

America's Foremost Humorist.



Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain) as seen by his close friends. Mr. Clemens wears a white, serge suit always while in the house and is sometimes seen so attired on the street.

EXTINCT BIRD FOUND

SKELETON OF CAHAW IS LOCATED IN DEEP CAVE.

Bermuda Man Makes Discovery—Has Beak Similar To a Hawk—Will Be Sent to Smithsonian Institute.

New York.—Louis L. Mawbray, curator of the Bermuda Museum of Natural History, recently visited the Smithsonian Institution, in Washington, for the purpose of exhibiting to the experts several skeletons of an extinct bird, which he had the good fortune to find in a recently discovered cave in Bermuda.

This bird, that has failed to get a place in the "Who's Who" of feathered folk of modern times, was many hundred years ago known as the cahaw, from the peculiar noise it made, and while it was web-footed, it had a beak very similar to that of the hawk. It was supposed to be a cave dweller and had the habits of an owl, inasmuch as it was never seen or heard except at night.

When white men first set foot on Bermuda there were traditions among the natives of the cahaw, that had disappeared many generations before the time of the nearest inhabitant, and for more than 100 years scientists have been disputing among themselves as to whether such a bird ever existed. Mr. Mawbray believes he has settled the question.

To all expert ornithologists there is quite as much interest in the cave where the skeletons were found as in the bones themselves. The cave was discovered last January by some negro boys, who by means of ropes let themselves down into a hole they found in a spot of waste land and came upon a great chamber with gleaming white walls and a lake of ice water. They were in search of stactite crystals and reported that they had found them in great abundance.

Mr. Mawbray became interested in the stories of the wonderful cave and explored it himself. He was obliged to swim across the lake, and on the crystal shore on one side he found several skeletons of the long lost bird. In one spot he found several feathers completely encased in calcite, which, so far as he knows, are the only specimens of the kind in the world. Many of the bones were encased in the calcite and all were in a good state of preservation. The bird, according to the feathers found, was white below and its back and wings were of a russet color. These colors, he says, correspond perfectly with the best descriptions obtainable of the ancient bird. The cahaw was about the size of a pigeon.

The cave, which is midway between Hamilton and St. George and in the east end of old Bermuda, is about three miles from the ocean, but it is the belief of Mr. Mawbray that in the time of the cahaw it had an opening to the sea, and that the birds came in that way. He said the present entrance to the cave is a jagged almost perpendicular hole down through the rock, and that the immense chamber and lake were 150 feet below the surface. He was sure that the birds never entered the cave through that hole. The lake is about 250 feet long by 150 wide, and the cavern is dome shaped and a place of dazzling beauty when the crystal walls are revealed by a strong light. An entrance is being made to the cave, and it is to be one of the show places of the island.

CURIOUS CHINESE CUSTOM.

Ceremony of First Cutting of a Boy's Hair Observed in Oakland.

Oakland, Cal.—One of the most ancient curious customs among the Chinese, and one rarely commemorated in this country, was observed with most pomp and circumstance in Chinatown recently, when Fong Hock, a leading merchant, who for years has had the supervision of the Chinese discounts in the Anglo-Californian bank, of San Francisco, entertained his relatives to remote degree with a magnificent banquet in honor of the first cutting of the hair of his only son.

The banquet took place at an Eighth street restaurant, and there were 150 guests. A notable feature was the fact that the wives and children of the guests sat down at the same table with the heads of families. A most elaborate menu, comprising bird-nest soup, steam-stuffed duck, Poon Yon Ha, shark's fins and other rare and costly Celestial dishes were served.

The banquet cost the happy father \$1,800. During the evening quite a number of prominent members of the San Francisco clearing house called at the restaurant to offer their felicitations to him. The hair-cutting ceremony, which was observed with picturesque rites, symbolized that Fong Hock's heir is now a factor in the family. The guests brought presents for the little son, worth thousands of dollars.

TO ERECT LARGE TURBINE.

Philadelphia to Have Biggest Water Wheel in the World.

