

Humorous Department.

His Objection.—A trolley company was contemplating running its line so that it would join a certain small town at the time practically removed from the outer world, with a growing city. In the course of the hearing one farmer, who was prominent in affairs in the small town, argued persistently against the railway entering the village. But he advanced no real reason for his antagonism until the counsel for the railroad asked him: "Mr. Perkins, just what is your objection to our line?" "Then Perkins straightened up. He looked defiantly at every one in the room and said: "This is a small village. We ain't got many folks here. If the trolley is brought here it will be easy to get out, and we might lose all the folks we have. That's my objection."

Hard to Satisfy.—"It is impossible to satisfy some sightseers," said a man who has country relatives in the New York Sun. "A backwoods cousin visited me last week. One of the sights I showed him was the crowds. The thousands and hundreds of thousands of people struggling for a foothold at bridges and subway stations struck him momentarily dumb. When his voice came back the first question he asked was, 'Where on earth do you get enough stuff to feed all those people?' I answered that by taking him on a trip through the produce district. I steered him for miles through head-high ramps of meat, poultry, vegetables and fruit. At the end of the trip his first question was 'Where on earth do you get enough stuff to feed all those people?' I answered that by taking him on a trip through the produce district. I steered him for miles through head-high ramps of meat, poultry, vegetables and fruit. At the end of the trip his first question was 'Where on earth do you get enough stuff to feed all those people?'"

"Pakin' Powdah."—George W. Cable, the novelist, used to know, in his early days, a little colored girl named Katie. She was somewhat hard of hearing and often when he would tell her something she would say "Huh."

He tried of Katie's grunting this way, so at least he said: "Katie, whenever I say anything to you that you don't understand, never say 'Huh' to me. Say 'Beg pardon.' That's ever so much nicer. Now, don't forget, Katie."

About a week later he found her swinging on the gate. Anxious to test her memory, he asked: "Well, Katie, what is it you're saying to Mr. Cable instead of 'Huh'?" "Katie's eyes sparkled as she quickly answered, 'Bakin' powdah.'"

Pitcher Wanted Overtime.—In Minnesota a pitcher named Jensen, was the star pitcher of one of the league teams. The score was 0 to 0 in the ninth inning. As his team started for the field to begin the tenth he suddenly dropped the ball and started for the bench. "Hey, what's the matter?" cried his manager. Jensen held up a large brown hand for attention, and then made oratory: "Meester Manajer, Aye ban gude hard work. Aye ban villing dat Aye skal peetch das nine ennings. But fen Aye bana ask dat Aye skal go das overtime, Aye bana made kick. Aye bana good union mans an' Aye want overtime pay!" And it is said that the manager had to promise him five dollars on the side before he'd go back and finish the game.

Purely For Amusement.—John Kendrick Bangs was moving his goods and chattels from his home at Yonkers, N. Y. It was a rainy day, and before the house stood three large moving vans and the lawn was covered with furniture of all sorts. Mr. Bangs stood in the downpour expediting the movers, when a lady, a neighbor with whom he was acquainted, passed and smiling, asked: "Oh, are you moving, Mr. Bangs?" "No, indeed, Mrs.," replied the humorist. "You see, it is such a beautiful day that I thought I would get all the furniture out of my house and take it out for a ride."

At the Top Notch.—Does he look respectable?" said the eminently proper head of the eminently proper firm to the man who had recommended an unfortunate acquaintance for a clerkship. "Look respectable?" was the reply. "Good heavens! yes. He looks so respectable that all the spooning couples in the park stop spooning when he walks by. Can respectability go further?" The eminently proper head thought it could not, and gladly dispensed patronage.

Two of a Kind.—One night Pat was strolling around a show, when the showman called him and told him that a lion had just fled and offered him \$25 to take its place, and Pat, being out of work, jumped at the chance.

As soon as he was in the cage another door opened and in walked a tiger. Pat was so frightened that he backed to the other side of the cage, trembling all over.

When he had given up all hope a voice from the tiger exclaimed: "Stop trembling; Pat, I'm an Irishman myself."

What It Was For.—The late Joseph Jefferson once received a cable dispatch from his son Thomas, who was in London, asking his father to remit to him 100 pounds.

The father was doubtful, and so he wired back: "What do you want it for?" "Back came the answer: "For Tom."

This so tickled the old man that the money was forthcoming.

A man who had been troubled with bronchitis for a long time called on a rather noted doctor. After a few questions the doctor told him he had a very common ailment that would readily yield to treatment.

Miscellaneous Reading.

WORSE THAN FLIES.

Of the Two Pests Rats are the More Dangerous.

