

TALKS WITH TONGUE CUT OUT.

Foiled Doctors in Regaining Power of Speech and Living.

New York—Four years after his tongue was cut out to check the spread of cancer, Thomas Maguire, known to theatrical folk throughout the country as the one-time manager of the Fourteenth Street and Bijou theaters in this city, can talk and sing and eat solid food much like other people. His case attracted the attention of medical authorities here and elsewhere several years ago, following the operation upon him on March 12, 1904.

Maguire says he was given one year to live by the physicians when the operation was performed. He had smoked 20 cigars a day for 20 years before that. The doctors told him he could never talk again, once his tongue was cut out at his efforts. Subsequently he told of how they were crowned with ultimate success. It was about a month after the operation that Maguire first tried to talk. He said he was thinking how hard it would be never to talk again and as he thought he suddenly cried out loud: "I can't stand for that."

Then Maguire says he knew he could talk, and he soon surprised his doctor by doing so. Maguire was regarded as a physiological wonder and his case aroused much interest.

VALUE OF OPEN AIR.

Gypsy Is Ninety-Three and His Wife Is a Hundred and One.

London—Two remarkable old people—living examples of the value of the open air life—are to be found dwelling in their open caravan, for which they paid \$650, and cultivating a plot of land some three acres in area, between Great Marlow and Medmenham, in Buckinghamshire.

They are Gypsy Cooper, as he is called, who is 93 years of age, and his wife, who, it is claimed, has reached the remarkable age of 101 years. Both are hale, hearty and keen witted.

Mrs. Cooper, despite her advanced age, is not only a busy housewife, but also happy at outdoor work in winter or summer. Besides their dwelling van they own two other caravans, with which they attend fairs from time to time.

Gypsy Cooper saw long service in the Oxfordshire regiment, and has a fund of stories of other times and ways. He will readily demonstrate his physical vigor by dancing a hornpipe on a table.

These patriarchal specimens of the Zingaro race are great-grandparents, and can point to other remarkable instances of longevity among their kinsfolk.

FAITH HEALING BY MAIL.

Cheering Letters Containing Prayer Directions to Be Sent.

New York—Cure of physical ills by faith and prayer is to be taken up by mail as well as by personal ministrations in the campaign of healing undertaken by Rev. Herbert N. Hopkins, pastor of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Holy Nativity, in the Bronx, according to the announcement by the pastor.

Rev. Mr. Hopkins announced that since he had begun his faith-and-prayer-cure meetings his mail had been flooded with requests from sufferers in all parts of the country for advice and suggestions as to treatment.

It was in the case of a woman who had been suffering from nervous prostration over the death of her husband that Mr. Hopkins declared his intention of trying mail treatment. He said he intended writing cheering letters and giving the patient advice as to how to pray.

LOVE'S LOTTERY A FAILURE.

Neither of Two Who Drew Decisive Straws is Satisfied.

Asheville, N. C.—A novel suit has been instituted in the superior court, alleging that the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Brookshire, two well-known young people, be set aside on the grounds that it was a lottery.

The complaint alleges that at a dance given in Victoria it was proposed that some one should get married, and this was agreed to by all the young people, the proposition being made and also accepted to draw straws to see who it should be.

The complaint further alleges that the lot for marriage fell upon the plaintiff and defendant, that they were driven into Asheville, a marriage license procured and the ceremony performed. The complaint also says the two have never lived together.

The bride was Miss Kathleen Gentry, a pretty 17-year-old girl.

Find Coffin of Duchess' Dog.

Cincinnati—Encased in a costly casket, with a silver plate inscription, the body of a canine pet of the duchess of Manchester during her girlhood was unearthed beneath an old apple tree on the grounds formerly occupied by Eugene Zimmerman in Mount Auburn. The discovery recalled that the duchess, before her marriage, was a lover of dogs, and when her pet died she provided handsome coffins and had the corpses interred beneath her favorite tree. The little coffin was found during the laying out of grounds for a church recently erected on the property. It was lined with expensive silks. It was learned that other coffins interred near the spot contain valuable jewelry.

