos consisted of blooded stock, none of which was over three years old. The animals were purchased at various points in Texas in small lots.

It is the purpose of Maude & Carrow to follow this shipment with others aggregating 50,000 head. The point of embarkation will be Natal, and the point of shipment in this country in future will be Galveston.

HUNG OLD GLORY UPSIDE DOWN

Lady Newborough Had Her Attention Called to Mistake by Telephone.

Lady Newborough, who before her marriage was Miss Grace Bruce Carr, is an American still in sentiment. The other day, when everybody was hanging out bunting in honor of the peace news, she got out an American flag with her own hands and flung it to the breeze from a window at her house in Green street, London. Unfortunately her ladyship did not notice that she had hung the flag upside down. It hung in that position until another American woman passed that way. She noticed the flag, and, becoming indignant, went to the nearest telephone. She rang up Lady Newborough's house. The butler said Lady Newborough was not at home.

"What is the trouble in the house?" she inquired.

"Beg pardon, ma'am, what did you say?" came the answer.

"Why, you have got the American flag upside down. That means distress," she explained to the astonished butler.

"Thank you, ma'am," he said, finally, "and what name shall I give her ladyship?"

"Just tell her I am an American woman and a friend."

When the lady passed down the street a few minutes later the flag had been righted.

SERVANT GIRL PROBLEM.

Driven to Despair by Impossibility of Securing Help Six Families Establish Community Kitchen.

A number of women of Kenosha, Wis., have grown tired of seeking a solution for the servant girl problem, and in order to put an end to these troubles plans have been made for the opening of a community kitchen. Six families are interested.

For some time there has been a dearth of cooks and housemaids in the city. Girls have been imported from Chicago, Japanese and Chinese cooks have been secured, and even southern negroes have been imported, but lured by the offers of factory managers the girls have gradually drifted into the factories until at the present time it is almost impossible to secure a housemaid.

A large house will be secured for use as a kitchen, and a chef will be employed who will do all the cooking necessary for the six families. An assistant will deliver the victuals to the different homes. The women are enthusiastic over the scheme, and fall to see any of the drawbacks which have been suggested by the husbands.

AMERICAN PAPER FOR BERLIN

German Capital to Have Up-to-Date Newspaper Conducted by Americans.

American capitalists are negotiating for the purchase of Das Kleine Journal of Berlin with the view of reorganizing and conducting it on American lines. It is intended to install American equipment, reporters, and artists, and it is hoped that the paper's strong Americanism will eventually make it the mouthpiece of the kaiser's foreign policy.

Joseph Herrings, of New York, who is conducting the preliminary negotiations, said: "We will hunt for news instead of waiting for its delivery anonymously in accordance with German traditions. We will have daily cables from the United States, which, except on such occasions as Prince Henry's visit, is a dark continent to the minds of German newspaper readers."