

LANDLADY WAS TACTFUL

Knew How to Handle Boarders Without Having Any Trouble with Them.

The boarding house mistress looked at her latest "new" with a firm but cheerful expression of countenance...

"Oh, no. I never have any trouble with my boarders," she said, briskly.

"For instance, there was Mr. Cranston one of my table boarders. A real well-meaning young man, but pretty careless."

"Well, it didn't look just right, but I didn't nag him about it. When he'd done it half a dozen times I just put a sheet of sticky flypaper in on top of the plates."

"He never said anything about it. For he knew what I meant after that night. That's why I say if folk will use tact they've no need to have any trouble with boarders—not a bit."

DIET OF BACON AND EGGS

Upon It Americans Have Done Great Deeds and Accomplished Wonders.

From sanguine San Francisco comes word of a common diet of bacon and eggs.

It is the diet that does things, says the New York World. American wildernesses have been conquered, cities begun and mines opened on bacon with or without eggs.

The frying of the bacon as an essential incident of life on the plain and in the forest, throws savory suggestions from the pages of pioneer story and history.

The dispatches bring a note of regret for the earthquake-torn restaurants and clubs of late Golden Gate high life.

It is San Francisco's splendid fortune that apparently she has abundant eggs with her bacon.

IT WAS ARABIC ALL RIGHT.

Inscription on Souvenir Was Not in Mysterious Characters After All.

"Here's a cup I got in Morocco," said the enthusiastic tourist, showing his collection of souvenirs.

"His friend, relates the New Orleans Times-Democrat, was turning the cup curiously around. At length he remarked, dryly:

"Yes, the inscription is Arabic all right."

"Sure!" replied the returned tourist, a little miffed at the intimation of a possible doubt.

"You can read it better if you turn the cup upside down," suggested the friend, and suiting the action to the word, he showed the tourist that "the mysterious characters were nothing more than '1903' engraved in rough, irregular figures on the metal."

"The rascal!" exclaimed the outraged collector; "he told me that it was an Arabic inscription when he said it to me!"

"He told you nothing more than the truth," was the reply. "You forget that our numerals are Arabic."

But somehow from that moment the collector lost interest in the souvenir from Morocco.

Languages Most Spoken. The most spoken language is Chinese, but as there are so many dialects in the language, and as these differ so greatly in the confines of Mongolia and Tibet from those around Peking, it is scarcely correct to say that the 382,000,000 Celestials all speak one language.

Portuguese, four inches; Spanish, 5 1/2 inches; Russian, 8 1/2 inches; German, 9 1/2 inches; English, 1 foot and 3 inches.

Civil War Veterans. Veterans of the civil war are dying now at the rate of 100 a day, according to the records of the United States pension office.

The monthly reports for seven months past have shown the death rate among the old soldiers to be in the neighborhood of 1,000 a month. Pension officials who have watched the figures closely and know the tendency of the death rate are of the opinion that the number of civil war pensioners has reached the maximum, and that hereafter each succeeding month will show a decrease.

The Usual Way. Mrs. Steek is such a charming attentioner. She never leaves her guests for an instant.

TO PAY PENSIONERS

ALL WHO LOST CERTIFICATES IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Special Dispensation Granted by Commissioner at Washington—Agency Saves Records.

San Francisco.—Notwithstanding the loss of their certificates and vouchers, the 4,500 government pensioners in San Francisco, disabled soldiers, widows, and miners, were to receive their quarterly allowance on June 4, provided they make personal application to the chief clerk at the pension office in the new post office building.

United States Commissioner of Pensions Warner has granted the local agency permission to issue special permits to the losers of their papers, which will allow the payment of the arrearages on the regular payment day.

At the same time the permit is granted an application for the renewal of the destroyed certificate is to be given the pensioner, which must be correctly filled in and duly sworn to before some commissioned magistrate.

This application will be forwarded to Washington and new certificates issued in time for the September payment day.

The saving of the pension agency records, which have been kept intact for the last 35 years, is an interesting chapter in the history of the bureau.

In all there are some 45,000 pensioners paid from the San Francisco agency, which embraces the entire district west of the Rocky mountains.

On the morning of the calamity, when the post office building was threatened by the fire, Col. Jesse Fuller, pension agent, had a detail of five regular soldiers placed in the office, with the male clerks were ordered to sponge all embers that came on the windows, and to do everything possible to save the papers of the agency, which were thrown from the cases pell-mell on the floors and mixed with plastering and other debris.

On the morning of the 25th, when the fire raged furiously around it, it was not until work straightening out the various papers, most of which were now properly and systematically placed in their old cases.

OLIVES FAIL IN TEXAS. Ten-Year-Old Orchards in Citrus District Make No Returns.

San Antonio, Tex.—The production of olives in the Texas coast country has not been successful. The trees make the growth, but they do not bear well.

Harvey Stiles, the California man who was induced to locate in the citrus fruit section of Texas by the remarkably fine fruit and there, has just announced the failure of the olive orchard at Beeville. The trees are now eight or ten years old, and have not been fruiting.

He says it is a fact not generally known that but one variety of olives produces successfully in American soils. This is the tree that was introduced by the Franciscan monks in southern California. Trees planted by the monks 150 years ago survive and are in good condition, bearing annually.

In all other lines of tropical and subtropical fruits the Texas citrus fruit section is a great success, and the orange and lemon orchards, as well as the dates and figs, are making wonderful successes.

Mr. Stiles is conducting an experimental farm and nursery at Kingsville, where the most remarkable things are being done with native and foreign fruits. The adaptability of the southwest Texas soil to tropical fruits is being worked out in a very successful manner.

HARVEST HANDS SCARCE. Oklahoma Farmers Uneasy Over Scarcity of Help for Wheat Crop.

Oklahoma City, Okla.—The question of labor for this year's wheat harvest is causing Oklahoma farmers considerable uneasiness now. Not for many years has there been such a scarcity of farm labor as this season, in fact, labor of all kinds is scarce in Oklahoma.

The unusual prospects for a large crop of wheat and the increase in acreage over former years are going to make lots of work in the harvest fields.

The first Oklahoma wheat will be harvested within a few weeks, and very few farmers know where they are going to get help. Correspondence has been heavy between the Oklahoma wheat growers and the employment bureaus of the different states.

A great deal of the labor is furnished this way, but the offering this year is inadequate to the demand. Harvest hands will command good wages in Oklahoma this year.

Measles in Switzerland. Infectious measles is spreading in Switzerland and is likely to cause some uneasiness among tourists. The disease was first reported as causing many deaths at Zurich, and now it is causing serious alarm in Canton Argau.

In the town of Aarau there have been ten cases in a short time, and four men and two women have died. There are now three cases in the cantonal hospital. It is to be feared that the policy of the military authorities of Zurich in sending the newly formed recruits back to their homes may carry some ill-effects to all parts of the country.

POETRY TO PREVENT CRIME

Reading of "Casablanca" in Cleveland Workhouse Creates Fearful Scene

Cleveland.—Will poetry deter crime and vagabondage? Parole Officer Crane, of the Cleveland workhouse, has every reason to think it will. He is experimenting with poetry as a deterrent. Sunday he locked 100 inmates of the workhouse in the assembly-room and read "Casablanca" to them.

Several men, in frantic efforts to escape, threw themselves against the door only to fall, bruised and panting, but still faintly praying: "Let me out, let me out!"

Other persons, who have had no visible means of support for 20 years, aged, decrepit, crawled to Crane, and with tears streaming down their wrinkled cheeks, sobbed:

"Take, oh—take—me to the work-yard—I will work. Anything rather than this."

Words fail to describe what happened when Mr. Crane recited "The Burial of Sir John Moore." Shrieks of agony rent the air while the probation officer proudly mused:

"Torquemada, Gerónimo, what were your tortures compared to this?" Mr. Crane will read "The King of the May" to the vagrants and hobos next Sunday. He is very confident that those in the workhouse will never make themselves liable to be sent there again and he hopes to drive all the criminal and lazy out of town with poetry's lash.

TEXANS AFTER FEVER TICK Government Experts Aid in the Movement to Eradicate the Pest.

Victoria, Tex.—J. D. Mitchell, United States government expert, who is studying the fever-tick through the state, is here. He says:

"The United States government proposes to make war on the fever tick, with the object in view of its total extermination from the south and doing away with the quarantine line. The first step to this end will be the establishment of demonstration stations throughout the state to educate the cattlemen and farmers on the life and habits of the tick, and the damage it does and the way to get rid of it. Then will follow a cooperative period between the people, the state and the United States government in what is known as the starvation theory."

"By dividing a pasture into two parts, putting all stock in one part and excluding all cattle, horses, mules and donkeys, and only animals as far known to carry the fever tick, from part two, for five months in summer or winter, the tick will die. If weather does not count against the tick, every tick in part two will die. Then by dipping, scraping, or any satisfactory method, clean the stock of ticks and put them in part two, thus starve out part one and the work is done."

"I have traveled over a large part of the state, interviewing cattlemen, getting their ideas, observations and experience with the fever tick, and found places that will make good stations and men who will cooperate with the government in the educational period."

LEPERS CONTRIBUTE. Money for San Francisco Sufferers Sent from Island of Molokai.

Honolulu.—The lepers confined at the Hawaiian leper settlement on the island of Molokai have contributed \$194.55 for the relief of those rendered homeless by the San Francisco earthquake and fire. This sum was contributed in sums of from five cents upward by more than 400 people, some of whom have not been outside of the narrow limits of the settlement for years and none of whom expects to go outside these limits until he dies. Following the receipt of the news at the settlement of the great disaster, a mass meeting was held, which was attended by practically every leper in the settlement able to be there. At this meeting resolutions of sympathy were adopted.

Varsity Honor for Hindoo Divides Cambridge Wranglership with Native of Great Britain.

Cambridge.—The senior wranglership in the mathematical tripos, the greatest academic honor in England, was divided the other day between a native-born Briton and a British Indian, Atrajan by name, who is a well-known tennis player. He came to England to finish his education.

It is the first case on record of a Hindoo senior wrangler and may be the last, as the Cambridge university authorities are discussing the advisability of abolishing the historic form of ranking the candidates. Eight other Indians achieved high honors but not a single woman out of the many competing qualified for the final test.

Reverted to the Indians. All improvements on land leased by cattlemen from the Kiowa and Comanche Indians in southwestern Oklahoma became the property of the tribes when the leases expired. It is estimated that the value of improvements lately divided among these Indians was \$25,000. It consisted of barbed wire, fence posts, barns, etc. Four wires were used in the fence, which had an aggregate length of 50 miles, making close to 1,000 miles of wire. None of the houses were lost, but all were permanent.

MYSTERY IS SOLVED

DYING CONFESSION EXPLAINS LOSS OF FARMER'S WEALTH. Revenge of Former Friend Who Was Unfairly Beaten in Contest for Girl's Love—Fortune Bled.

Like Ainslie, Cape Breton.—By the confession of Thomas MacDougal, made on his deathbed, a mystery of ten years has been cleared up. Here is the story.

Twenty-five years ago MacDougal and Jonathan MacFarlane were neighbors and both fell in love with the same girl, a pretty young woman of Hawkesbury. MacFarlane won out, but his neighbor did not consider that the means he used were quite above board, and being a disbeliever in the old saying that all is fair in love and war, he became a bitter enemy of his old friend.

After the marriage he became a recluse, and seldom left his house except to go to the store to purchase supplies.

Both men were prosperous and made money farming. MacDougal banked his money in Hawkesbury, but what his neighbor did with his cash was a mystery. It was known that he sent sums of money to Boston and received in return small flat packages forwarded by registered mail, but what was contained therein no one could guess. They were always received at stated times and were guarded so carefully that everyone judged them to be of great value.

Finally, in some way, MacDougal discovered that the mysterious packages contained United States postage stamps in various denominations and that his neighbor was secreting them where he was unable to be seen.

MacFarlane was afraid of banks, but why he should convert his wealth into foreign postage stamps was not clear. On making the discovery a way to square accounts for the farmer's real worth drew him to the bank and he was told that the money had been used for the purchase of a farm.

In the summer of 1904 a servant who had been employed by the MacFarlanes since the day of the wedding died, and when the body was taken to the grave the entire family accompanied it, leaving the house unguarded for the first time in ten years. The day after the funeral MacFarlane suffered a slight stroke of paralysis, and two years later died from the effects.

At this time his widow created a sensation by telling of a statement made by her husband while he was dying. This was to the effect that his entire wealth had been converted into United States postage stamps and concealed in an old copper kettle in the cellar. The stamps were in good condition when he left for the cemetery the day the servant died, but when he returned he found that some one had boiled them during his absence and that they were dissolved into a sticky, unrecognizable mass.

His reason for putting his wealth into stamps bought in the United States instead of into Canadian postage was that he would be unable to dispose of the plunder without leaving Cape Breton. How much money was lost he refused to say, but the shock killed him.

MacDougal was suspected, but there was no evidence against him and no arrest was made. His confession was complete and bears out the story of the widow. He said that he sneaked into the house after the funeral, searched until he found the stamps and then boiled them on the kitchen range. He completed his work an hour before the party returned from the grave.

TEXAS TELEPHONE LINES. Every Town and Hamlet in the Big State Provided with Ample Service.

San Antonio, Tex.—The construction of rural telephone lines in southwest Texas is surprisingly rapid at this time. In the section of country where a few years ago there was no service but the man on horseback for the dissemination of news, there is now a network of telephone lines that give communication between the numerous new farms and the ranches and villages and cities.

There are at this time in the southwestern section of the state more than 100 independent telephone systems, many of them being rural party lines. Each of these lines is connected with the larger systems at the various villages, and the farmers are capable of having direct communication with the county seat and with each other.

It is said by promoters of the lines that the Texas farmers are the most enthusiastic patrons of the rural telephone proposition, and that it can be but a few years before the number of subscribers to telephone lines that reach the farms of Texas will be greater in proportion to the population than in the older states, where the telephone has been longer in use.

Chinatown as City Asset. The people of San Francisco have begun to discover that Chinatown was a paying investment. The district drew a trade of \$30,000,000 annually, most of which came from tourists who looked upon the quarter as a world's curiosity. Hence it will be difficult either to suppress Chinatown or to improve it much. What the tourists examined in open-mouthed wonder was chiefly its dirt. To remove that would be to remove a prime cause of profitable curiosity. Altruism is not going to cope with the new San Francisco.

STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

John Got It Twice, and from a Cloudless Sky. Consequently Was Indignant.

It frequently happens that during severe storms the wires of the different public service corporations, such as electric light, electric street railway, telephone, and telegraph companies, become entangled at different points, and consequently the wires utilized for carrying but light currents become charged with the much heavier and dangerous currents.

To this condition serious accidents are sometimes due; again, ludicrous conditions arise where no particular harm is done, except to the feelings of the participants.

Some years ago such a storm swept over the territory between Boston and Portland, Me. and, after some hours of duration, had mixed matters generally. The following day was bright and clear, and the work of clearing up began.

An old-time telephone lineman was started from Portland to connect the long-distance wires to Boston, which were unknown to him, twisted up with electric wires in the city of Portland. After driving over some miles this man saw the wires broken down, and prepared to connect them. At the first attempt to handle them he was knocked down. Being somewhat unfamiliar with such conditions, he tried again, with the same result.

He at once drove back to Portland and reported at the office, where the following conversation took place: "Well, John, did you get your trouble?"

"Trouble be d—," said John, "I was struck twice by lightning, and not a cloud in the sky."

ABOUT NATURAL BRIDGES. Their Formation as Accounted For by Scientific Investigators.

It is commonly believed that natural bridges, of which the Natural Bridge of Virginia is the best known American example, are the result of the collapse of cavern roofs, leaving only a part to span the stream, which the destruction of the cavern has brought to the surface.

By a study of the North Adams Natural Bridge, says the Geographical Record, Prof. Cleland has been led to the conclusion that in this case at least the bridge is quite different in its formation from the usual type.

In this case the bridge seems to be due to the solution of the limestone along a joint plane near the former course of Hudson brook. At first only a small amount of water seeped along the joint plane, but after awhile it made a channel large enough to digest the limestone brook under the surface, giving rise to the bridge.

Walcott had previously offered a similar theory for the Natural Bridge of Virginia, and Cleland concludes that while the falling in of cavern roofs may occasionally give rise to natural bridges, the most common cause for such bridges is marble limestone, sandstone and lava is that outlined above.

RUSSIAN DUEL BY SUICIDE. Loser in a Game of Cards for Life Is Compelled to Kill Himself.

A tragedy unfolded on the surface but in reality throwing a repulsive light on the hollowness of life in Russia, is reported from Moscow.

Two young Poles named Nidetzki and Komorovsky, attending a ball given by Count Fiodoroff, were both given by Count Fiodoroff were both given by Count Fiodoroff were both given by Count Fiodoroff.

As for the fair cause of the tragedy, she was so little impressed that within a few days she had accepted a proposal from a Russian nobleman.