NEW GAS EXPLOSIVE

GASEO-MITRITE IS LATEST RIVAL OF DYNAMITE.

Produced by Liquid Action Upon Well-Known Substances—St. Louis Man is Inventor—Would Sell to Government.

St. Louis—An invention that is expected to revolutionize firearms and explosives came to light when Ralston T. Wilbur, professor of engineering at the Christian Brothers' college, was called into consultation with Richard H. Murphy, a former mine operator, and E. F. Lugar, stock and bond broker. The meeting was to devise plans for the perfection of an explosive—"gaseo-mitrite"—with which Murphy has been experimenting for five years. Six months ago he hit upon the secret, although he had worked on the same theory since he gave up mining.

Murphy claims that the explosive has five times the destructive power of dynamite; that it is noiseless, and that it carries little smoke. He claims it superior to the recently invented "smokeless powder," as he claims that invention is little better than other powder, as it carries an odor that is obnoxious. The new explosive that Murphy has invented is a gas and is stored in steel shells.

The explosion is caused by a metallic spark, and the inventor claims that it is impossible for the gas to explode without being ignited. He said that he was waiting for a reply from Rear Admiral Melville, retired chief of construction, United States navy, and that it was his intention to sell the secret to the government. He said he would make the invention an open secret rather than form a corporation. "Should the government refuse our offer," he said, "I will offer the invention to some other power."

One of the advantages claimed for the invention is that the gas can be made more cheaply and it is more effective than the explosives now used in war. "It will replace dynamite and powder entirely," Murphy said, "and for this reason we are not going to have it patented. The gases are produced by liquid action upon substances which are well known."

Prof. Wilbur, when speaking of the invention, said that he thought it the greatest of the age. "It will mean great development in all lines," he declared, "as the mines can be more easily penetrated and stone quarried with less difficulty. I have worked with Mr. Murphy on the scheme for some time, and it was only the other day, after taking Mr. Lugar in with us, that we decided to make the thing public. We believe we have a great invention, and are willing to turn it over to the government. I have worked four years at building workshops for the United States, and know the advantage the invention will have. It will mean a revolution in the methods of war, as well as in the claiming of earth's treasures."

"What we want to do," said Mr. Murphy, "is to have the government look into the invention, and then send men to St. Louis and give us a chance to prove the power of the explosive. If the authorities are willing, we will give a demonstration near the barracks."

Murphy resides on Laclede avenue. A few days ago an agent of the Dupont Powder company called on Murphy and Wilbur, so they state, and wanted to learn of the invention. Murphy said that they did not consider his visit important, as they did not contemplate selling to a company.

SPANKING LEADS TO COURT.

Twenty-Five-Year-Old Stepdaughter Causes Farmer's Arrest. Milford, Del.—Alleged to have taken the privilege of spanking his pretty 25-year-old stepdaughter, Miss Mary Bennett, as if she were a baby, Henry Clay Jones, a prominent and well-to-do farmer living near Milford, was held under \$1,000 bail for his appearance at the April term of court by Squire Fisher.

The trouble grew out of a dispute over butter and eggs between Jones and Miss Bennett, with whom Jones lives, as his wife at her death left the property to her daughter and son by a former marriage.

Miss Bennett testified that, after she had been seized by the arms without provocation and thrown to the floor, Jones proceeded to administer an old-fashioned spanking, "as mother used to do." Miss Bennett said she was prostrated by the shock and Dr. James G. Stanton testified that she was injured internally. Jones claimed that he only brushed the girl aside, but Miss Bennett's story seemed to satisfy the court, and Jones was held on a charge of aggravated assault.

World's Army of M. D.'s.

Berlin—According to an ingenious statistician there are at present 228,234 medical doctors in the world. Of these there are in Europe 162,333, distributed as follows: In England, 34,967; in Germany, 32,518; in Russia, 21,489; in France, 20,348; and in Italy, 18,245. In England the proportion of doctors is 78 to 100,000 of the population, in France it is 51, and in Turkey 18.

In Brussels the proportion is 241 to 100,000 of the population; in Madrid, 209; in Budapest, 198; in Christiania, 181; in Vienna, 140; in Berlin, 132; in London, 128; in Athens, 123; in Paris, 111; in New York, 74, and Constantinople, 35.

