

ALASKA CRUSOE DEAD

John Travers Ends Days in Asylum at Baltimore.

Defended American Flag on Island Against Attacks of Indians—Constant Hostility Finally Wrecked His Mind.

Baltimore, Md.—John Travers, who many years ago defended the American flag against a horde of Indians on a lonely little island of Alaska, is dead at Mount Hope Retreat, where he had been about 20 years. He was 70 years old. Although Travers had a meteoric career, no sooner had he been brought to the asylum bound in chains than he was forgotten.

Travers in his youth drifted west with the United States army and became a fur trader at Seattle, Wash., then a trading post. Travers grew prosperous. Unlike most post traders, he saved his money, dickered with the Indians, and like Alexander Selkirk, he bought a little island and was so on monarch of all he surveyed.

His money, fine clothes and other luxuries soon excited the jealousy of the Indians, who were green with envy when they could not go to church on Sunday in the same style as their white neighbor. Moreover, the pale face could always go to his larger and produce a storehouse of "spirits," while they almost sold their souls for a drink of the "fire water."

GETS FORTUNE FOR A LOAN

New York Man Left \$10,000 and Valuable Property to Philadelphia Who Befriended Him.

Philadelphia.—Five dollars which he gave to a man badly in need of cash temporarily has brought to Dr. Edward W. Hartung, Eighteenth and Reed streets, an estate of more than \$10,000.

While Dr. Hartung was in Sag Harbor, Long Island, nine months ago he loaned five dollars to a well dressed man who said he was ill and had lost his wallet. The stranger said he needed the money to reach his home in New York city. Believing that he would never see the man or the five dollars again, the doctor came back to Philadelphia and soon forgot the affair.

BURIAL "A WASTE OF FOOD."

African Cannibals with Cultivated Farms Still Cling to Revolting Customs.

London.—A surprising account of a trip through Central Africa is given in a report by Hesketh Bell, governor of Uganda, just issued by the colonial office. "My trip through the Bagishu country," he writes, "filled me with amazement. We traveled for four days through enchanting scenery and traversed a country the like of which is probably not to be seen in any other part of Africa. It is no exaggeration to say that over 80 per cent. of the land is under cultivation.

WON BRIDE ON PULLMAN CAR.

Soldier Comes Back from the Philippines After Five Years to Claim Her.

Richmond, Va.—In a dusty parlor car, whirling across the continent toward the land of perpetual sunshine, a soldier boy, clad in his khaki uniform, was hurrying to the far-away Philippines.

Among the crowd of sweltering tourists, business men and pleasure seekers was another warrior, a tiny person with a bow and arrow, and a girl. For four days, among the grime and dust and dirt of the stuffy car, Sergt. Thomas H. Rowland of the United States army, fought the greatest battle of his life—and won.

The spoils of victory was a promise that filled the soldier's heart with gladness and the girl's heart with sadness. But to the tiny warrior who had been his ally, it was simply the old, old story.

It was five years ago that Miss Willie Raper of Virginia, and an heiress in her own right, met the soldier boy, who soon became her sweetheart in the parlor car. And it was five days later that a transport was waiting at the dock at San Francisco to take him away from home.

There were tears at the parting, for, in spite of the sturdy courage of her forbears—good old Virginia stock—she, the girl, did the natural girlish thing, wept and told him to go and do his duty for his country; but to please—oh, please—come back and not let one of those horrid Filipinos shoot him.

And he, flushed with the victory of his four days' whirlwind courtship, and, gladdened by the promise he had won, boarded the ship with a devil-may-care air, after vowing more promises to return.

At last the intrepid sergeant, tanned to a swarthy brown by his years of service in the far east, came back and took the first train south, seeking his pretty heiress in her mountain home and there he made her pay the forfeit of her promise.

TINIEST BANK IN THE WORLD

Building Hardly Big Enough for a Sign, It Pays Dividends and Has Never Failed.

Raleigh, N. C.—Raleigh has the smallest bank in the state, this country or world, for that matter. It is the Wake County Savings bank, and was opened for business on the first day of January, 1905. It was originally built as a hallway, but stairs were run to one side of it, and in the tiny room thus left the bank was established. It has a front of 7 1/4 feet, all glass, consisting of a narrow door and a curved window, and its depth is 25 feet.