Medical Journalism. The medical editor of one of the New York dailies used often to say that medical journalism was played out for a journal published only once a week or once a month could never compete with the daily papers, at least it could only republish in more elaborate if less sensational style what the lay press had printed days before. In illustration of this view may be mentioned a tremendous "heat" scored recently by a New York daily. This interesting journal published an interesting and circumstantial account of an operation for renal calculus, performed at one of the hospitals by a well-known surgeon of this city. All the details of the operation were graphically and, as it appeared the next day, quite accurately described. The point of special interest in the article was that the operation which it described was not performed until about 12 hours after the article had been published.—Medical Record.

Roused Her. "Could die for you!" he cried. "I could you!" retorted the girl indignantly. "And," he continued, "my life is insured for \$50,000."

"I'm yours," she cried, "till death."—Answers.

RUSH FOR TITLES

LONDON OFFICIALS HAGERLY GRAB FOR KING'S PLUMS. Public Pays the Expense of the Ceremony—Would Be Called Grant in the United States.

London.—When a new public building is opened by the sovereign the occasion is always commemorated by the conferring of various titles. These dignities seldom are bestowed on the folk most concerned in the work—those who really deserve them.

The architect who designs the building, the contractor who builds it, and the sculptor who beautifies it are usually ignored and the honors are reaped by some pompous "Bumbies" whose good fortune it is to be in office when the opening occurs and to figure conspicuously in the ceremonies.

The new "Old Bailey," which occupies the site of the grim historic sentinel which so long stood as a warning to evildoers, will not be ready for business until next year is well advanced. Indeed certain parts of the building will probably be far from complete until 1908. At present it is little more than a huge empty shell.

It stands within the bailiwick of that quaint survival of medievalism, the corporation of the city of London, which rules supreme over one square mile of the heart of the metropolis. Most of its gorgeously uniformed blue-headed officials, including the lord mayor himself, hold office for one year. If the royal opening should take place while the building is really ready for public use, they would lose all chance of getting a knighthood or some of the other royal favors that are bestowed on the occasion.

So they have foisted the king and stolen a march on their successors by arranging to have the opening take place within a month or two.

The squabble for empty titles among these busy toasts would be witnessed on a similar occasion for the fact that it involves spending the taxpayers to the tune of \$500,000. To put the building in shape for this ceremony opening to "temperatures" it, as it is called, will cost all of that sum, and it will be a sheer waste of money.

The squabble of such unjustifiable expenditures of public funds in any American city would start a production row, but the top staff, incorruptible officials here treat it with indifference. It cannot be called wasteful, and so long as the money is taken out of the rate-payers' pockets, it amounts to the same thing.

BIG BILL AS SOUVENIR. New Fad Introduced by Oregon Mill-Rollers Has Limited Vogue.

Portland, Ore.—Autographing big bills and presenting them as souvenirs as a souvenir is the latest fad. It was introduced in Portland last night by a party man, who seemed to have an unlimited supply of newly printed greenbacks and a determined rid of them. It requires eight hundred and two commas it is said to express the sum total of the wealth of the round capitalist who gives away \$100 bills with his name on them.

Let me give you one, too," he said to one of the other men. Another bill was autographed and handed over. A third was signed and given to the third member of the party.

HAS MAMMOTH 'STURGEON. Eight and a Half Feet Long, Weighing 300 Pounds, in New York Aquarium.

New York.—The Aquarium has now the biggest sturgeon ever shown here, this specimen measuring eight and one-half feet in length, while its estimated weight is placed at fully 300 pounds. This big sturgeon was taken in a pound net in the bay back of Sandy Hook.

It has been placed in the Aquarium's great central pool, where it has for company, among other fishes, four other sturgeons ranging in length from three and one-half to seven feet each, in a tank on the gallery tier is a five-foot sturgeon one foot in length, so that now the Aquarium has a varied assortment of these striking fishes.

The little sturgeon on the gallery was eight inches in length when brought in, two years ago. The sturgeon no doubt grows faster in freedom, where it can find its natural food and have room for exercise, than in captivity. The sturgeon is supposed to live to an age of from 50 to 75 years. It attains a length of 12 feet.

Irrigate for American Market. More than 300 wells are being drilled on the hacienda of Don Louis Garza in the state of Tamaulipas, near Matamoros, Mexico. These wells will be used for irrigation purposes.