The rat—not the kind milady used to wear in her hair, but the four-legged, bewhiskered rodent—is severely reckoned as a disease breeder by R. H. Creel, passed assistant surgeon, United States public health service, in a public health report issued from the government printing office. "For all the parasites that have their being in and around the habitation of man, the rat has less to justify its existence than any other," the report says. "As devoid of any redeeming traits as the fly, that has been the subject of a nation-wide sanitary crusade, the rat is a greater pest because of its deprivations and its possibilities for harm in the transmission and perpetuation of bubonic plague in a community. The latter consideration is of more serious import in seaport towns, wherever they may be, and in those localities where plague has once appeared, but with the world-wide march of bubonic plague in no city should its advent be regarded as improbable. "For anti-plague work in the United States and its insular possessions—the Philippines, Hawaii and Porto Rico—there has been spent in recent years by the Federal government, through the United States public health service and by the different local government forces, a vast sum. The loss to commercial interests in all these places, due to interference of shipping facilities and sanitary restrictions by other countries, has made the sum actually spent for the plague work seem as 'a drop in the bucket.' "Bubonic plague is endemic on every continent in the world and in practically all countries excepting possibly those of continental Europe. In our own country any laxity of sanitary surveillance of the endemic center on the Pacific coast would result in the broadcast spread of the disease. The same will apply to all endemic centers. It is a question of central vigilance. "By means of trapping percentages covering a period of one year it was determined that the rodent population in San Francisco was slightly in excess of the human population. In Porto Rico, where the same method of computation was employed, the portion of the rate and human inhabitants in cities was about equal. "In the rural district of Indiana and other states the number of rats on any farm or plantation will easily average three or four times the number of persons on the estate, and in the grain or cane producing area the production will be manifold. In cane-producing tropical and semi-tropical countries, such as Porto Rico, all the West Indies, the Hawaiian Islands and the Philippines, where the roof rat and the field rat predominate, the rat population is incredibly large. On one cane plantation in Porto Rico, where there was less than 500 persons, within six months there were killed 25,000 rodents. "It is therefore evident that an estimate of the rodent population of the United States as equal to that of the human census would be well below the probable number. In our insular dependencies—Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines—where the cane fields are especially overrun with rats, the rodent population is undoubtedly several times the human population. "Computing the upkeep of the rat as one-half a cent a day, and estimating one rat to each person, the sum of \$167,000,000 annually is lost to the pest. "The extermination of rats is not nearly so easy as fly destruction. An adult rat will, on the average, produce young six times yearly and from six to twelve young in each litter. There have been known cases where a full-grown female littered twelve times in one year. A rat can produce when three months old. This remarkable fecundity, together with the instinctive secretive habits of the rat, which, being an animal of nocturnal habits, lies hidden during the day and is active at night, while his human foe is asleep, readily accounts for the large rat population in any locality and emphasizes the difficulty of rat destruction. "Rats can be destroyed by trapping, by poisoning and by using natural enemies, as certain breeds of cats and dogs. To insure success to such measures it will be necessary to curtail the rat's food supply by properly disposing of garbage and table refuse and by preventing rats from gaining access to such food as is contained in pantries, groceries, markets, stables, etc. The municipal government will have to assist the efforts of citizens along this line by creating and enforcing suitable ratproof laws. "Merely to keep premises clean and free from rubbish will be of but little benefit, as rodents generally, even when abundant rubbish is available, prefer more secure cover, as that of beneath floors and within double walls and ceilings. So along with other measures for the destruction of rats, all buildings, chicken yards, garbage, receptacles, sidewalks and plank areas must be built or repaired to prevent rat harboring. "Ratproofing by elevation is chiefly applicable to small and medium sized frame dwellings. The intent is to have sufficient elevation—about two feet—so that the ground area beneath will be as exposed and free from covert as unbuilt-upon land. Marginal ratproofing will suffice in more pretentious dwellings, where special care can be exercised to prevent rats from gnawing through the plank floors. Chicken pens can be protected by concrete walls at the periphery, sunk into the ground two feet or more, with one-half inch mesh wire netting covering sides and top. Garbage cans should be of serviceable metal with properly fitting tops. "These precautions against rat harborage and for the protection of food supplies, in connection with careful trapping and poisoning, will be attended with considerable success toward the destruction of rats."

CANALS IN UNITED STATES

Four Great Artificial Waterways to be Opened in 1914.