Philadelphia.—What is claimed to be the largest water turbine ever constructed has been made in Philadelphia for use at Niagara Falls. The machine is one of four similar units, two of which are now in operation, while the other two are being rapidly erected. Each turbine will develop 13,500-horsepower when operating under a head of 135 feet of water, and when running at a speed of 250 revolutions per minute. This turbine is a double unit of the vertical type, the water flowing down onto the upper wheel and from below up through the lower wheel. The thrust of the two wheels is thus balanced, and the thrust bearing has to carry only the weight of the wheels and shafting. The waste water is discharged through a draft tube nine feet in diameter. The water enters through two elbows by a penstock, 11 feet in diameter. The wheel casing was cast in eight sections, four of which weigh about 160,000 pounds, and the other four 120,000 pounds. The two elbows weigh approximately 100,000 pounds. The revolving portions, including the turbine runners and the shaft, weigh about 240,000 pounds. Each unit will drive a 10,000-kilowatt three-phase, 25-cycle generator.

Cured by Imitation Storm. Cleveland, O.—James Benham has cured his wife of nervousness and insomnia by an improvement on the rain on the tin roof treatment. Seeing in a medical journal that the pattering of raindrops on the roof would cure sleeplessness, the idea came to him that stage methods might give relief to his wife. Getting a theater employe to help him, he rigged up a thunder and lightning machine on the tin roof of his house near his bedroom. When darkness came he sent his wife to go to bed, saying it looked like rain. Soon there was the rumble of thunder and flashes of lightning, followed by the pattering of raindrops on the roof, and in a few minutes Mrs. Benham was asleep—Benham says the trick has worked a complete cure.

DOCTOR IS CABIN BOY.

Milwaukee Physician Quits Large Practice for \$10 Job at Sea.

New York.—It was the fascination of the Pacific, the undoubted attraction of endless blue skies and rolling seas that caught Daniel Wylie, a Milwaukee physician, and caused him, as so many others have done, to secure employment that would keep him in the Sandwich Islands. Less than a year ago Wylie, about 35 years old, shipped out of this port for Honolulu as "cabin boy" aboard the American bark Nuuanu, Capt. Josselyn. Now he is purser of an island steamer plying between Honolulu, Maui, Hawaii and other islands.

The Nuuanu has come back. Capt. Josselyn, an elderly skipper, who lives at Duxbury, Mass., told of his physician cabin boy. He said: "He made a good cabin boy; never saw a better one to clean brasses than Wylie. He was a good doctor, too, by all accounts. A man about 35 years old, I should imagine. He got \$10 a month as cabin boy and said he left a practice of \$10,000 a year to make the sea trip. He was shattered in health, you see; nerves gone; worked too hard. Well, naturally, you can see what it led to. His health gave way and he was advised to go east and take a long sea trip.

"Seems his wife was dead and he had left two children out west there. Wylie stood the test well. When we were out a few days he was very bad and could hardly get about. After that he braced up, however, and steadily recovered his health."

HORSE FOR THE MUSEUM.

Skeleton of Stonewall Jackson's Charger Is Secured.

Pittsburg, Pa.—With the great mass of official business of his hands, caused by the annual meeting of the Museum Directors' association, in this city recently, Dr. W. J. Holland now intends to devote himself to the mounting of the many new finds made within the last few months.

By far the most interesting of these, from a historical standpoint, is the skeleton of Stonewall Jackson's horse, which was secured by the director against much quiet but persistent competition. Dr. Holland will prepare this exhibit with his own hands, and it probably will be placed in the museum within a fortnight. The skeleton is said to be practically perfect.

The skeleton of another famous war horse of the rebellion, Winchester, the charger of Gen. Phil Sheridan, in his famous 20-mile ride, is government property, and is kept in the museum on Governor's island, in New York harbor. This museum for a long time has been going to ruin through the lack of an appropriation to keep it up, and the hide of the old war horse is rapidly falling away from dry rot. It is possible that "Winchester" will be added to the Carnegie collection or that both Jackson's and Sheridan's horses will ultimately stand side by side in a national museum.

TALL PEOPLE LIVE LONGEST.

Cleveland Health Officer Says Germs Can't Climb Up to Their Noses.

Cleveland, O.—Health Officer Martin Friedrich, of this city advances a new germ theory that is certainly encouraging to people who are tall. "Blessed are the tall," says Friedrich, "for they shall live long. A six-footer," he continued, "has more chance to escape disease germs than the little fellow. Those built close to the ground must be on the lookout."

Friedrich was perusing the physicians' mortality reports, and noticed a prevalence of children's diseases. Out of 28 cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis, or spotted fever, reported to his department since January 1, all of the victims have been children.

"I believe that most of the disease germs are close to the ground," he said. "We know that these germs are taken into the system through the nose in breathing. They find a breeding place in the dirt of the streets, and as they are stirred up by the passing pedestrians, they are drawn into the nose.

