

WAS ALWAYS THIEF

New York "Raffles" Relates Experiences Amidst Society.

Was Inmate of Reformatory—Characterizes Institution to Which He Was Sent When a Boy, as a "Crooks' College."

New York.—I've been a thief ever since I was 12 years old. In the last seven months I have attended various functions at Newport, Narragansett, Beverly and Providence, I have made in that time 35 successful "hauls."

"I was born anywhere near society. I'll have to go a bit into my history to make it clear how easy society is to manipulate. I was born in Fall River, Mass. My parents, both hard working, respectable weavers, still live there. I made my first break playing hooky. They tried to send me away for it, and while the case was still pending I stole a pair of rabbits, and that finished me. I went to Lyman reform school in Massachusetts for a year and six months.

One afternoon while walking through the common, I felt a hand on my shoulder. It was an ex-convict whom I knew. "Gone home?" he laughed. "I guess you'll be back to work soon."

"I've got a job for you, and I want to give you a chance. I'll give you a five spot to go to Providence and give a man there a letter."

FAMILY SAFE; FEEDS MEN

Man, Fearing Children Would Be Massacred Because of Treaty Abrogation, Offers to Celebrate.

Detroit, Mich.—A Hebrew with a strong foreign accent inquired several times at the telegraph office in the Griswold house if a cablegram had come for him.

An instant's glance acquainted him with its contents. He buried his face in his hands. "My children, my little ones are safe," he muttered in German.

ALIEN PUPILS ARE IN LEAD

Pennsylvania School Official Says Native-Born Youth Are Too Fond of Pleasure.

Harrisburg, Pa.—Warning that children of foreign-born parents are outstripping American boys and girls in the public schools of the state is contained in the annual report of Dr. H. C. Schaefer, state superintendent of public instruction.

KNIFE MAKES SINGER DUMB

J. A. Metcalf of New York, Bass Soloist, Has Tongue Removed in Operation for Cancer.

New York.—Except for the comfort-fact that business success has made him independent financially, James A. Metcalf, until recently one of the most prominent church singers in New York, would find himself today in much the same predicament as the pianist deprived of the use of his hands or a painter who suddenly lost his sight.

SOUTH AFRICA GEMS

Greatest Diamonds Are Found in the Kimberley Fields.

Sparfere Are Found in a Rock of Bluish Slate Color Which Distinguishes on Exposure—De Beers Company in Control.

London.—As Johannesburg and the Rand mean gold, so Kimberley means diamonds, the world's greatest known deposit of this precious stone—a deposit so extensive and so rich that if it were mined to the extent of the capacity to do so and its produce were thrown immediately upon the market, the supply would so far exceed the demand that the price of diamonds would decrease rapidly and steadily, and the diamond would lose much of its prestige as a precious stone.

There is a peculiar fascination about the diamond, in some cases even crime inciting in its intensity. One feels a distinct thrill of excitement in following the diamond mining operations from beginning to end, from blue ground to the cupful of precious stones which represents a mine's day's work.

The diamonds at Kimberley are now found in a rock of bluish slate color, familiarly known as "blue ground," a breccia composite, which decomposes on exposure to the air, sun and rain, and in a few weeks or months crumbles into powder or into a condition in which it is easily pulverized.

Everything at Kimberley seems to be owned or controlled by or exists by grace of the De Beers company. The company has 20,000 employees, 8,500 white and 17,500 natives. It has built a model village for its employees. It has evolved special stringent peculiar laws to prevent or punish unlicensed sale or purchase of the rough diamonds. On every side its dominating influence is perceptible.

PRIEST ACTS AS THIEF TAKER

Alarm on Charity Boxes Betrays Mean Robber—Clergyman Holds Bandit for Police.

Riverside, N. J.—Science and luck aided Father Goff, pastor of the Catholic church, in the capture of a charity box thief, whom county authorities believe they have identified as a leader of a gang of robbers who have terrorized this section for six weeks.

Huntress Kills a Wolf. Medsker, Colo.—A jobo wolf, the first to be killed by a woman in this county, was shot by Mrs. W. H. Randolph, the wife of a Medsker contractor and builder.

HEM CONCEALED AUNT'S WILL

Unique Contest in Probating Strange Testament Begins in Pennsylvania Courts.

Harrisburg, Pa.—A will, most singularly discovered seen in the hem of her black dress months after her death, may upset the disposal of a \$50,000 estate left by Mrs. Margaret J. Durkee, when she died in this city on May 1 last.

Among the effects left by Mrs. Durkee were a number of pictures and silk dresses, all of which were disposed of at public sale. Among the purchasers was Mrs. Minnie Moore of Baltimore, a niece of the deceased, who had her purchases shipped to Baltimore. Several weeks ago Mrs. Moore's husband was hanging one of the pictures, and he noticed that the back of it was loose. In it he found a small piece of paper, rolled tightly, alleged to be Mrs. Durkee's handwriting, and said:

"Look in the hem of my black silk dress." It happened that among the garments purchased at the sale by Mrs. Moore was this identical black silk dress, and she at once got out the gown and began an examination. To her unbounded astonishment she found concealed therein a manuscript, which she removed in the presence of witnesses, who were called in. This proved to be the will of Mrs. Durkee, in which she left all her property to her beloved niece, Mrs. Moore. This she is now trying to have admitted to probate here, and other relatives are contesting.

