

THE PEERLESS CITY.

FRENCH CRITIC DESCRIBES CHICAGO AS NEARLY PERFECT.

New York Worsted in Comparison with Illinois Metropolis—Charming Hospitality of Citizens Is Praised.

"The manners of Chicago are not below the level of those of New York." Jules Hureb, correspondent of the Paris Le Figaro, makes this radical statement in a comparison of the Illinois metropolis with the "effete east," which by no means redounds entirely to the credit of the latter. He declines to believe Chicago is wholly inhabited by pork packers, and is even blind to the alleged size of her women's feet.

"How," demands the French correspondent, "can anyone construct anything which so flies in the face of common sense and good taste?" "Chicago," he goes on, "is neither noted for clean streets nor good pavements. But no more is New York. It has never seen such an aggregate of traffic and smoke as in its streets, but there is nowhere such an atmosphere of immeasurable prosperity."

Mr. Hureb praises the view from the city facing Lake Michigan, and pays his respects to the charming hospitality of which her citizens are capable.

In Chicago also he found an "exquisite flower of urbanity and sensibility" in Mr. James Deering, of McCormick & Co. (He makes it plain that he made no similar discovery in Gotham.) He is consoled for many lapses in American civilization, and is encouraged to believe that its roughness and brutality may evolve into something finer and more delicate through the influence of this polished gentleman.

Mr. Hureb visited the University of Chicago and talked with Dr. Harper on the military movement in America. On his asking if the United States was not becoming warlike, the reply was:

"No. All the military display seen in America recently was only for discipline. America loves war, but for a good cause. Her expansion terminates with the Philippines, though probably Canada will be annexed some day by its own choice. German influence on America has developed a taste for war and science. Now she needs her taste for esthetics, and her power of expression developed. She will turn to France for that."

SCORES TITLE-HUNTERS.

St. Louis Judge Denounces International Marriages and Grants Countess Her Divorce.

"Ambitious American travelers and cultivated daughters who travel abroad in search of titled foreigners are entitled to no sympathy when the international marriage turns out unappetizing—as it always does. If these marriages continue, the noblemen will have all the money and the American heiresses the children and the experience." Judge Foster, of St. Louis, recently delivered this denunciation of American women who seek husbands abroad. Incidentally, he gave Countess Marie R. F. Penolosa a decree of divorce. It was shown that her titled husband practically had dissipated her fortune, and had lavished much attention on two Spanish dancing girls.

The court brought the case to an abrupt close by awarding the countess a decree and the custody of the children. Then he said:

"When people have been abroad, as the evidence shows the plaintiff and her mother to have been, and know the situation there, and still contract such alliances, ordinarily no sympathy should be extended them. This is the manner in which all these titled foreigners treat their wives. The courts are filled with just such cases as this. It seems to me that mothers should awaken to the situation."

BLANKET OF ELK TEETH.

Indian Belle, Pride of the Cheyennes and Sioux for Several Generations, Changes Hands.

The famous elk tooth robe that belonged to a daughter of Old Crow, a Cheyenne chief, has been purchased by the proprietors of the Thomas (Okla.) Tribune. Old Crow's household was loath to part with the relic that had been the pride of the Cheyenne and Sioux Indians for several generations. The 728 teeth represented 364 bull elk, as there are only two good teeth in the head of each animal.

When the robe changed hands Old Crow's entire family of about 15 aborigines was present to see that the deal was pulled off according to the latest rules of commerce. When the money was handed over there was a grand rush for the "wohaw" (meat) market, and the "chuck" that was hauled to Old Crow's tepee that evening was sufficient to feed a company of soldiers. The Indian is a free spender. He believes in the admonition to "eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die."

Greater of Two Evils.

Dr. Nash of Philadelphia declares that golf is a sure cure for Bright's disease. The only thing left to clinch the doctor's fame says the Washington Post is for him to now find a sure cure for golf.

ARCHDUKE JOSEPH ELOPES.

Austrian Prince Runs Away with Plebeian Girl—Follows Lead of Brother and Sister.

Another of the grand duke of Tuscany's imperial and royal children has figured in a runaway love affair. Archduke Joseph Ferdinand has secretly married a beautiful Hungarian girl, the daughter of one Mizako, who keeps a restaurant in Buda-Pesth.

The archduke fell in love with her, as many a young gallant of the town had done, and following the example of several of his kinsmen, offered her honorable marriage, involving, as it did, the renouncing of his family privileges, which, however, amount to little as far as his possible succession to the crown of Austria is concerned.

Court officers tried in vain to dissuade and coerce the young archduke. A rumor of the marriage current recently was officially and truly denied.

Since then, however, the young pair have been made one. They went by night to a chapel near Poertschach, where they found a Friar Laurence willing to solemnize their union. It will be next to impossible to annul this religious marriage.

The runaway archduke is 32 years old, and is next younger in the family to Crown Princess Louise of Saxony, who eloped with the tutor, Giron. Their eldest brother, Leopold Ferdinand, eloped with an actress at the same time his sister ran off with Giron.

This latest hero of romance is named Joseph Ferdinand Salvator Francis Leopold Anthony Albert John the Baptist Charles Louis Rupert Mary Euzilatrix, and he is a knight of the Spanish order of the Golden Fleece.

To the other punishments inflicted on Louise has been added an imperial decree taking away from her the right to be called an archduchess.

PATRIOTISM HARMFUL.

Maurice Maeterlinck, the Famous Mystic, Makes Singular Declaration as to Love of Country.

