

WASHINGTON NEWS NOTES.

Items of Current Gossip Gathered by Our Regular Correspondent.

Washington, May 7.—Looking into the House of Representatives yesterday I found two members still lingering in their seats, pulling out letters from their desks and strewing the floor with fragments. They looked lone some and probably felt "like one who treads lone the banquet hall deserted."

It is generally agreed that the House got ahead of the Senate in the wind-up, Uncle Joe and other prominent members having seconded the indignation speech of Bourke Cockran concerning the separations of the President and Senate.

Secretary Taft knows perfectly well that that is not the way the stars and stripes were raised in various parts of the Philippine Islands while he was governor there. Acclamations instead of execrations. Does he really think there is at least resemblance between the two?

There is no doubt that the tariff question in its various phases will be prominent in the platforms of both parties and in the fall campaign. The Republicans will exclaim "We stand pat! But when we think the tariff needs revision, we'll revise it."

Mr. Hearst is a particularly busy man. He spends some time every day at the spacious residence on Lafayette Park, where a boy babe looks up from a cradle and calls him "papa."

The hammock season has arrived. A large stock to select from at Osteen's Book Store.

JAPANESE POETRY.

It is Confined to Lyrical Effusions of the Utmost Brevity.

Japanese poetry is absolutely confined to lyrical effusions of the utmost brevity. The Japanese poem is generally limited to three, four or five lines and seldom exceeds a few dozen.

FEMINE INTUITION.

The Philosophy of the Girl at the Candy Counter.

The girl at the bonbon counter put up five large boxes of judiciously selected candy under the personal supervision of a nervous young man.

ANIMALS WITH HANDS.

The Use of the Paws in Conveying Food to the Mouth.

Kangaroos use their hands very readily to hold food in and to put it to their mouths. As their fore legs are so short that they have to browse in a stooping position, they seem pleased when able to secure a large bunch of cabbage or other vegetable provender and to hold it in their hands to eat.

To see many of the smaller rodents—ground squirrels, prairie dogs and marmots—hold their food, usually in both paws, is to learn a lesson in the dexterous use of hands without thumbs.

Best Fed Sailors in the World.

The navy ration is of course provided for by law, and the daily diet of the enlisted man must conform in some degree to this prescribed regime, but in finite is the variety and ample is the dietary realm of Jack, the sailor.

AN OLD CHURCH BELL.

IT CAME FROM LISBON AND HANGS IN A NANTUCKET CHURCH.

The Story of Its Purchase by Captain Clasy and Its Transportation to This Country—A Very Good Clock and a Very Fine Bell.

Beneath the outlook in a Nantucket church is the belfry, in which swings the "old Spanish bell." Knowing that this is now a Unitarian church, the visitor will be surprised to see a Catholic cross on the bell.

A plague was raging in Lisbon and certain people in that city prayed to the Virgin Mary for the cessation of the plague and vowed to place a set of six bells in the Church of the Good Jesus of the Mountain if their prayers were heard.

At last Dacosta raised and struck the bell whose history we are describing. Captain Cary was delighted with the result. "Ah, Clasy," he said, "you need look no further. That's the bell you want. She is a beauty. She sounds on B."

So Captain Clasy bought the bell, and it was brought to Nantucket by Captain Cary, whose vessel was going home first. In Lisbon, just before he set sail, Captain Cary heard of the declaration of war with Great Britain.

The bell was landed in Nantucket and placed in the store cellar of Samuel Cary, where it remained until 1815, when it was purchased and placed in the tower where it now hangs.

The agents offered to pay \$1 a pound for the bell. Since the bell weighs 1,575 pounds, this would have made the price \$1,575, making a net profit of \$1,075 above the price paid for the bell and \$1,225 above the amount contributed by the society.

After the bell had been in use a little while the agents of the historic Old South church in Boston heard of it, and they sent a letter to the agents of the South church in Nantucket, saying that they had a very good clock in their tower, but no bell; that they had heard that the South church in Nantucket had a very fine bell, and they would like to know for how much the bell could be bought.

The Nantucketers replied that they had a very fine bell in their tower, but no clock; that they had heard that the Old South church had a very fine tower clock, and that they would like to know the price of the clock.

What Did She Mean? Kitty—Do you think Nellie Breeze is real nice? Bessie—I don't know. Why? Kitty—I told her Fred Simmons gave me a very flattering compliment, and she said any compliment that Fred could give me must be flattering.—Boston Transcript.

The Dominant Janitor.

Mrs. McCall—And what did you say your eldest boy's full name was? Mrs. De Coursey—Michael Brannigan De Coursey. Mrs. McCall—Well—er—that's rather odd.

The Same Brand.

"I really must send the cook away. George; she uses such dreadful language sometimes."

GERMAN WORK PEOPLE.

Their Amusements Are Few and Mostly Confined to Sunday.

Amusements play a comparatively small part in the lives of German work people, and such as they have are mostly confined to Sunday. Games have not taken hold of them; they go to no football or cricket matches, although there are matches, and other classes in Germany show a growing taste for games and sports.

HERBERT SPENCER.

He Was a Great Phrase Maker and Had Some Odd Ways.

Herbert Spencer was no linguist. Because of eye strain which affected his health he did not even know German. His pamphlet on education was, however, translated into fifteen languages, including Japanese.