There is hardly enough space above its front for the sign in letters of gold. Next to it is a national bank of usual size, and this makes the baby institution seem even smaller by comparison. Yet this little bank has been a success from the very start; has 600 depositors and its assets aggregate \$150,000. It has never failed to pay dividends to its stockholders, and has also paid over \$10,000 in interest to depositors.

The president is William W. Vass, whose father, of the same name, at the time of his death some years ago, was the oldest railway treasurer in the world, having begun his railway life in 1840, and being one of the high officials of the Seaboard Air line. The cashier of the bank is William E. Grimes, whose father was a noted confederate major general, who surrendered at Appomattox. Within the little bank, which is an object of very great curiosity to bank men from all points of the compass, there is a little safe and a narrow counter. Every inch of the small amount of space available is utilized.

GRAFTS PIGSKIN ON CHILD.

Physician Uses Cuticle of Animal Instead of Human in Replacing Child's Missing Integument.

Hubbardston, Mass.—Elizabeth Adams, five years old, is growing upon her body new skin that has been grafted upon her from the soft cuticle of a sucking pig. The graft has lived and the child bids fair to become entirely well.

On February 3 the little girl, who is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Adams, got badly scalded. In time the inflammation subsided and granulation began, and the matter of grafting new skin became pressing, for the area of the injury was about twelve square inches.

Dr. William T. H. Knowlton, the family physician, hesitated about using human skin, although there was no lack of volunteers to give aid to the little child. Fear of infection or possible skin disease was in mind. The parents consented to the use of pigskin, and Dr. Knowlton, assisted by Dr. E. S. Lewis of Princeton, performed the operation.

DUST IS DANGEROUS

A Prolific Cause of Death Among Workmen.

Fine Particles Breathed at Various Trades Leading Often to Consumption—Facts in Recent Government Bulletin.

Washington.—"The Mortality from Consumption in Dusty Trades" is the subject of an article by Frederick L. Hoffman in a bulletin just published by the bureau of labor, department of commerce and labor. The writer discusses the processes and working conditions in occupations where, because of dust, the employment is injurious to health and leads to the development of consumption in particular. Much valuable material from official sources and from insurance mortality experience is also presented, showing the excessive mortality in dusty occupations. Forty-two occupations are considered, divided into four groups, according as they are subject to exposure to metallic dust, mineral dust, vegetable fiber dust, or animal and mixed fiber dust.

Of the deaths from all causes among males 15 years of age and over in the registration area of the United States, 14.8 per cent. were from consumption. According to industrial insurance experience the corresponding proportions were 38.9 per cent. for occupations exposed to metallic dust, 28.6 per cent. for those exposed to mineral dust, 24.8 per cent. for those exposed to vegetable fiber dust and 32.1 per cent. for those exposed to animal and mixed fiber dust. The occupation showing the highest consumption mortality was grinders, among whom 49.2 per cent. of all deaths were from that disease.

In each occupation group the highest consumption mortality was among persons from 35 to 44 years of age, the proportion of deaths from consumption for that age group being 57.3 per cent. in occupations exposed to metallic dust, 47.6 per cent. in those exposed to mineral dust, 63.9 per cent. in those exposed to vegetable fiber dust and 53.8 per cent. in those exposed to animal and mixed fiber dust, as compared with 31.3 per cent. for males in the registration area.

In conjunction with the industrial insurance mortality experience, occupational mortality statistics are presented from the reports of the United States census, British official reports, and the occupation mortality statistics of Rhode Island, which furnish additional evidence of the health-injurious effects of exposure in the occupations considered. These injurious effects are reflected in the comparative small proportion of persons of advanced years, a higher general death rate from consumption and other respiratory diseases.

It is the opinion of Mr. Hoffman that by intelligent methods of ventilation and dust removal the consumption death rate among wage-earners can be reduced from 14.8 per cent. to 1.2 per cent. on the basis of the number of deaths among gainfully employed persons 10 years of age and over in the registration states in 1900, to 1.6 per cent. on the average rate for 200 small cities, as shown in the mortality statistics of the United States census for 1901 to 1906.

Such a reduction, Mr. Hoffman estimates, would result in an annual saving of \$2,328 human lives and would add 15.4 years of life for every death from consumption avoided by rational conditions of industrial life. Such a gain would represent a total of \$4,466 years of additional lifetime, and by just so much the industrial efficiency of the American nation would be increased.

Placing the economic value of a year's lifetime at only \$300, the total average economic gain to the nation would be \$3,080 for every avoidable death of a wage-earner from consumption, representing the enormous total of \$68,498,000 as the aggregate annual financial value in the probable saving in years of adult human life.