The year of 1914 might appropriately be termed the year of canals, writes Holland in the Philadelphia Ledger. Within twenty-four hours after the official announcement from Massachusetts reported that the canal which will cut off the forearm of Massachusetts, Cape Cod, at the shoulder will be opened in the year 1914 and opened to navigation within the year, there came also authentic information from Texas stating that the early in the year 1914 the canalizing which has been in progress at and near Houston would be completed. When this work is done there will be a ship channel to Houston with an average depth of 27 feet of water. The Cape Cod canal will have a depth sufficient for any but the very largest steamships. In the year 1914, in all probability, the greater part of the work for the improvement of the Erie canal will have been completed and if the great terminal basin which is to be established at the west end of Long Island Sound, New York harbor were also finished, this stupendous canal proposition, which is to cost about two-thirds as much as the Panama canal, will also be ready to float barges of a thousand tons capacity. In the year 1914 the Panama canal will be made ready for the commerce that will be offered, so that in the early winter of 1915 this greatest public work will also attain its achievement to that of the other canal builders. Of these canals the one now under construction at Cape Cod to connect Buzzard's Bay with Massachusetts Bay is the only one which represents the investment of private capital. The Cape Cod canal represents the initial portion of the proposition laid down nearly 100 years ago by John C. Calhoun, when he was secretary of war in the administration of President Monroe. The canal, which would shorten the distance from Boston to New York, and would also make possible practically safe navigation by avoiding Cape Cod, was outlined by Calhoun as the beginning of artificial intercoastal canal systems stretching from Massachusetts Bay to the Gulf of Mexico. Apart of that system is now in operation and the initial part will be completed next year. At the remote southwest, as compared with Cape Cod, Houston is to celebrate the construction of an artificial ship channel by means of which ocean going vessels will be able to dock at Houston. The government of the United States is sponsoring this canal with the abundant assistance of Houston herself, and the government's engineers are perfecting this artificial channel. There is to be a turning basin at the upper end of this channel and the city of Houston will build as perfect a system of wharfage as is to be found in the United States upon the front of the Texas coast. The government, however, exacts from the city a guarantee that commerce will be free and Houston did not grudgingly accept this provision of the contract, since the enterprising citizens of that flourishing city had a keen understanding of what free wharfage and a free water front would mean in the way of tempting commerce to utilize the new ocean front at Houston. Whatever may be the commercial influence consequent upon the opening of four waterways to navigation the fact that these artificial navigable waters will be completed in the year 1914 is of itself enough to authorize the designation of that date as the great American canal year.

History in Stamps.

Every one who has collected stamps must have noticed the surprising absence of sovereign's heads from those of Turkey. That this is so is due to the fact that Mohammedans consider a representation of the human face or figure unlawful. Therefore Turkish stamps carry the crescent, which the Turks borrowed from the Byzantines after the fall of Constantinople. He also used a complicated, arbitrary sign, supposed to be the signature of the sultan. Egyptian and Grecian stamps are peculiarly expressive of the history of the countries which they represent. The pyramids, the mystic Sphinx, tall palm trees outlined against the night sky, a train of camels stopping to drink from the river Nile, all carry us back to the very beginning of history and remind us that Egypt, the mother of civilization, is still called by her ancient name and is yet a growing power in the world she has known so long. Beautiful, artistic Greece, the home of beauty, from which our sculptors and architects draw their finest inspirations, gives us pure classic lines on her stamps, which show the famous discus thrower, Hermes of the winged feet, or a chariot race, or a tall, slim vase, an antique mold. The stamps of Persia show the lion and the sun—the lion as a symbol of power and the sun as an emblem of the ancient fire worship of the Persians. Korea displays the plum blossom on her stamps. It is the royal flower of her last dynasty, a dynasty which reigned for 500 years, until the hardy little Japanese wrested it away. The Mexican stamp bears the coat of arms of the country, an eagle on a cactus, holding a serpent in its talons. This device is the outgrowth of a legend that the first Aztec settlers chose the site of their city from seeing an eagle so engaged, and situated that spot.—New York Evening Post.

Man Lifting Magnet.

An interesting experiment was recently made at the works of one of the large German manufacturing firms with one of their lifting magnets. A chain secured to the ground at one end and carrying an iron ball at its free end was raised to a vertical position by the approach of the lifting magnet suspended from a crane, says Scientific American.

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Where She Swept.

Here Bridgid, see how dirty it is under the bed? Bridgid—Yes'm. Mrs. Murphy—Haven't I always impressed upon you that you must sweep under the beds? Bridgid—Av course, ma'am; an' how could I not do that if I hadn't swept it under?

SHEEP IN KENTUCKY.

Dog Tax is Levied to Protect the Wool Growers.