FROM POVERTY TO MILLIONS

Aged Tennessee Couple Congratulated on Suddenly Acquired Wealth—Still Live in Humble Home.

Bristol, Va.—W. H. Shugart and his wife of Newport, Tenn., whose lives have been spent thus far in an humble cottage erected upon land reclaimed from a frogpond, have suddenly become the first millionaires of the prosperous mountain town, where they lived in their unpretentious way ever since the Civil war.

Shugart, during the early summer of the present year, received \$9,000 by the death of a brother in Texas, and is to receive \$73,000 more when the estate of his late brother is wound up. From the estate of Unak Jane Bogardus, who died four years ago in Holland, Mrs. Shugart has received \$1,000,000, and she has been officially advised that next July another \$1,000,000 will be paid her. The Bogardus estate is valued at \$60,000,000, and Mrs. Shugart is one of a number of heirs.

WAGE WAR ON THE BEETLE

Scientist Urges That Insect Be Extirminated While in Form of Worm.

Paris.—M. Xavier Raspail has suggested to the Academy of Sciences a means of checking the ravages of the beetle in agriculture which were so great in France in the last quarter of the nineteenth century that the damage has been estimated at several million dollars. In all parts a vigorous war of extermination was organized against this destructive insect, and many means were adopted for getting rid of it.

The plan offered by M. Raspail keeps in mind the fact that three years are necessary for the complete evolution of the beetle from the egg to the time when it emerges from the earth and becomes a perfect insect. Estimating the moment when the transition comes, M. Raspail proposes an organized search and destruction by plowing for the white worm, which is the form of the insect just before flight.

MOUNTAIN IS MELTING AWAY

Colorado Peak 14,000 Feet High Loses Topknot—Over Night—Tumbles Into Canyon.

Telluride, Colo.—With a crash like the discharge of a battleship's broadside, followed by a prolonged roar, the crest of Lizzard Peak, one of the highest mountains in Colorado, tumbled into the canyons at its base. The few residents of that locality did not discover what had happened until some one noticed a queer change in formation and an apparent lowering of the crest of Lizzard Peak, which was over 14,000 feet high.

RULERS IN TRADE

Kaiser Wilhelm Holds First Place Among Royalty.

King Gustavus of Sweden Makes Money Out of Real Estate Deals—A Pair of Royal Speculators—Some Are Inventors.

London.—Monarchs are not always making money. And perhaps the Kaiser should be given first place among reigning sovereigns for shrewd commercialism. He makes a strong point of cultivating the friendship of financial magnates, not only in his own but in other countries as well.

The Kaiser has some very large holdings in the Hamburg-American steamship line. He is extensively interested in the diamond mine enterprises of German West Africa. In connection with the vast forests comprised in the crown domains and on his private estates he carries on a large lumber business. His horse breeding establishment in western Prussia brings him in a handsome revenue. He is the principal stockholder in the lager brewery at Hanover. And he carries on an extensive manufacturing of pottery on his private estates at Cadinen.

Gustavus, the present ruler of the Swedes, is a total abstainer. On coming to the throne he disposed of his father's extensive brewery interests. But he still retains many other profitable investments. He has money in mills and mines, and he seldom neglects to extol the virtues of the Grand hotel at Stockholm, in which he is by far the largest stockholder.

He is a successful speculator builder. In this way: When property in the slum districts of the Swedish metropolis is going dirt cheap, along comes the king and buys it. And soon on the sites of the dilapidated buildings rise handsome houses and thoroughfares, which increase the value of the property many times over.

Few monarchs have shown themselves cleverer managers of a wife's property than the king of Denmark. By shrewd investments he has already multiplied its value many times. In a large number of his enterprises he is associated with his royal brother, King George of Greece, who possesses an immense fortune, which he owes in a great measure to undertaking certain operations in American grain about 35 years ago, which the closing of Odessa and other southern Russian seaports to the export of grain, owing to the war with Turkey, rendered extremely profitable.

From the sale of beer the prince regent of Bavaria draws immense sums. Our own King George is another monarch who does not scorn to make money by side lines. From his model farms at Windsor, Balmoral, Sandringham, he derives a handsome revenue and maintains a herd of several hundred superb cattle, which take prizes at agricultural shows, all over the country. His majesty is also keeping up the late King Edward's horse breeding establishment at Sandringham, where, in addition to race horses, he raised hackneys, coach horses, carriage horses and hunters.

GEESE FIGHT MAN ON FENCE

Keuper Battles Half Hour Before He Is Rescued by Comrades.