DOGS ARE THEIR TERROR.

Great Falls, Mont., People Look to Philadelphia for Relief.

Philadelphia—Cowboys of the west know how to fight Indians, corral horses and cattle and usually deal quickly and finally with either man or beast. But in a town out in Montana called Great Falls, the authorities have acknowledged their inability to cope with plain, every-day dogs, as is evidenced by a letter, characteristic of the western brusqueness, which was received by Chief Deputy Prothonotary James W. Fletcher. It follows: Office of the City Engineer, Great Falls, Mont., May 7, 1908.—City Clerk, Philadelphia.—Dear Sir: Your city is credited with having the most practicable city ordinance for the regulation of dogs of any city in the United States. I would esteem it a favor if you would furnish me with a copy of said ordinance. Our city has more dogs to the square inch of population than the Holy City of Damascus, and for every dog executed two more appear to fill his place. Jack rabbits in California are not in it. Our dogs are licensed renegades, they wear high collars covered with brass tags, and promenade through the business streets; they get the first whack at everything we have to eat, and altogether they are a more undesirable acquisition than Cree Indians, and we are determined to legislate them out of business.

Any information you may find it convenient to furnish will be greatly appreciated and duly reciprocated.

Yours truly, (Signed) C. W. SWEAKINGEN, City Engineer.

Mr. Fletcher will turn the letter over to the proper official in order that Great Falls may rid itself of what it fears more than Indians, the common dog.

MICHIGAN HAS A POO-BAH.

Chief of Police of Muskegon Heights Also Holds All Other Jobs.

Muskegon, Mich.—The city of Muskegon Heights, located two miles south of Muskegon, refuses to be merged with Muskegon. Its few citizens want to enjoy the distinction that the city affords.

Muskegon Heights is the biggest small city in the state of Michigan. Its mayor, Leonard Eggeert, was elected by a vote of one ballot last year. Some have been rude enough to say that Mr. Eggeert voted, but better-informed ones know that he is of a modest nature.

The people of Muskegon Heights are near the latest municipal problems, and instead of having two tickets that would create a fight and tend to disorganize the city and possibly result in friction that would hurt the interest of the community they hit upon one man, placed him in nomination for the office of mayor, and then gave him a few honorary votes at the election.

Muskegon Heights is distinctly a factory center. There are 15 large manufacturing institutions located within its mile-square borders.

Another feature of the city is the fact that the choice for mayor has spread to the office of every appointive office in the power of the mayor.

Thus William Ruhm, the chief of police, is street commissioner. Also the honorable duties of collecting taxes on dogs and dispatching the same when taxes are not forthcoming falls upon his huge shoulders. Not alone those two offices does he hold, but a score more—license collector, transit officer, poundmaster, chief of the fire department, engineer and fireman of the city pumping station, janitor of the city hall, poor commissioner, superintendent of the water department, and it is stated, a few more jobs that haven't been given handles.

DICE TO SETTLE DISPUTE.

Man Will Travel 1,800 Miles to End Land Deal with Partners.

La Crosse, Wis.—William H. Meyer, a traveling salesman of this city, will travel 1,800 miles to shake a game of dice. Meyer does not stand to lose anything by his long journey to shake dice, but if he wins a choice bunch of real estate will pass into his possession. The story is as follows:

Meyer and two other traveling men whom he met on a trip south two years ago were persuaded to purchase a 40-acre tract of land in central Texas. They paid \$7 an acre. Since then a railroad has been built through the town and passes close to the land. The town is growing rapidly and has spread so close to the 40-acre tract in question that an enterprising land agent, desirous of converting this real estate into lots, has made a generous offer for it. He agrees to pay \$150 an acre for all or any portion of the land. Mr. Meyer's two partners want to sell, but he does not. He believes the property will continue to increase in value and if it does he wants to get in on the profits.

The partners have given their ultimatum, which is to sell their shares, and an agreement has been reached to divide the land by shaking dice before the sale is made. The prize will be that third of the 40-acre tract nearest the growing city, this being the most valuable.