Under date of April 3th, you wrote this office asking for information on the following questions concerning the sheep industry of the state: a—What breed predominates? b—Do farmers breed for mutton or wool? c—Are sheep increasing in Kentucky? d—Are there any large flocks in Kentucky? e—Has Kentucky any laws for the protection of sheep against dogs? f—Are they enforced? g—Are owners remunerated for loss by dogs? h—Does Kentucky ship many spring lambs? i—How many? j—If so, to what market? k—Is there any wool shipped to? In answer to these questions I desire to say: a—As far as pure-bred sheep are concerned, the Hampshire and Shropshire predominate, followed by Southdowns and Dorsets in the order named. The ewes are mostly what are called Mountain ewes or Western ewes as the case may be. The Mountain ewe is nothing more than a scrub that has been bred in the mountains of Virginia, the Carolinas, Tennessee and Kentucky for many years. The Western ewe is usually a more or less black-faced ewe with some Hampshire or Shropshire. b—The farmers breed mostly for spring lambs that are usually sold something like 25 per cent in May, 50 per cent in June and 25 per cent in July. Wool is simply a by-product. c—The number of sheep in Kentucky is gradually increasing year by year. d—Few men in Kentucky have flocks of sheep exceeding 500. We know of but one flock reaching as many as 2,000. e—Kentucky's tax of \$1.00 each on dogs is collected and sent to the sheep fund. If the claims for sheep killed or maimed by dogs in any county are in excess of the amount of dog tax, the fund is prorated among the claimants. If there is any fund unclaimed, it goes to the common school fund of that county. This year there was something like \$40,000.00 turned over to the school funds in a few of the counties of the state. This only occurred where the number of dogs was comparatively large, while the number of sheep was comparatively small. Where the sheep conditions exist the farmer did not obtain more than \$3 1-3 per cent for the value of the sheep killed by dogs. f—As to the enforcement of the law, this varies. Nothing like a complete assessment of the dogs is made, as a rule. g—As to whether or not owners are remunerated for loss by dogs, this is answered above. h—As to Kentucky shipping many spring lambs—Yes. The Kentucky and Tennessee spring lamb crop is a very important one. About the time the run of western lambs ends at Chicago, the spring lamb crop in Kentucky and Tennessee starts off a new year. In May and June there are often days in which Louisville is the greatest lamb market in the United States. i—The number of lambs marketed each year in Kentucky will be in excess of a half-million. j—Most of these lambs go to Louisville or Cincinnati where they are purchased for eastern markets. The wool is usually sold to dealers in Louisville, Lexington or Cincinnati. It is then rehandled and shipped east. In conclusion I desire to say that Kentucky produces nearly a million sheep annually. The annual sale of lambs and wool amounts to nearly five millions of dollars. While the dog tax of the state is more or less imperfect, it has had a tendency to bring about an increase in the number of sheep in the state. There is nothing like as many sheep in Kentucky as the conditions justify. There are many thousands of acres of land well adapted to sheep pastures that practically bring no revenue as they are handled. The price of lambs, for mutton and for wool that have prevailed for the last several years have paid well the flock master.—Hon. J. W. Newman, commissioner of agriculture in Kentucky, for Our Country.

RICH IN IRON ORE BEDS

America's Deposits Make It Leader in Iron Production.

A year or so after the late William H. Barnum retired from active politics he occupied himself in a study of the iron ore resources of that part of the United States with which he was familiar, says a New York letter. Senator Barnum possessed great furnaces in the northwest corner of Connecticut. He was familiar with the iron ore resources of the upper Harlem valley and also of north-western Connecticut and the adjacent country. His investigation justified him in saying that he believed that the iron mines of upper New York were practically inexhaustible. He also conveyed the idea that at the rate of increase in American iron production it would be many years before these mines would be exhausted. The governmental agitation to prevent monopolistic control of the iron ore of the United States has been of great educational benefit. It has served to teach the people what the magnitude of the iron ore deposit of the United States really is. A government commission recently reported that in New York state alone there probably lie beneath the surface iron mines of almost inconceivable extent and richness. Some of them would require a great deal of surface excavation to reach. These are in the central part of the state. The Adirondack ores, which can be conveniently shipped by means of Lake Champlain, are of such magnitude that it has sometimes been said that, notwithstanding the long-continued working of these mines, nevertheless they have not begun to yield a tithe of their crude wealth. Among the other very great developments in the south of the natural resources that of the exploitation of the richness in iron is among the greatest. The experts and the governmental authorities are inclined to the opinion that, even if there were exhaustion of the mines in the northern part of the United States, within the next 25 or 30 years, the iron ore resources of the south and west of this country would still enable these mines to make good what is lost in the north. Nearly thirty years ago the late