New York.—Charles Gunkel, sixty, assistant keeper of the birds on the lake in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, was attacked by a score of Canadian geese. Gunkel left his keys at home and was climbing over the six-foot wire fence of the bird inclosure when he slipped and pitched, head downward, on the inside. His feet caught in the wire and he swung back and forth unable to right himself.

TOBACCO JUICE IN HER EYE

After Forty Years of Married Life Woman Files Divorce Suit Against Husband.

Stockton, Cal.—After having been married for nearly forty years, Mrs. Sarah E. Myers of this county has filed a divorce complaint against George W. Myers, in which the principal allegation is he persisted in spewing tobacco juice in her eyes. She asserts that on one occasion he directed a stream of the fluid against her face with such force that she was blind for several weeks. Mrs. Myers declares that her husband's cruelty began in 1890 and extended up to a few months ago, when she was driven from their home in Lodi. According to the aged woman's story, it was not an infrequent occurrence for her husband to knock her down.

BURNED JUDAS IN EFFIGY

In That Way the Gildes Showed Their Love for the Christian Religion.

We hanged Judas Iscariot today. Having expressed our joy over the resurrection of Christ by gorging ourselves with roast lamb and bitter wine, by firing guns, rockets and torpedoes and by lighting bonfires, we gave vent to our remaining enthusiasm in one grand burst of mock vengeance directed against the unfortunate mortal who was destined from the foundation of the world to figure as a cat's paw in the plan of salvation. The burning took place in the front of a little church of the Virgin, situated on the highest part of the city. From a pole erected before the door hung a crude, wretched, melancholy figure stuffed with straw, and ridiculously suggesting the image of a man. Within the church the priest was conducting the regular Sunday service. At last the doors were thrown wide open and the whole congregation rushed forth like water from a broken dam, and immediately thereafter every man and boy in the square was shooting away at the effigy. The bullets whirled about and danced in the air as the bullets peppered him; and suddenly burst into flames. When a Greek feels particularly happy, or wishes to express his enthusiasm he produces an old musket or pistol and discharges it. Resurrection Day in Greece resembles the Fourth of July in the United States.—George Horton in Argolis.

WAS ALWAYS ON THE JOB

Mr. Bingleton Discovers a New Situation With Danger From Street Beggars.

"For a long time," said Mr. Bingleton, "I have made it a custom to look carefully in either direction before stopping to look in at a show window, doing this to avoid being taken by surprise by beggars. Now I have discovered another street situation in which one must take like care. "Walking along the street this morning I became conscious that one of my shoestrings was untied and I looked along for a convenient store step on which I could put my foot up; and there I did put it up, and I was busily engaged in tying the string, working away at it with no other thought in the world, when—" "Mister, I heard a voice at my ear, 'can you give me five cents to get a cup of coffee? I haven't had—" "And there he stood beside me, close alongside, where he had me at a disadvantage. He was within my guard, and I gave up, not because I thought I ought to, but because of my inward appreciation of the work of a man who evidently was always on the job, ever alert and letting no chance escape him."

Walnuts High in Food Value.

The food value of walnuts is very high. They are very rich in fat, containing as much as 63 per cent, while the proteins amount to nearly 15 per cent. It has been calculated that 30 large walnut kernels contain as much fat as 2 1/2 pounds of lean beef, and yet the walnut is used as a supplement to a square meal. Added to this the glass of port, say two fluid ounces, contains besides 180 grains of alcohol, 70 grains of grape sugar. In the combination, therefore, we have all the elements which make for a complete diet—viz.: Fat, protein, carbohydrate, to which may be added mineral salts. Port and walnuts after a meal are therefore, from a nutritive point of view, "ridiculous excess," and may lead to digestive disturbance. Both walnuts and port wine contain tannin, which is unsuited to some constitutions.

Easily Adjusted.

When the family for which Uncle Erastus had worked so long and faithfully presented him with a mule he was overcome with joy. "He's a bad kicker, Uncle Ras," said the son of the family. "I told father I didn't see what you could do with an animal that liked to kick and back better than anything else." "It's got dat all planned," said Uncle Erastus, solemnly. "When I harnesses dat animal into my cart, if he acts contumacious an' starts in to back, I's gwine to take him right out'n de cart, turn it round an' den harness dat mule in hindside befo'. Dat'll humer him, an' I'll get my cart up de hill jes' de same"—Youth's Companion.

Origin of the Stocking.

A writer in a French newspaper has been investigating the origin of stockings. It appears that Henry II, when preparing for the marriage of his sister in 1559 first conceived the idea of silk hose, and was the first to wear silk knitted stockings at that epoch-making event. A hundred years later one Hindres established a factory for stockings in the Bois de Boulogne, France. This was the first hosiery factory in France. It was a success at the start, and when it received protection from the then ministers, it was a kind of gold mine. In 1663 the venture was turned into a company. From it arose "the Society of Silk Stocking Makers."

Tragic.

"Here's another aeroplane horror," remarked Cynicus, looking up from his newspaper. "Anybody killed?" asked Sillicus. "No," growled Cynicus. "Couple married in one!"

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS