

TOWN OF OLD HORSE CARS

Carville, on Ocean Beach at San Francisco, May Be Ousted by United States Government.

San Francisco, Cal.—The unique little colony of Carville, which has been thriving so long in peace on the ocean beach, has been disturbed of late by a decided wave of excitement. It has been rumored that the government is going to question its right to the ownership of that now very valuable strip of land.

A few years ago anyone thinking of living out on the yellow shifting sands of the ocean beach would have been thought a lunatic. The property could have been bought for almost nothing. About that time a local street car company wanted to get rid of some old horse cars which were stored away at the other end of the city. It auctioned them off.

One man with an idea bought one of them for a dollar. With a few more dollars he purchased a strip of land facing the ocean, and to that desert of sand he carted his bargain. With a little lumber and a hammer and saw he converted the car into a cozy home. Then the fad came. Every one must have a car house.

There was a boom in abandoned street cars and ocean beach property. The other day the original car man was offered \$20,000 for his home, but he shook his head and smiled. Now the government is turning its attention to Carville, and the property owners are anxious.

A big fence has been erected as a hint to Uncle Sam that no trespassers will be allowed within.

STOPS TINKLING OF BELLS

School Principal Suspends Girls Who Adopt the New Garter Fad with Success.

Portland, Ind.—For attempting to introduce in Portland what has become a popular fad in New York eight high school girls were suspended by the principal. When the young women mounted the high stone steps and climbed the stairs to the study-rooms there was something that attracted the attention of the faculty and caused them to turn a sharp ear.

"Tinkle, tinkle, tinkle," was the sound that came from the invisible somewhere. The principal had heard that the fad was bound westward from New York, but had hardly expected that it would be presented to him for approval. He never said "garter" once, but the eight pupils knew by what he said that he was "wise." They were lined up, and movements were required of them that would prove their guilt or innocence. The noise that followed these movements gave him their number and he then started to dish up some advice.

The principal's lecture was a wealth of blood-chilling compliments which wound up with orders that the girls should go home and return only when they came back "bell-less" and prepared to make open apology. Some apologized over the telephone, but the principal replied that telephonic apologies were nil. One mamma tried to tell the principal that the bell fad was popular in New York, but the principal would not listen. His order was declared irrevocable.

ALTER STYLE OF BAYONET

President's Suggestion Results in Substitution of Knives for Bods—Another Addition.

Washington.—The report of Gen. William Crozier, chief of ordnance, is so replete with technical information concerning the arms and armament of the United States army that Lieut. Gen. Chaffee, chief of staff has recommended that a copy of it be sent to every officer in the army. Gen. Crozier presents some interesting information showing the growth of gun construction.

A problem now confronts ordnance officers on account of the wearing of the bore of the gun through the great velocity of the projectile, with the result that after some 50 or 60 rounds from large guns the rifling is so worn away that the projectiles are no longer given the motion of rotation necessary to steadiness of flight and inadmissible loss of accuracy results. The question whether the guns should not be used at a power less than that which their strength enables the realization of in order to diminish the erosion and increase the life is being considered.

Gen. Crozier says that at the suggestion of the president further consideration by the general staff resulted in the substitution of a knife for a rod bayonet for the army rifle.

Intrenching tools have been adopted as a part of the soldier's equipment.

CASUALTIES OF RUSSIANS.

Manchurian Army Lost 37,642 in Battle and 18,830 by Disease During Campaign.

Washington, D. C.—Col. John Van P. Hoff, medical department U. S. A., who has recently returned from the Russian army in Manchuria, with which he went through part of the campaign in the war against Japan, has been authorized by the chief of staff to give out excerpts of his official report.

According to Col. Hoff the number of killed and dead of wounds was 37,642 men and the number of men dead from disease 18,830. These statistics are exclusive of casualties at Port Arthur and show almost exactly two men dead from results of battle to one man dead from sickness. This record is according to statistics, the best made in any war up to the present time.

CANADA TRADE BIG.

UNITED STATES FURNISHES MOST OF IMPORTS.

Sixty-Two Per Cent. of Dominion's Necessities Are Sent There by This Country—Value of Dealings Totals \$166,000,000.

Washington.—The United States sold Canada last year exports to the value of \$166,000,000. This amount constituted more than 62 per cent. of the whole Canadian imports, but was only 11 per cent. of the foreign exports of the United States. This statement is contained in a report of Charles M. Pepper, special agent of the department of commerce and labor, resulting from his study of dominion trade conditions.

Besides selling goods to Canada, Mr. Pepper says that 25,000 settlers went from the United States to its northern neighbor from January to October, 1905, and that the value of their effects was \$10,000,000. This number of emigrants from the United States is less than for the two preceding years. The new wheat fields of the dominion's great northwest are the attraction of those seeking new homes in Canada.

Discussing the relation of wheat production to population, the report estimates the yield in Canada this season at upward of 90,000,000 bushels, or approximately equal to that of the state of Kansas. A production of 150,000,000 bushels by 1910 is forecasted, provided crop conditions continue favorable and harvest hands can be obtained.

Railroad construction in the northwest is given as another source of new population and consequently of wide-spread markets.

In textiles the report says that the dominion is making advances, yet the time is distant when the importation of foreign goods will cease. The Canadian competition in woollens is with Great Britain in the cheaper grades. The United States successfully supplies felt cloth, ordinary underwear, hats and caps and ready-made goods. The market for ready-mades is an especially good one, since the quality and style of the goods manufactured in the United States suit the Canadian customer.

This country supplies the raw cotton for the Canadian mills, but it also has a good market for white or bleached fabrics as well as for printed and dyed fabrics and for cotton clothing.

WILL TOW GIANT DOCK FAR

Tugmaster Takes Contract for 14,000-Mile Journey with the "D. D. Dewey."

Washington.—J. D. Wood, a tugmaster of Norfolk, has contracted with the navy department to go to Manila on the D. D. Dewey, the big steel floating dry dock now at Solomon's island, in Chesapeake bay.

Wood is to live aboard the dock during the 14,000-mile voyage. He will receive \$250 a month. His vessel will be so stable in the heaviest weather that it might be possible to play billiards aboard, according to some officers.

The dock is to be held on its course by the towing power of the three great colliers, Glacier, Caesar and Brutus, the whole under command of Capt. Fullham. The towing line will be one and one-half miles long, a length regarded as necessary to guard against sharp strains in a heavy sea.

Competent naval officers believe that the Dewey can be towed at the rate of about 100 miles a day.

PUTS CREPE ON BAPTISMAL

Impressive Protest to Race Suicide Is Made by Catholic Priest at Rochester, N. Y.

Rochester, N. Y.—Because of the lack of christenings and as a protest to race suicide the baptismal fountain in a prominent Catholic church in this city was draped in mourning recently. The sight of the fountain artistically covered with long black streamers of crepe greeted the worshippers as they entered the door and created nothing short of a sensation.

No reference was made to the cause of the unusual decoration during the service, the priest afterward declaring that he wished the lesson of the crepe solemnly to go to the hearts of his people and to bring them to a realization of their duties to church and nation. Members of the church seemed to be greatly impressed and it is predicted by the priest that the draped fountain will prove a more powerful agent against race suicide than any words of President Roosevelt.

Prosperity of the South.

The deposits of the national banks in the south, according to the report of the comptroller of the currency, aggregate about \$450,000,000. If Missouri, Oklahoma and the Indian Territory are included the total is nearly \$600,000,000. The increase of deposits in the last two years was over \$80,000,000. Florida in the last two years gained 45.4 per cent., and Arkansas nearly as much. The average gain in the south was 21.8 per cent. Maryland's deposits in 1906 were \$61,985,715, Virginia's \$42,277,158, West Virginia's \$24,848,176, North Carolina's \$14,056,820.

Jersey Justice.

A man in New Jersey who had burglars' tools in his suit-case was sentenced to five years in prison "on suspicion." Wonder what they would do to a man over there if they found a life insurance president's card in his pocket?

YOUNGEST IN CIVIL WAR.

Eugene Merrick's Story of Enlistment After Being Rejected Six Times—A Soldier at Twelve Years.

Los Angeles, Cal.—Capt. Eugene Merrick, now a resident of this city, was the youngest soldier of the civil war. He succeeded in enlisting during the last year of the rebellion, after being six times rejected by the mustering officer, at Yorkville, Ill., near which he was born and where his father and three elder brothers joined the union ranks.

On the occasion of his seventh and successful attempt to join the ranks Merrick selected a time when a large crowd was waiting to be mustered into service and the examination was, as a result, less strict. He was then only 12 years old and stood five feet in his stockings—both his age and size being considerably below the minimum limit.

However, in the rush he was passed. He was ordered to Louisville and followed Sherman in his famous march from Atlanta to the sea, afterward taking part in the battle of Rosaca, Ga., on the Ostinola river, where Wofford surrendered to Steadman.

He was first under fire at Nashville, Tenn., and admits that his beligerent spirits were considerably dampened when the enemy's bullets began to whisper around him. However, he soon caught the contagion of the fighting fever and went bravely through the balance of the campaign, being mustered out at Savannah, Ga., Jan. 20, 1866.

Merrick is now 52 years of age and does not look over 40. He was not wounded in the war, though he participated in many fierce engagements.

TEUTON RAPID LOVE MAKER

Handsome Young German Plays Havoc with Feminine Hearts in Switzerland Until Arrested.

Geneva.—Emile Eugene Kurz, of Glessen, Germany, a handsome young man, 24 years of age, was sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment for fraud at Bale under romantic conditions.

He arrived last spring at Bale, and, posing as a doctor just returned from the war in the far east, he courted the society of women with money, with whom he soon became a favorite.

Engagements followed, sometimes two and three a day. It will never be known how many women Kurz promised to marry, but 14 members of the fair sex appeared against him at the trial, charging him with obtaining money from them as their fiancé.

The women represented all classes of society, from the rich, elderly widow of a German officer to a poor shop-girl. "I don't want the money," said the widow, "but I want the scoundrel punished." The "scoundrel" beamed on her, and treated the affair as a good joke.

Kurz's criminal career might have been prolonged had it not been that he boasted in the presence of a plain-clothes detective that he could marry a dozen women on the morrow if he chose.

He received his sentence calmly, and smiled at his dupes in passing out of the dock.

QUITS KITCHEN; RUNS AUTO

Only Professional Woman Chauffeur on Earth Left Culinary Duties for Chosen Vocation.

Milwaukee.—This city claims to have the only professional woman chauffeur in the world. She is Miss Amelia Casper, employed by J. E. Turner. Miss Casper comes of a family of automobile experts, two of her brothers being experienced chauffeurs.

Miss Casper had served as a domestic in the Turner family for seven years, and when Mr. Turner recently purchased an automobile he suggested, in jest, making her the family chauffeur. She took him at his word, and in three lessons had mastered the art of running the car.

Her next step was to familiarize herself with the mechanism, and so thoroughly did she do this that at present she can repair all ordinary breaks and can mend punctured tires with unusual skill. She has made several long trips through the state, each time coming through without accident.

Speaking of her experiences, she said: "There is nothing strange in my ability to handle a car. It was simply a matter of a little study and a cool head. Any other woman who will take up the study of the machine with equal care can become as proficient as I am, but the trouble is that most of them are unwilling to do anything but the pleasant part, that of running the car. They draw the line at learning about the machinery."

Prominent Lawyer Once Convict. Through the issuance of a full pardon and the restoration of citizenship to W. N. Jordan by Gov. Cummins, of Iowa, the public learned that one of the leading members of the Des Moines bar is a former convict. He prepared for admission to the bar while serving sentence for obtaining money by false pretenses and fraudulent banking.

Hints on Homilies.

Ian MacLaren, who is retiring from the Congressional ministry, says: "If I were beginning instead of closing my career I would be careful about three things in particular: I should preach shorter sermons, I should be more attentive to my English, and I should preach more comfortingly."

Then Hubby Is Wrong.

A Kansas philosopher says that when a married woman uses her given name instead of her husband's initials something is wrong. In most cases probably it is the husband.

City of Siberian Laces Are Otherwise Normal.