Such results clearly within the range of practical attainment, nothing within reason should be left undone as a national, state and individual or social duty to prevent that needless but now enormous loss of human life from consumption due to the unfavorable conditions of American industry.

His Voice a Lock.

Denver, Col.—George J. Charplot of Denver has invented a phonographic safe lock which, he says, can be opened only by the owner. Tests in the presence of experts substantiate the inventor's claims.

Instead of a knob on the door there is the mouthpiece of a telephone. A delicate needle is attached to the diaphragm, the end of the needle resting in a groove of a sound record made on a phonograph cylinder. The word by which the safe is locked is thus recorded, and the one who uttered it must repeat it before the safe will open.

In the tests a dozen men tried to imitate the voice of the man who locked the safe, but the lock would respond only to the right man.

This Frog Aged Enough to Die. New York.—Rameses II., aged 1,000 years and more, died the other day at his home in the reptile house at the Bronx zoo. Rameses II. was the oldest known toad frog. Zoo physicians and surgeons could not determine exactly the disease which caused the final dissolution of Rameses II., but old age is supposed to have had something to do with it.

OZONE A GOOD GERMICIDE.

Experiments by a New York Health Officer is Said to Establish Its Value.

New York.—After experimenting for two months in his laboratory at Quarantine, Dr. A. H. Doty, health officer of this port, has found that ozone is a powerful germicide and disinfectant. Over a year ago Dr. Doty solved the problem of mosquito extermination on Staten Island, and proved recently that paper and metal money was not an agent of disease. The health officer has now turned his attention to the study of ozone. About two months ago he had installed in his laboratory at Quarantine an expensive plant for the manufacture of gas, and after many experiments with it, has announced the success of his work.

While the use of this gas taken from the atmosphere will be of great use on shipboard, Dr. Doty is not confining his experiments to this field, but is working now along general lines. Dr. Doty said that his experiments had convinced him that ozone undoubtedly would become one of the great disinfectants. While it would never be as potent a germicide as steam, the field for its use, he said, would be large and of benefit to humanity in many ways.

Dr. Doty said his work would be limited largely to experiments to determine just what could be done with ozone as a disinfectant. The methods of its economical manufacture, he said, he would leave to others. The health officer said that the great question in the ozone problem now was whether it could be made of practical use. The manufacture of the gas in a small way and at small cost, he said, would be of great value to the average hospital and household where disinfection was necessary.

GIRL IS BEST COTTON PICKER

Miss Margaret Montgomery Holds the Record for Season Just Past in Oklahoma.

Oklahoma City, Okla.—Miss Margaret Montgomery, a farmer's daughter, living five miles south of Stillwater, Okla., is the acknowledged best cotton picker in Oklahoma for the season just passed. She has the remarkable record of picking 700 pounds of the fleecy white in one day. This she did one day when the cotton picking season was at its best.

Miss Montgomery is 22 years old and is the daughter of R. L. Montgomery. She was born on a farm in Chautauque county, Kansas, and with her parents, came to Oklahoma in the early days. She is a typical western girl, and, besides being able to do a man's work on the farm, she is by no means a ruralist in the common sense of the term. She is an accomplished musician and is in great demand at entertainments not only in her own neighborhood but in Stillwater and other towns surrounding where she is known.

As a horsewoman she has few equals in the state. She won first prize in the ladies' riding race at the Payne county fair last fall. She is a crack shot with either rifle or shotgun and is a general favorite with all whom she is acquainted.

"MOONSHINING" ON INCREASE

Violators of Law on Whisky-Making Now Show Big Total, According to Recent Reports.

Washington.—Officials of the internal revenue bureau of the treasury department are of the opinion that the temperance movement which has taken such strong hold of certain sections of the country, particularly in the south, has resulted in increasing the number of violations of the internal revenue laws in the distillation of illicit whisky.

Recent reports clearly indicate that in many of the southern states, and especially in Alabama, Georgia and North Carolina, there has been great activity displayed on the part of the lawless mountain element, who always have been troublesome to the revenue agents, than in many years. This is accounted for by the fact that the legislatures of these three states have enacted laws prohibiting distilleries from operating within their borders.

Many of the legitimate distilleries have moved their plants to Florida, and other border states where the inhibition does not exist. Whisky being more difficult to obtain in a legitimate way has greatly increased the profits of illicit distilling.