Finds Egg Within Egg.

Vineland, N. J.—William Wamsley has a pigeon's egg 6 1/2 x 7 1/2 inches in size.

Inside the shell was found the meat of an ordinary egg and inside of that a perfectly formed pigeon egg of the normal size, with hard shell and parable feet.

WIDOW ASKS STAMPS

DEMANDS PREMIUM OF UNDERTAKER ON BUYING COFFIN.

Refuses Patronage When Trading Certificates Are Refused Her—Thrifty "Morticians" Offering Inducements for Business.

Chicago—Trading Stamps with Every Funeral" is the placard that one may expect to see soon in the windows of up-to-date Chicago undertakers. That two or three funeral directors on the northwest side of the city have adopted the trading-stamp system to increase business was revealed the other day when a bereaved widow canceled an order at L. M. Rolston's because he would not give her some stamps.

Friends of hers, she said, who recently had deaths in their families, were given trading stamps by the undertaker, and she insisted on getting the coupons or she would go elsewhere.

The matter of trading stamps will be brought before the Chicago Undertakers' association at its next meeting. M. M. Goodale, president of the association, said that "the trading-stamp business was a new one on him," but he supposed those engaged in it were "undertakers who carry on a death-bed insurance."

"Those vultures," said Mr. Goodale, "will do anything to get business. The old-fashioned name of undertaker is not good enough for those fellows, and they call themselves 'morticians.' Now that the matter has been called to my attention I will bring it up at the next meeting of the association. Trading stamps? What next?"

The woman who disclosed the trading-stamp scheme entered Rolston's undertaking establishment accompanied by her brother. She apparently was about 40 years old. John Morris, manager of the establishment, noticed that she did not have the grief-stricken appearance of widows who come there on a similar errand.

Throwing back the long veil that hid her face she brushed a tear away with a black bordered handkerchief.

"I might as well tell you at the start," she said to Manager Morris, "that I haven't any money to throw away on funerals. What I want is a nice, plain casket, not expensive, but at the same time one that will look all right. I don't want it to look cheap, for folks probably would talk about it. Something for about \$50, I think, would be the proper thing."

Mr. Morris showed the widow and her escort several caskets at the price named, and they selected one which the man observed was "good enough for a king." A brown robe was preferred to a black one, because the deceased was partial to the former color. Other details of the funeral were arranged, after which Mr. Morris asked the widow and her brother to be seated in the office while he took down the name and address.

It was at this juncture that the woman asked about the trading stamps.

"You've made a mistake, madam," said the undertaker.

"And you don't give trading stamps?" she ejaculated. "Well, then, I'll go where I can get them. I know two women who buried their husbands in the last year and the undertaker gave them trading stamps. They live on the northwest side. One lady got a beautiful parlor lamp for her stamps and the other an onyx top center table." "And you mean to say you don't give stamps?" "Why, the very idea!" She was still talking about stamps when she reached the sidewalk.

PROBE BIRDS' STOMACHS.

To Prove Woodpeckers Eat Bark Beetles is Uncle Sam's Aim.

Deadwood, S. D.—One of the most remarkable orders ever received by the local forest service office has just come from Washington. Supervisor Hamilton has been requested to have his rangers kill and dress a couple of dozen woodpeckers, selected from different parts of the Black Hills national forest.

The stomachs of the birds are to be carefully preserved and after being detached and given temporary treatment with an embalming fluid, labeled and forwarded to Washington, where they will be analyzed and tested to find if any of the bark beetles that have proved so destructive in the hills are contained in the organs.

It is believed by the forestry department that the woodpeckers have been a persistent enemy of the bark beetle and it is to prove or disprove this theory in the interests of science that the department has issued the order. Rangers are now carrying it into effect.

Estate Hangs on Tombstone.

South Bond, Ind.—If Martha Longacre will erect a tombstone over the grave of her sister, Elizabeth Longacre, Martha, according to Elizabeth's will, filed here, is to inherit several thousand dollars. Otherwise the executor will make distribution of the money.

Finds \$4,800 in Old House.