He was a bachelor and long lived in boarding houses. Finally he set up an establishment of his own, where he could have about him people of his own choosing. A favorite relaxation in his later years was to sit in the open doorway of his house and listen to a piano played in a distant apartment.

Drinking Healths.

This was a Roman custom. The drinking was accompanied by some such words as "Here's to myself," "Here's to you" and "Here's to I shan't say who." The ancient Greeks also drank healths.

Thistles.

In the fourteenth century thistles were used as food for cattle, and they were considered as a crop. In the old priory of Lindisfarne there is a note in the archives of 1344-45 of thick leather gloves required for the harvesters of the thistle crop.

Up at Night.

Parke—Does your baby keep you up nights? Lane—I should say so. Why, I haven't been home before midnight for a month.

Fitting.

"What's your idea in beginning with pie and eating your dinner backward?" "My stomach's upset."—Cornell Wilder.

The D. L. Arey Distilling Co.

Salisbury, North Carolina. References: First National Bank of Salisbury, N. C. Dun or Bradstreet Mercantile Agencies.

KEYS OF THE BASTILLE.

These Historic Relics of Old Paris Owned by an American.

The keys which locked the great gates of the Bastille at the time of its fall have been in America for a number of years. For nearly a century they remained in the possession of the family of the Frenchman who took them from the famous prison, though they have recently come into the possession of an Englishman living in Quebec.

When the mob stormed the prison on July 14, 1789, a Parisian, Carrier Lechastel, is said to have been the first to rush over the drawbridge as it fell. It was he, at any rate, who overtook a fleeing jailer and took the keys from him.

One of the keys was obtained in France by General Lafayette and was presented by him to George Washington a year or two before his death. It hangs in the mansion at Mount Vernon and has been seen by thousands of visitors there.

The keys at present are very old and rusty. The largest of them is twelve inches long and is quite heavy. The smallest is of fine workmanship, the socket being shaped like the ace of clubs, and is supposed to have belonged to the treasure rooms.

Really Antique.

An excellent plaster of Paris cast may be seen in one of the Egyptian galleries of the British museum of the famous sycamore statuette known as the "Sheikh-el-Beled" or "Village Sheikh." The original dates from 3900 B. C.

Killing Sharks by Electricity.

In the British navy the engineers have a curious way of killing sharks. They seal up a dynamite cartridge in an empty can, and put the can inside a lump of pork.

Willing to Waive That.

"Miss Angeline," began the poor but proud young man, "if I were in a position to ask you to be my wife?" "Good gracious, Mr. Throgson!" she exclaimed. "In a position? The idea! Do you think I would want you to get down on your knees?"—Exchange.

When a man is determined to rise in the world, it is better not to interfere with him too much. If his purpose is right, he will be a dangerous wrestler.—Schoolmaster.

A Sharp Dig.

Mrs. Buxom—That hateful Mrs. Knox made a very mean comment upon my age today.

Mr. Buxom—Did she say you were getting old? Mrs. Buxom—No, indeed! She said I "still looked quite young."—Exchange.

Henpecked.

"Hi Peck hed ter git out o' bed 'n' mail a letter fer that sharp tongued wife o' hisn."

"Pore feller! Driv from pillar ter post!"—Princeton Tiger.

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Ill fortune never crushed that man whom good fortune deceived not.—B. Jonson.

THE SLED BOAT.

Ingenious Combination Devised by the Fire Island Life Savers.

The life savers attached to Uncle Sam's stations on Fire Island encountered great difficulties and dangers in crossing the Great South bay to the Long Island shore, either by water craft or ice craft. Still, naturally enough, they had a longing to visit family and friends when the great island sea was choked with drift ice or partly frozen over.

GOLD NUGGETS.

The Process in Nature by Which They Are Formed.

That gold is formed from solution is generally recognized. The miner receives the theory because it explains the making of gold to him, but he often wonders how it is done, so here is what has been seen: Daintine once prepared a solution of gold and left in it a small piece of metallic gold.

The Cook Approved.

Out in Columbia road lives a gentle woman of ample means, who recently advertised for a cook. The establishment is entirely in accord with an excellent social position, but is by no means pretentious, so when a well recommended cook called and mentioned her price as \$40 a month the lady of the house answered that a wage of that figure was quite out of the question.

The cook dwelt a little on her superior ability in the matter of getting up smart luncheons and dinners, but the mistress of the house answered that she wouldn't think for a moment of paying \$40 for a cook. The elderly lady rose to depart. She was perfectly affable, and the gentleman's determination evidently impressed her as most commendable.

"I see how it is," she said approvingly. "You are trying to live within your income."

And she departed, doubtless to find somebody who isn't making that effort.—Washington Post.

Kean and Macready.

When Edmund Kean and Macready, intense rivals, played in the same pieces at Drury Lane it was usual to consult them in the course of the evening as to what they would appear in next. One night when the prompter was sent to ask Mr. Macready what he would play with Mr. Kean the great tragedian frowned upon him till he blushed. "Sir," he roared, "how should I know what the man would like to play?" The prompter retired to seek the desired information from Mr. Kean. "Sir," said Mr. Kean sharply, "how should I know what the fellow can play?"

PRIDE OF NORTH CAROLINA 5-YEAR OLD CORN WHISKEY. Direct from Distillery to Consumer. Express Prepaid. The public has been frequently misled by extravagant and untruthful claims of unscrupulous dealers who represent themselves as distillers.