Ship Load of Sneezes.

Providence, R. I.—With one of the most unusual charters in local coastwise history, the three-masted schooner Denna Briggs sailed for Philadelphia the other day. The schooner for the next six months will carry snuff between Norfolk and Philadelphia, the charter calling for 200 tons on each trip. Tobacconists estimate that each pound of snuff is good for 2,616 sneezes, and that on every trip the Briggs will have between her decks more than 1,000,000,000 sneezes.

Jerseyite Champion Hog Raiser.

New Egypt, N. J.—Samuel Southard has again broken all records in raising pig hogs. His year's killing, just slaughtered, averaged about 700 pounds each. Ten hogs weighed nearly four tons. In six American contests for raising the heaviest hog Southard has won a gold medal each time and is accredited the champion hog raiser of America. One contest was won with a hog weighing all but a half ton.

PRIDE OF BLIND MAN

Marble Falls, Tex., Built by Sightless Old Soldier.

Pioneer, Guided by Hearing and Touch, Platted Streets and Since Has Worked Constantly to Develop Now-Thriving Place.

Dallas, Tex.—Another chapter of the dream of Gen. Adam R. Johnson, the blind man who founded the town of Marble Falls, Tex., and for many years has been the chief spirit in its upbuilding, is being unfolded. It was nearly a half century ago that Gen. Johnson arose from a hospital with the sight of both eyes forever gone. A bullet had brought total darkness to him. But the pioneer spirit still was in him, and he went back to Texas from the war full of a determination to carry out his life's work in spite of the misfortune that had befallen him. In those days the territory west of Austin was the scene of frequent Indian raids, and the few white settlers were in constant danger of being killed by the redskins.

Gen. Johnson was not deterred by these dangers from making his way up the valley of the Colorado river in search of a place where he might tie and make his home.

It was a trip which only the bravest man, possessed of all his faculties, would care to undertake alone. How he ever made his way along the trail in his blindness is a mystery. He was possessed of the keenest sense of touch, however, and the murmur of the water of the flowing stream was an ever-constant guide to him.

He finally reached the present site of Marble Falls. The sound of the roaring water came to the ears of Gen. Johnson and he knew that the noise was made by falls in the river. He groped his way about and thoroughly examined the rock ledges which formed the natural dam. He walked and rode over the wide spreading valley and measured in his mind the probable width and length of the lake that was formed by the natural dam.

"Here I will make my home and build a town," he said.

It was Gen. Johnson's day dream that the great falls of the Colorado river at Marble Falls should be harnessed and made to serve industrial enterprises. He has lived to see the day when this is about to be done.

The natural rock dam is of the finest marble. It rises to a height of more than twenty-five feet and forms one of the most beautiful lakes in Texas. A superstructure of re-enforced concrete now is being built to this dam and the water power thus obtained is to be used to generate electricity for power and lighting purposes. This electrical energy will be used to run industrial plants in Marble Falls and will be transmitted to surrounding towns.

The town owes its establishment and growth to Gen. Johnson. It long has been known as the "blind man's town." Although the founder of the place, which now has a population of nearly 2,000 people, never has seen the beautiful site upon which it is located, he has it all pictured in his mind. He laid out the broad streets, marked the site for the business blocks and residence sections, and looked after every detail of the town's establishment.

Not only does he know almost every foot of the ground upon which the town is built, but he is personally acquainted with all of its inhabitants. Before the infirmities of old age began to settle upon him he would walk the streets briskly and unaided, meeting and greeting people he met. He not only knows their voices, but their footsteps disclose to him the identity of many of the older inhabitants.

"THE ARK" CHANGES HANDS.

Oldest House in Ancient Quarryville Was Home of Gov. Keith of Pennsylvania.

Lancaster, Pa.—What is familiarly known as "The Ark," the oldest building in the ancient town of Quarryville, has changed hands for the first time in many years. The original deed for this property is the oldest on record in this country.

It had been owned by Sir Joshua Burt and Sir William Keith, one of the early governors of this state. The large stone house, still standing in good condition, was built in 1728 by Abram Barr, who at that time owned the whole original tract, some 1,500 acres.

The Barr family opened up the stone and lime business in 1822; divided the land, which to-day consists of more than a dozen fine farms, but none in the hands of that family. For several years very little lime has been burned at Quarryville, commercial fertilizers having taken its place, but in the last two years there has been gradually a demand growing for lime, and it looks as though the business would assume its old proportions.