Place for Piety.—Every day I learn something about this old town," said the city salesman. "Yesterday I picked up this item: "I was invited to luncheon by a young man engaged in evangelistic work. The restaurant he suggested lunching at was several blocks out of our way. As I was in a hurry, I proposed some place nearer at hand, but he insisted upon that particular restaurant, so we went there. It was a nice place, very clean and the cooking good. The only peculiarity I noticed was a group of clerical looking men in the rear of the room. "Are those fellows all clergymen?" I asked. "Yes," said my friend, "they are curates and missionaries who eat here every day. If obliged to lunch out anywhere they try to come here, because this restaurant has the reputation of being the only place in town where a man can ask a blessing without perhaps attracting disagreeable attention. "The proprietor used to be pretty strong in the preaching line himself, and he encourages the blessing habit. Of course, many people eat here who do not say grace, but so many of the patrons do say it that the place has been nicknamed the 'blessing' restaurant. "And then before beginning our meal my friend prayed, and as nobody ever turned around to look at us I found that the restaurant indeed merited its novel reputation."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Better Than Nothing.—The moonlight shone on the lonely house on the hill, where eal was peacefully hushed in sleep. A dark form sat in the shadow of the porch. Suddenly he moved as a soft whistle heralded someone's approach. "That you, mate?" he whispered hoarsely, as a stealthy figure approached in the darkness. "Yes," came the answer. "What ye doin' with that dog?" he muttered, as his burglar pal approached. "Well," answered his confederate, "there's nothing worth takin' in the house and it's bad luck to come away empty-handed, so I brought along the watchdog, and these burglar alarms."—Philadelphia Record.

IS YORKVILLE SATISFIED

The Evidence is Convincing. The Testimony Open to Investigation. Before a statement can be accepted here, it must be supported by local testimony—by the evidence of someone residing in Yorkville. Statements from unknown people in remote places may be true; but we cannot prove them. Here is a statement by a Yorkville man: R. J. Herndon, Main St., Yorkville, S. C., says: "Doan's Kidney Pills which I got at the York Drug Store, certainly helped me and I am glad to recommend them. Often my back felt weak and I had lumbago. Doan's Kidney Pills gave me immediate and complete relief from these troubles."

For sale by all dealers. Price, 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

INTEREST

There are more kinds of interest than the kind you pay for money when you borrow from a bank. There is a PERSONAL INTEREST, the kind that the officers of THIS BANK feel in its customers—an interest which prompts us to do whatever we possibly can to encourage and to aid those who give us their patronage. Peace advocates can see where humanity is best backed by the expenditure of war. Our annual American liquor bill, to say nothing of tobacco, is five times our total expense for armaments, penalties for interest on war debts. If our foolish war will we buy that much more liquid waste? The rate at which people plunge into the purchase of automobiles excites apprehension lest the national capital be impaired and panics precipitated by this diversion of money into unproductive objects. But we are spending only a billion dollars a year for automobiles, hardly more than a third of the expenditure for liquor. The automobile is not wholly waste, perhaps not over half. The liquor and tobacco expense is entirely waste, resulting in no return whatsoever in the way of physical, moral or economic strength. Evidently no small number of us are off at our present stage of development without money as with it. This includes both rich and poor. We can safely grow in wealth, it seems, only as we grow in morals.—From Nebraska State Journal.

FOOD BEST MEDICINE.

Many of the most familiar fruits and vegetables have distinct medicinal values. The proper attention to the things we eat, then, will make them serve both the purposes of food and medicine, and will enable us to save some of the money spent on remedies and doctor bills. The following are some articles of diet which are known to have medicinal qualities: Apples, carrots and Brazil nuts are excellent for sufferers from constipation. Asparagus stimulates the kidneys. Bananas are beneficial to sufferers from chest complaints. Beets are fattening and good for people who want to put on flesh. So are potatoes. Celery and onions are nerve tonics. Cranberries are astringent and correct the liver when it is suffering from inaction caused by overeating. Dates are nourishing and also prevent constipation. Grape juice is a laxative, but the skin and seeds are likely to cause constipation. Honey is a good substitute for cod liver oil. Lemon juice is excellent as a gargle for sore throat. Lettuce has a soothing effect on the nerves and is excellent for sufferers from insomnia. Onions are conductive to sleep. They quiet the nerves and are good for colds. Parsnips, like sarsaparilla, are good for the blood and to tone up the system. Watermelons are good for a torpid liver, but they should be avoided by gouty people. Water cress is an excellent blood purifier.—Kansas City Star.

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Geo. W. Williams

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