Bloomington, Ill.—While clearing away the debris in an old house in Mason county, Benjamin McFadden found a sack of gold which contained \$4,800. The building was formerly owned by Adolph Krebaum, who died a year ago. He is supposed to have hidden the money.

"SPUDS" CAUSE TROUBLE.

Long Lawsuit Follows Dispute Over Six Barrels of Potatoes.

Washington, Wis.—The case of A. R. Mead, appellant, vs. William Simpson, respondent, which was decided in the supreme court, brings to a close the first act in the farcical iron river potato case. The case involves an amount of three dollars, the payment for six bushels of potatoes, and while the amount is not large, the case is being watched with more interest by the people of Bayfield county than cases involving thousands of dollars.

About a year and a half ago A. R. Mead sold to Simpson six bushels of potatoes, and was to get three dollars in payment for them. Simpson, who at the time of the sale was working for the Iron River Hardware company, sent Mead to the company manager for the pay. When Mead presented the bill he was told that the amount would be credited to his account at the store, and Simpson charged with the account. He refused this and soon started suit to recover the amount of the bill.

The case has been in litigation for a year, and has been fought in the municipal court, circuit court and finally carried to the supreme court. At the time that it was before the circuit court the judge ordered it back to the lower court, but the supreme court reversed this decision, and it must now be tried out in the circuit court. It has been one of the hardest fought cases that has been tried in the county for some time, and the end yet seems some distance away.

GIRL GRABS NICE MAN.

Matrimonially Inclined Belle Makes a Queer Mistake.

Pittsburg, Pa.—Marryable men are scarce in Moon Run, Pa., so when Susie Medelis, the village belle, concluded to get married she came to Pittsburg and sought an employment agency. With many blushes she told the agent her mission. The agent misunderstood the Moon Run girl and sent her to a boarding house, where a number of workmen reside, to work as a waitress.

The girl arrived at the house at the breakfast hour. Seated around the table were a dozen stalwart ironworkers. Among them was Paul Lockwood, who stands six feet three inches in his stockings. Susie was convinced that he was the one man in the world for her. She threw her arms about his neck and said:

"You will do. I don't know your name, but I will take you for a husband; come along with me."

Lockwood objected to such rapid transit matrimony and, breaking away from the girl, started to leave the dining room.

"Oh, no, you don't," protested Susie. "I paid the employment man \$5 for you and you have got to go with me to Moon Run."

Lockwood's pleadings were fruitless and finally Detective Roach was sent for. He arrested the girl.

At the hearing before Magistrate Brady Susie said she was under the impression that she had been sent to the house to select a husband. The magistrate discharged the girl.

BOTTLE'S LONG VOYAGE.

Drifts 20,000 Miles from the North Pacific to North Atlantic.

Philadelphia—When Frank L. Burnett was on board the United States steamship Marblehead four years ago, and while at Callao, Peru, he threw overboard a bottle with a piece of paper bearing his name, address, and the date, August 19, 1904. Mr. Burnett recently received the following letter:

"Island of Flores, Azores, Oct. 24, 1907.—Frank Burnett, Kansas City, Mo.—Dear Sir: The paper that you threw from the U. S. S. Marblehead off Callao, Peru, was washed ashore at the island of Corvo, Azores, on the 26th day of September, 1907, and it had the date of August 19, 1904."

"JAMES MARKAY." Mr. Burnett, says the Kansas City Star, received a letter a few days ago from the hydrographic office of the navy department telling him that the finder of the bottle and the paper had sent them to that office.

The hydrographic office informed Mr. Burnett that it is the most remarkable drift of a bottle—20,000 miles, from the North Pacific to the North Atlantic ocean—that has been recorded.

TELEPATHY GETS THE MONEY.

Concentrated Thought of 2,000 Pupils Prevails with Board.

New York—With more than 2,000 high school girls using mental telepathy to force the issue, the board of estimate approved an appropriation of \$500,000 to build a new high school to be called the Washington Irving high school.

Some time ago the land was purchased and all that was needed was the money for the building. Petitions signed by every pupil in the school, and several thousand others, were sent to the board. At 10:30, when the board considered the matter, all class duties were laid aside in the present school, and every pupil was asked to think hard and urge on the board affirmative action.