Body of Indian Chief Found.

New York.—While digging for the foundation of the new Russell Sage Memorial church at Crestwood, near Far Rockaway, workmen unearthed a coffin containing the body of Tacoma, the great Indian chief, who was buried there more than 100 years ago. The coffin, which was of metal, was removed to the Far Rockaway police station. The body was in good condition. The body was in good condition.

HAS SHOD 60,000 HORSES.

Massachusetts Man, 54 Years a Blacksmith, Has Made Great Record and is Still at Work.

Gardner, Mass.—A record of having shod more than 60,000 horses in his 54 years' career as blacksmith is the distinction claimed by James F. Cox of Gardner.

Although now 63 years old, Mr. Cox is daily at his forge and turns out as much and as good work as many a younger smith.

Mr. Cox was born in Dublin, and when 14 years old he was "let out" to learn the blacksmith trade. It required seven years for him to complete his apprenticeship. He still has in his possession the indenture papers given him by his employer in Dublin.

After working a while in his native city, Mr. Cox went to Manchester, England, and from there came to America about forty years ago. In New York he found employment in various places, finally landing in Gardner, securing employment with the late Francis P. Leonard, who during his active years was one of the most widely known blacksmiths in this part of the state.

In speaking of the changes that have taken place in Gardner since he came to the town, Mr. Cox said he used to pick berries in the field where now is Cross street, one of the most traveled thoroughfares of the town. In 1837 Mr. Cox set up in business for himself, building a small shop at the rear of his home in Cross street. No matter what his earnings might be, Mr. Cox has always been in the habit of putting some of it by for the proverbial "rainy" day, and although he could retire from active work and live on his savings he says he intends to keep busy for a good many years to come. During the winter he has made up several hundred pairs of horsehoes in anticipation of a brisk season.

"DON'T WED WILLIE," SAYS PA

Announcement of Son's Engagement Brings Warning Against Marrying Minor from Parent.

Morrisville, Pa.—J. W. Danbury of Morrisville has inserted in the newspapers advertisements forbidding anyone to wed his son, William, who, he says, is a minor, being only 19 years of age.

The engagement of William to 17-year-old Josephine Atkinson was announced some time ago by the young couple. Mr. Danbury was surprised when he read the announcement and asked his son to explain. William admitted that he was engaged to Miss Atkinson, and said he intended to marry her.

"Not if I know what I am talking about," harshly declared the stern parent. He then had the advertisements inserted warning all girls that he prohibited his son to marry because he is a minor.

Miss Atkinson's parents now declare they will never let Josephine wed Mr. Danbury's son.

"We did not know anything about this engagement until we read it," said Mr. Atkinson. "It could have been broken without publicity. Josephine will never wed Willie Danbury." The young couple maintain silence concerning the affair. They are being closely watched, as an elopement is feared. The girl and the boy are still at school.

STUDY IN GYMNASIUM SUITS

Montclair, N. J., Normal Schoolgirls Were Caught in the Rain and Changed Garments.

Montclair, N. J.—The 123 girl students at the Montclair State Normal school are wondering whether or not the next heavy rainstorm will bring about the same novel conditions which prevailed at the institution recently. When they arrived at the school most of them were wet and bedraggled. Wet skirts and shoes were not conducive to healthful study, so after a whispered conference of the female members of the faculty and a delegation of the students the girls went to the gymnasium, removed their wet paret, and donned the neat bloomers, and felt shoes they wear in the gymnasium. Looking like so many boys the girls filed into the classroom.

The girls presented a novel sight as they lined up for their studies. The seven young men who constitute the male element of the students smiled, but said the girls looked comfortable.

Catches Hawk in Trap.

Tipton, Ind.—William Rice, a farmer of Madison township, was here the other day with a verification of his story that he had found a successful method of getting rid of cuckoo hawks, which are numerous in the neighborhood. Failing to get within shooting distance of the birds he baited muskrat traps, using live chickens, and the hawks lost no time in visiting them. Two of the birds caught, both alive but injured, were exhibited by him and he asserts that he caught ten of them.

Servant in Family Fifty Years.

South River, N. J.—Mary Grogan, a servant in the home of Mrs. Abal Price here, was the guest of honor at a celebration which was held at the Price home recently. The occasion was the fiftieth anniversary of Mary Grogan's entrance into the home as a servant.