"The germs never reach any great altitude. Most of them are falling toward the earth, and as the children's noses are closer to the ground than those of adults, they are more likely to inhale the disease-makers."

WIGS NOW MADE OF GLASS.

Lack of the Genuine Article Forces Use of Novel Substitute.

London.—The enormous feminine demand for artificial coils and toupees is leading to a famine in human hair. Formerly Swiss, German and Hungarian girls supplied the world of fashionable women with luxuriant tresses of all tints.

But the governments of many countries are now making it illegal for a girl to sell her hair or for any agent to buy it. The supply in consequence is running short, and the prices of real hair are trebling.

A series of successful experiments point to spun glass as the most effective substitute for human hair. Wigs made from spun glass are wonderfully light and fine and the texture soft and beautiful.

It is easy to produce any shade desired, while curls and waves can be manufactured at will to suit the fashion of the moment. The imitation is so realistic and true to life that it is impossible to detect the difference between it and real hair grown on the head.

ROMANCE OF SERVANT

FORMER HOUSEKEEPER WEDS WESTERN MILLIONAIRE.

Was Once Companion of His First Wife—Successfully Invests Savings, Then Educates Himself and Travels.

Spokane, Wash.—Anna Larsen-Peterson, born of humble parents in Sweden, has become the wife of D. C. Corbin, millionaire railroad builder and sugar manufacturer, president of the Spokane International Railway company, whose line he built after selling the Spokane Falls & Northern railway to the Great Northern Railroad company. The wedding took place at Mt. Vernon, N. Y., May 22, and was not made public until the couple arrived in Spokane a few days ago. Mrs. Corbin is 25 years of age, while her husband is 70. Close friends say it was a love match.

Mrs. Corbin's romance reads more like one of Hans Christian Anderson's fairy tales than a story of modern life in the active and virile northwest. The daughter of a small farmer in rural Sweden, as a little girl she dreamed of the future, and before she attained her majority she came to America, like many of her countrymen and women, to improve her station in life.

After working in various households in New England and the middle western states, she came to Spokane 12 years ago and entered the home of D. C. Corbin as a housekeeper and companion to Mrs. Corbin. She gained the friendship of Mrs. Corbin, who assisted the girl with her education. Shortly before Mrs. Corbin died, six years ago, Anna married Antons Peterson, at that time identified with a local hardware firm, but they lived together only a few weeks, and two years afterward the young woman obtained a divorce at Tacoma.

Before her marriage she invested her savings in realty, which she sold profitably, and with the proceeds went to Chicago and placed herself under instructors, afterward going to Boston and New York, whence she went abroad with a teacher and three other pupils on an educational tour.

She traveled extensively a year, and in the meantime entered into correspondence with her former employer, who asked her hand in marriage three years ago. She gave her consent several weeks ago, when Mr. Corbin started eastward on a business trip, and they were married at the home of a friend, the bride being given away by her brother, Hjalmer Larson, who is chief draftsman for the Spokane International system.

Mrs. Corbin is of the Swedish type of beauty and has light hair and blue eyes. She is a brilliant conversationalist and speaks English with scarcely a trace of accent. She is also conversant with the French and German languages. She is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, and it is said by intimate friends that she will use considerable of the fortune placed at her disposal by her husband in assisting her countrywomen and in works of charity.

Through her marriage she becomes the mother-in-law of the earl of Oxford, whose wife is Mr. Corbin's daughter.

BOY HAS PLAN TO FEED HORSES.

Automatic Labor-Saving Device Is the Work of Fourteen-Year-Old.

Middleboro, Mass.—One of the most unique displays in the home-work department at the recent exhibition given by the pupils of the public schools was the automatic horse feeder made by Arthur Ripley, a 14-year-old high school student. Visiting teachers and superintendents were much interested in this labor-saving device, and the young electrician was kept busy during the exhibition explaining his feeder and demonstrating its usefulness.

It consisted of a large box with two partitions for the different kinds of grain, the bottom of which was hung on hinges. A lever which held the bottom in position was connected with the alarm gear of a common alarm clock, which was put in a small box on the side of the grain receptacle. The time of the clock in front corresponded with the time on the clock inside the box.

The alarm is set at the time the horses are to be fed, and the farmer could then go about his other work, and at the proper time the alarm would go off, releasing the lever and dropping the bottom of the box, which allowed the grain to fall into the manger in front of the horse. A small electric light is attached to the upper side of the clock box, which shows the farmer where the box is without a lantern, so that the possibility of setting fire to the barn is averted. Each day the box is filled with grain and the lever adjusted.