A Russian correspondent was talking of Siberia.

"In this strange land," he said, "the strangest thing is the suicidal tendency of the Chukchees. Among the Chukchees, actually, suicide is one of the most common forms of death.

The Chukchees live in northeastern Siberia. They are small and copper-colored. They dress in skins and ride reindeer. Tallow and raw kidney are their chief delicacies. In every Chukchee house hangs a death coat.

"A Chukchee doesn't kill himself by his own hand. He appoints his nearest relatives—his wife, son or daughter—to do the deed. And the delegate never rebels, never declines this sad and horrible task.

"Innumerable are the causes of suicide—jealousy, unrequited love, an incurable disease, melancholy, poverty and so on.

"I knew a man who was prosperous and apparently happy. Suddenly a desire for death seized him. 'In three moons,' he said, 'I will go home to my fathers.' And he calmly settled his affairs, and at the appointed time bade his wife to knot a cord about his throat and his two sons to pull upon this cord (ill he should be strangled). He died, they told me, joking.

"The death coat, which hangs in every Chukchee house, has a hood. It is for use in suicide. The hood hides the facial contortions of the dying.

"There are Chukchee families wherein suicide is hereditary, wherein it is a point of honor for the sons to kill themselves, a natural death being regarded in such families as disgraceful and scandalous, a sign of the most unpardonable cowardice.

"The Chukchees, despite their suicidal tendency, are a happy and healthy people, moral, truthful, brave and temperate."

PROSPERITY IN WATER.

What Irrigation Has Done to Render Productive Lands in Western States.

Where water power is there are population and prosperity also, is the argument of C. H. Baker, who cites Niagara's influence on Buffalo as one illustration. In the Spokane valley nothing has had more tendency to increase land values than irrigation; wherever water has had to do with the raising of crops in an arid country there the value of the lands has been measured more by water than by quality of soil and has jumped from nothing to as high as \$1,500 an acre. In many cases these lands are remote from transportation facilities. The United States government is foremost among nations to encourage private irrigation enterprises, particularly the smaller projects that are more feasible. According to the latest census report private enterprises placed irrigation systems in 31 states and territories. The expense of projects is estimated at \$33,000,000, which is believed to be low. A total area of 9,500,000 acres has been covered by these systems. In an arid region water only is required to make its tillable portions the most fertile areas in the world. With the vast expanse of forest covered watershed which must drain into the innumerable lakes that dot the surrounding country, the water supply there is well-nigh inexhaustible.

FEASTED ON EARTHWORMS

Flavor Liked by French Gourmets and They Called for More.

A few years ago the Pall Mall Gazette gravely reported that a group of French gourmets had tested the edible qualities of the common earthworm, and pronounced the creature a valuable addition to the bill of fare. "The report, states What to Eat, read: "Fifty guests were present at the experiment. The worms, apparently lobworms, were first put into vinegar, by which process they were made to disgorge the fouled vegetable mold. They were then rolled in batter and put into an oven, where they acquired a delightful golden tint, and we are assured, a most appetizing smell. After the first plateful the 50 guests arose like one man and asked for more. Could anything be more convincing? Those who love snails, they add, will abandon them forever in favor of worms."

Warships Soon Out of Date.

A fleet of antiquated British war vessels, which would have fitted out two or three South American republics with respectable navies, was recently sold at public auction at Portsmouth, England. The total amount realized by the government on the 23 vessels was \$375,000. A stack of fighting material representing an expenditure of over \$8,000,000 was sold for a third of a single million. When it is remembered that not one of these ships, with the exception of the old wooden vessels, has ever done any actual fighting, the somewhat anomalous conclusion is suggested that probably 75 per cent. of the naval vessels now afloat will eventually be broken up as scrap without even having participated in a battle. "The great navy is becoming a moral rather than a physical force"—N. Y. Globe.

Believed Himself.

Judge—You are charged with profanity. Prisoner—I am not. "You are, sir. What do you mean?" "I was, but I got rid of it."—Cleveland Leader.

A Test.

Bill—He's the greatest man on legs I ever saw. Jill—Quick, is he? "Yes; and you can't give him a question he can't answer."