"Approve the money and give us a new school," was said mentally by the entire school, and the mental process apparently had its effect, as the board passed the appropriation.

TO FIRE ON MONITOR

TEST PRACTICALLY UNDER WAR CONDITIONS TO BE MADE.

Effect of Huge Projectiles, Including Torpedoes, Hurlled at Turret and Armored Hull of Florida Will Be Studied.

Washington—A firing test of extraordinary interest to the naval authorities will take place soon. Twelve-inch guns will be fired at the turret of the monitor Florida under conditions "as nearly as possible approaching actual warfare."

This will be the main feature of the test, and the ordnance branch and other bureaus of the navy department hope to obtain valuable results from the experiment.

Preparations for this momentous event have been going forward for six months, and everything is practically ready. All the arrangements have been carefully guarded and every effort exerted to keep information on the subject from the press. Facts relating to time, location, and all details of the test are refused at the navy department.

Following the experiments by the British government a year ago in firing at the old war vessel Hero, the conclusion was reached by the navy department that much valuable data might be secured from a like test on one of our monitors, of which the government has four of the Florida type.

What little information the British government was willing to give out showing the results of the firing at the Hero is in the possession of the naval experts. It is understood the hull was sunken as a result of a shell piercing the vessel below the armor belt.

Effects of the bursting of shells on armor plates have been demonstrated at the Indian Head proving grounds. The firing there, however, has been against individual plates, not as they are bolted and riveted together in the turret or on the sides of a man-of-war.

To determine what would happen in such circumstances it was decided to try a shot or two at the Florida. Conditions will be made as warlike as possible. Practically the only element lacking will be that of human life aboard the vessel. The department would have no difficulty in obtaining all the volunteers it could use had a decision been reached to put men aboard the vessel, but such an idea was never entertained.

The tests will show whether any bolts holding the armor have shivered, the rivets loosened, the alignment of the guns changed, the guns' sights harmed, or damage sustained to the plates that might disable the vessel for future effective work.

The Florida, which is practically a new vessel, has an 11-inch armor belt amidship and a five-inch belt around the ends. There is also a 1 1/2-inch deck re-enforcing belt. The armor of the barbette is 11 inches thick and the hood or revolving part of the turret is of similar thickness.

Another feature of the test, it is understood, will be the firing at the vessel of a whitehead torpedo, with the determination to strike the vessel in one of her vital parts, and thus demonstrate just how much damage might result from this method of attack.

The general expectation is that the test will take place in the vicinity of Hampton roads. It is probable the monitor Arkansas will be utilized as the attacking vessel. It is a sister ship to the Florida and her gun complement is the same.

GLASS FOR EACH HABIT.

Metel Tumblers Labeled for Drinkers, Smokers and Others.

Washington, C. H.—An adult white rotting the Republican ticket in South Carolina is almost beset by the same difficulty as a man trying to select a glass from which to drink at the ice water tank in the lobby of the Imperial hotel in this town. The ice water in the hotel generously dispensed, but the difficulty lies in deciding openly whether you are a sheep or a goat, or a half portion of each.

Some patron of the house used the lone glass that formerly adorned the front yard of the tank and detected gin and biters with a little ginger ale on the side. It was not imported ginger ale. The patron favored imported ginger ale, so he kicked. There was evidence, also, that persons drinking from this glass were in the habit of using not only strong drink, but tobacco. More kicks. Thereupon mine host Green evolved something in the line of a direct primary.

There are now six glasses in the rack. Above each glass is a sign, showing the past performances of said glass. One sign reads:

"This glass for cigarette smokers."

Other self-damnatory signs are: This glass for pipe smokers, this glass for booze fighters, this glass for medicine takers, this glass for the lobby loafer, and this glass for the tobacco chewers. It can be easily seen that one may start a little scandal about himself if he boldly quaffs from the booze fighters' glass. If he is unwilling, in addition, to proclaim himself a user of tobacco in this tank drama, the problem is solved by the glass labeled "For Everybody."

The booze fighters' glass has never been used so far, which, of course, indicates that the town is a model community.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS

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