"Spies" Needed by 100,000.

New York.—The board of education has voted to ask the health department to make an expert examination of the eyes of all the children in the public schools to find out exactly how many would need glasses. Commissioner Stern said he estimated at least 100,000 children would require spectacles. He declared that "all attempts to educate these half-blind children under present conditions means so much sheer waste of money to New York." He said the city must provide glasses for the afflicted pupils at once or else regret its refusal throughout the generation.

THE SHORTEST SOLDIER.

How a Young Kansan Under the Acquired Height Got Into the Army.

Kansas City.—Charles L. Dagan, of Keats, Kan., a young army recruit who enlisted in Kansas City and left with a squad of recruits for the Texas barracks, near St. Louis, is probably the shortest soldier in the United States army. His height is five feet two inches. He was accepted only on the recommendation of President Roosevelt, to whom he wrote explaining the situation after he had been rejected on account of his height at the auxiliary recruiting station at Topeka early in April.

Dagan had entertained the hope of becoming a soldier for a number of years. He is now 22 and having no one dependent upon him, he went to the recruiting station to enter the service. He passed a rigid examination save for his height, but the news that for this reason he could not become a soldier did not deter him. He had decided to become one, and promptly wrote to President Roosevelt explaining the situation. He made an earnest appeal to the chief executive, and the frank, earnest manner in which he couched his plea seemed to strike the president as that of a man who would make a good soldier.

This is probably the first instance of an acceptance of an application for enlistment in the army when a discrepancy of two inches in the required height existed. The minimum height, as stipulated by the war department, is five feet-four inches.

Dagan is of almost perfect build, weighs 130 pounds and has a five-inch chest expansion. He expressed a desire to enlist in the cavalry and be sent to the Philippines. At Jefferson barracks he will be assigned to a regiment of cavalry under orders or preparing for orders for Philippine service.

DOES NOT FEAR GREAT WEALTH.

Justice Brewer Sees Growth of Spirit of Humanity in America.

New York.—"I do not view with alarm the accumulation of wealth, because I believe that the spirit of humanity and the sense of responsibility is growing among us," said Justice Brewer, of the United States supreme court, the other day, in discussing the future of the country.

"I wish the next 50 years were before me," said the justice, "that I might witness and participate in their events, for the coming half century is to be a marvelous period of history. Great inventions will be made, remarkable discoveries will be brought to light, civilization will advance, humanity will progress, and I believe that our nation will approach nearer the blessings of peace, of comfort and of happiness.

"The greatest hope for the future of the American nation is the development of its conscience. I think the spirit of religion is growing stronger—the religion of the Golden Rule and the good Samaritan.

"I look forward to the day when every man, woman and child in these United States shall have the blessings of physical comfort, the happiness of plenty; when there shall be no dire poverty and want."

BETS HERSELF ON A RACE.

St. Louis Girl Will Marry Owner of Horse if He Wins Cupid Handicap.

St. Louis, Mo.—Miss Helen Burs, of 2024 Fair avenue, has bet herself on a horse race.

Laws against bookmaking didn't bother Miss Burs and Frank Grimes when they put their wager, as remarkable a one as the turf ever saw, into writing and had it witnessed before a notary public.

The great Cupid handicap will be run at Priester's park, near Belleville, on the afternoon of July 4. If the fourth horse, Grimes' Robbie G., comes first under the wire Miss Burs will come down from the grand stand and will take Grimes by the hand, the judge's bell will be rung in wedding day fashion, a real judge will step forth and the dashing pretty St. Louis girl will become Mrs. Grimes.

Miss Burs made the wager after a discussion as to the merits of two horses in the race, in which Grimes dared her to put herself up as the prize. He had proposed to her before, but had been refused. Miss Burs says the novelty of the situation won her consent.

BLOOM GOES TO JUNK PILE.

Historic War Vessel Condemned and Sold for \$4,210.

Philadelphia.—After having weathered storms for nearly three-quarters of a century the old sloop-of-war St. Louis has been sold by the governor to a junk dealer of this city for \$4,210. The vessel was condemned by a board of surveyors at League Island navy yard, and it was decided by the navy department that it should be sold, the upset price being fixed at \$3,200. The great amount of copper in the old hull made it more than usually valuable.

The St. Louis was built at Washington in 1828, and was the vessel which Capt. Ingraham overpowered an Austrian squadron in the harbor of Smyrna and secured the release of an American citizen who was held a prisoner on the Austrian flagship. Capt. Ingraham cleared for action and served notice that he would open fire on the squadron if the man was not surrendered by a certain hour. Before the time limit expired the man was sent on board the St. Louis.

TWO OLD GUNS GONE

LOS ANGELES, CAL., WORRIED OVER THEIR DISAPPEARANCE.

Interesting History Attached to "Fremont" Cannon—Formed Link Between Bear Flag Days and Old Glory.

Los Angeles, Cal.—What has become of the two old "Fremont" cannons dug up by workmen at Commercial and Main streets some time ago? No one seems able to reply. It is said the cannons were taken to the Fort Mill summit and placed near the flag pole where Gen. Fremont once displayed his forces, but the cannons are not visible in that vicinity, and no one in the neighborhood knows about them.

These cannons were a valuable acquisition to California's archeological possessions, and formed a connecting link between the old days of the Bear Flag and the final raising of Old Glory. An interesting history is attached to them of which perhaps no man in southern California is more familiar than "Uncle Billy" Workman, pioneer banker and real estate man of Los Angeles. "Uncle Billy" is interested in the preservation of these cannons, and speaks of them in earnest, endearing terms. The very mention of them assembles a host of romantic recollections of pueblo days.

"The two cannons dug up at the corner of Main and Commercial streets," said Mr. Workman, "I think were brought from Mexico by an old Spanish tramp-trading vessel in 1819. They probably were sent to the people here by the Mexican government for use against American invasions. The inhabitants of this country even then did not call themselves Mexicans, but native Californians.

"When Gen. Fremont and Kearney came to Los Angeles these same 'native Californians' used the two cannons to attack them. When Commodore Stockton was bringing his troops from San Pedro he met the natives near the Dominguez rancho where an encounter ensued and in which the cannons were captured. They were hauled into Los Angeles on carretas. The Americans spiked both guns and later threw them into the ocean at San Pedro, where for years they lay forgotten.

"After the Americans took possession of the country the cannons were found and spiked out. Fifty-three years ago, when I first came to Los Angeles, they were hidden away in a lot on Aliso street. When I became a member of the city council, several years later, we decided to preserve these weapons as mementoes of the past, and to make them useful as well. We placed them at the corner of Commercial and Main streets as a guard to protect a building from turning wagons. They were firmly embedded there, and attracted considerable attention for some years. As I recall it now, this building was torn down, and the street somewhat changed, with the result that the cannons became deeply buried under the dirt and debris, and in the rapid progress of incoming civilization were at last forgotten.

An examination of the two guns reveals that they are considerably over 200 years old. Local historians estimate their age at from three to six centuries, and it is pointed out that they are of the type used by the early Spanish conquerors, Cortez and others. A cannon of the same pattern, but of larger bore, said to have been used by Cortez in his famous stand against the forces of Montezuma, and later exhumed from ruins on the shore of Tehuantepec, now is on exhibit in the National museum in the City of Mexico. This leaves the inference that the two cannons found here were of a contemporary vintage, hence it is only to be surmised in how many Spanish-Aztec or Mexican-American encounters the guns have figured.

SEES IN MERCHANT A BANDIT.

Respected Citizen of Houston, Texas, Identified as a Train Robber.

Galveston, Tex.—Joseph Bertmann, a respected merchant of Houston, was confronted the other day by John T. Dickey, who positively identified him as one of the robbers who held up a train and robbed the express company of about \$25,000 18 years ago. Dickey was the Wells Fargo express messenger on the Houston & Texas Central line and the hold-up took place on the night of Sept. 24, 1889, ten miles south of Fort Worth. Two men did the work and for a half-hour the express messenger was face-to-face with the man who robbed the safe while his companion covered the engineer and fireman.

Dickey made a study of this man's features and voice, and declares he could recognize either among 1,000 men. He has not been in south Texas for fifteen years and upon entering Bertmann's store he was astonished to be greeted by the robber. Bertmann is said to have offered to restore the amount if the case be dropped.

Trio of Aged Sisters.

Canton.—Mary E. Ohliger, aged 89, one of three sisters residing in Canton whose combined ages total 250 years and one of the oldest members of the First Reformed church, now in existence a century, is dead. The two sisters left behind are Mrs. Catherine Weber and Mrs. Obergeil. Former Banker Louis Ohliger, of Wooster, is a son. The remains will be sent to Wooster for burial.