"Ask him how many Smiths there are in New York who smoke pipes."—Yonkers Statesman.

TING BACK TO

Creature Comforts Which Are Provisions of Civilization to the Bush.

"Yes, sir," said the dried beef lionaire, relates Judge. "I have it that what those fellows say about a return to nature is all right. Any country place is just making a new man of me. There I am surrounded by the works of nature on every side, and the effect has not been less than wonderful."

"Where is your country place?" "Out where there used to be that sandy common. I have brought trees from 50 miles away, and planted 'em. I have had an artificial lake made. I have sodded that whole sand dune. I have electric lights or gas lamps scattered everywhere. I have shut the surf away with a ten-foot breakwater. I've got awnings to keep the sun off you as you loaf there, and fancy hedges to break the wind's force. I've got a tank 40 feet square, where the water is heated or cooled to suit the bath's taste. There are electric fans out on the lawn for hot days, and steam heat can be turned on in all the summer houses when the days are chilly. There's nothing that the mind of man or the ingenuity of human hands can compass that I've not got there to make life comfortable. Come out some day and get made over. I tell you, dear boy, you fellows who work the whole year around here in the city don't know what you miss. Come out with me and learn how much communion with old Mother Nature will do to set you up."

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE.

Dead Insects of Minute Proportions Are Discovered in Dried Tea-Leaves.

A botanist adjusted a delicate microscope and asked a friend to peep through.

"Why," exclaimed the tyro, "it looks like a railway wreck."

"You are looking at the remains of a caterpillar," said the botanist; and he withdrew the slide and put another in its place.

"This looks like a battlefield," said the tyro.

"It is only the remains of a moth, a slug, and a fly," came the answer.

In answer to further inquiries the botanist stated that the specimens were taken from an ordinary packet of tea. "Tea," he said, "grows on bushes. The leaves are plucked by hand. Imagine yourself stripping rosebush after rosebush, mile after mile, of their leaves.

"The native pickers work fast. They pick as many as 25 pounds of leaves a day—a bundle bigger than a man."

"Now, the tea plant is the prey of a hundred insects, and the picker in haste doesn't pause to brush off each leaf or to wash it, for he works, as we say, by piece work.

"The picked leaves are dried on charcoal fires. They shrivel under the heat, and the insect larvae among them change to dust. This dust looks, to the ordinary eye, like leaf fragments. But under the microscope it looks, as you remarked, like an insect railway wreck or a pigmy battlefield."

HAVE MANY COUNTIES.

Georgia Has Added to Her List and Texas Is Still a Record-Breaker.

The Georgia legislature, which recently adjourned after a long session, made a further addition to the number of counties in the Cracker state, bringing up the whole number from 137 to 145.

New York, with its great population, is able to get along with 61 counties, while California, more than double the size of Georgia, gets along with 57.

What political necessity there can be for 145 independent counties in Georgia, each with a separate government, organization and expense, is a problem, but perhaps the reason is the same which has added to the number of counties in Texas until there are now 246. In one of them at the presidential election last year only 22 votes were cast, in another, 120; in another, 180, and in a fourth, 60. The propensity to create counties in the south and southwest has always been marked. There are 76 counties in Mississippi, 119 in Kentucky, 75 in Arkansas, 45 in Florida, and 95 in Tennessee.

Boots Worn in China.

Boots are worn in China only by officials, servants, soldiers, sailors and special hobnobbed boots, occasionally in wet weather, by the common people. The universal form of foot covering is a shoe, while coolies and the poorest classes have to content themselves with straw or leather sandals, or go barefooted. Women's shoes are made at home and, except in isolated cases in Shanghai, are never exposed for sale in shops. This remark does not apply to the peculiar form of shoe worn by Manchu women, which is perched on a sort of small stilt. In the north, during the winter months, the ordinary boot or shoe is often wadded or lined with sheepskin, and of late years reproductions of Chinese boots and shoes in India rubber have been imported from the United States and Germany and found favor with Chinese at the treaty ports.

Mate of an Old Joke.

Editor—I wonder what ever became of the mate to this joke? Contributor—Why—er—how do you mean? "Well, you know, we're told that Noah took a pair of every sort of thing into the ark with him."—Philadelphia Ledger.

For Pure Food.

Italy has a pure food society which analyzes free of charge all products sent in.

HOT AIR

Experience of Collector of Air for Bureau of Tests in New York.

The young man who collects the subway air for the tests of the Rapid Transit commission is variously regarded by the spectators as crank, lunatic, humbug and wizard. And in return, says the New York Sun, he has concluded that the bright boy of the newspaper talk is not the only one of the human race to ask questions.

"The air is full of all sorts of things and placed in the flasks, by means of a piston pump, for use. For the last week the conditions have been made inside express cars.

A certain fellow had to run for the train and sat in an opposite car air collector quite a while. When the pumping started he looked at the man as if he had seen a ghost and finally went out at the next stop.

"She thinks she's trying to irritate her with those bellows," volunteered the guard. "If I say, on the level, what the thunder is that thing, any way? Ain't no music box, is it?"

Another fellow, noticing the collector at the pump, timidly asked what kind of weather we might expect, and wouldn't believe that the device wasn't a secret method of the weather bureau.

But the best philosophy came from the man in charge of an uptown station early one morning last week. The collector's appearance at two a. m. broke the monotony of the empty platform.

"What are you doing there?" asked the guard.

"Collecting air." "Pooh!" came the answer of one weary and stifled, "quit your kidding. There ain't no air down here."

Does this verdict anticipate the report of the Rapid Transit commission?

THEIR DISASTROUS BARGAIN

Couple Went In for Motoring and Soon Reached Their Limit.

Mrs. Gunbusta came running into the room breathlessly, relates the New York Herald.

"Throwing her fur auto coat carelessly on a divan and laying her grim goggles on the Aeolian, she gasped: "O, Fred, I bought a handsome machine this morning for only \$75."

"Bully for you!" shouted Gunbusta joyously, laying down the Motor Magazine he had been busily engaged in reading when his wife entered.

"But," she stammered, "in my anxiety to hurry home to it and tell you of my wonderful bargain, I was terribly arrested several times for exceeding the speed limit and it cost me \$200 for fines and—"

"Never mind that, dearest; it's cheap even at those figures."

"And then I had to pay \$200 to merchants for goods of theirs that I ran into and ruined, and—"

"What of it?" interrupted Gunbusta. "Eight hundred and seventy-five dollars is cheap for a good machine."

"And—er—and I gave \$500 to people I had run down and who threatened lawsuits, and all because I was desirous of hurrying home to tell you of my wonderful bargain."

But before Mrs. Gunbusta had completed the sentence her husband rushed into the back yard and tried to run over himself with his automobile.

WHEN GIRLS MARRY GREEKS

They Should Have the Ceremony Performed by a Greek Priest.

Young women of America who desire to marry Greeks should exercise the utmost care, according to advice given by George Horton, the American consul at Athens, who in a communication to the state department says it is very easy for a Greek to marry in this country, and then to return home and marry there again. Marriages performed by any other than a Greek priest are not regarded as binding, and frequent cases have come before Consul Horton of Greeks deserting their American wives, returning to their home in Greece and marrying a native. He says, however, that it is only a low class Greek who would do this. Mr. Horton says:

"For a Greek who wears of his family if he has not been married according to the Oriental church, emancipation is easy, safe and simple. He has nothing to do but come back to his native land and marry again. For the deserted family there is no remedy, but the prevention is easy. Every American woman contemplating marriage with a Greek should insist that the ceremony be performed by a reputable Greek priest."

The New Hat.

"Is my hat on straight?" she asked him. He looked at her headgear in dumb amazement.

"I dunno," he answered. "When it's straight it looks crooked, and when it's crooked it looks straight."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Mate of an Old Joke.

Editor—I wonder what ever became of the mate to this joke? Contributor—Why—er—how do you mean? "Well, you know, we're told that Noah took a pair of every sort of thing into the ark with him."—Philadelphia Ledger.

For Pure Food.

Italy has a pure food society which analyzes free of charge all products sent in.