To the question: "Is patriotism incompatible with love of humanity?" Maurice Maeterlinck, the mystic, replies:

"The ideas that guide humanity ought to be respected only in proportion to the amount of good they do. The idea of a fatherland was long necessary. It is not yet completely useless. That fact indicates that the hour approaches when it will become harmful."

"It is the duty, then, of those who walk in advance of the untinking masses to attack that idea from now on if they wish their descendants to find the sentiment enfeebled enough to be overthrown upon the day when men shall realize that it stands seriously in the way of man's evolutions."

"It is important to destroy, little by little, everything which tends to hamper the liberty of man, as if all men really deserved to be free. One knows, however, that they will not merit the freedom for several centuries after their deliverance. The harmonious use of liberty can only be learned through long abuse of its benefits."

Maeterlinck's singular opinions are only a step in advance of others given, with his, to a Paris review by eminent contributors.

Even Paul Deroude, hot-headed nationalist that he is, assents in some degree to the suggestion involved in the question that patriotism and love of humanity are incompatible.

PLANS A DOG CEMETERY.

New York Woman Proposes to Lay Out Burial Place for Pet Canines.

Mrs. M. S. Stephens, of New York city, it is reported, has contracted for the purchase of five acres of land at Central Islip, L. I., which she proposes to lay out as a cemetery for the interment of blooded dogs. The tract, which is to be artistically laid out, will be purchased and held in the name of the Canine Idelwild Cemetery association.

For a long time, it is explained, owners of blooded dogs in New York have been at a loss to know where to bury their pets. To allow the public scavenger or any such person to cart off the bodies of their dead four-footed friends was repugnant, and Mrs. Stephens has originated the idea of purchasing the tract. Plots for the interment of dogs can be purchased where monumental stones can be erected with suitable inscriptions and the last resting place be kept green for all time.

Mrs. Stephens has arranged with a local contractor to remove the underbrush at once and the work of grading and laying out the grounds will begin as soon as the weather permits. It is understood that the project has the support of several New York millionaires who are owners of prize-winning dogs.

A Respite. What shall we do with our men? Wipe 'em out, kill 'em off, abolish 'em, says a stern Kansas prophetess. Humane hearts will hope that milder measures will be sufficient. In fact, there is a gleam of hope. At a meeting of the Housekeepers' Alliance the other week the good news was published that men are supplanting girls along the lines of domestic service. So the "servant problem" is solved, remarks the New York Sun, and men folk have a respite and may even be useful.

Something to Be Thankful For. Since the Japanese did not succeed in capturing Hilo, as was reported by the Chicago Daily News, no Japanese hero will be obliged to kiss his way through the island on his return from the war.

A PRAIRIE ROMANCE.

ILLINOIS GIRL FINDS HUSBAND IN WILDS OF NORTH DAKOTA.

Took Up Section of Government Land in Sparsely Settled Country Where She Becomes a Victim of Cupid's Wiles.

The society event of this season at Sycamore, Ill., took place at the home of Mrs. Benjamin Nilson on Tuesday evening, March 1, when her daughter, Bertha Deesa, was united in marriage to August Peterson, of Harvey, N. D. This event was the culmination of an experience both romantic and interesting. Miss Nilson is a native of Sycamore and in her home town she is a great favorite. She is of Swedish parentage and like the sweet singer of Sweden, Christine Nilsson, to whom she is related, she is a vocalist of great merit and widely known.

About three years ago in a joking way she suggested that some of the young women go west and take up government land. The idea was so foreign to her manner of life that a great deal of amusement was created, but she was in earnest and went to North Dakota and took up 160 acres of land. She had a "shack" put up and the first year remained there, according to the requirements of the government. She then returned home to spend the winter, fully intending to return when the allotted time came. When her friends learned of her intention of returning to her "shack" in the wilds of Dakota they gave her a "slower" party of farming utensils (in miniature). Everything in the implement line was presented her, but they could not count her. She said she would complete what she had started to do and have a farm. Her experiences were varied and not one young lady in many would display the pluck that she did. She stayed in her "shack" when storms raged that not only flooded her little room, but when winds would sway the hut and she would expect at any moment to be swept away.

Storms molested her, she had prowlers around her building, hoping to so frighten her that she would give up staying there, as the claim was an extra good one, but her nerve, determination and firearms won the day. Nor were her charms lost upon the people in that sparsely settled part of the country, for the friends she made were many. In October last she moved up on her claim and the land was deeded to her. The previous summer she had it plowed to wheat and flax, which netted her a neat sum. She came back to her home at Christmas apparently "heart whole and fancy free."

She is one of Sycamore's finest soloists. For years she was the leading soloist in the choir of the First Congregational church. Recently a ripple of surprise passed over the city when her friends received invitations to her marriage. August Peterson, one of North Dakota's respected citizens, had written a march on the many Sycamore admirers and won her heart. Mr. Peterson is a member of the state legislature of North Dakota. He is popular in his home town, both in business and social life, and is cashier of the First National bank of Harvey.

VAST TRADE WITH RUSSIA.

Thirty Million Dollars the Value of Exports from United States to Land of the Czar Last Year.

The total value of trade between the United States and Russia for 1903 was a trifle in excess of \$30,000,000. The exports from the United States to Russia were \$19,710,822, while her imports from Russia were \$10,907,315.

The exports of America to Russia have more than doubled since 1901, while the imports have also materially increased, until to-day American trade with Russia is three times as great as in 1893. The percentage of increase is much greater than with any other European country.

The chief growth has been in cotton, agricultural implements, copper, and naval stores. There has been a slight reduction in iron and steel, and a considerable reduction in flour. Raw cotton increased from \$2,500,000 in 1901 to \$8,600,000 in 1903.

The principal exports for the year ended December 31, 1903, were: Raw cotton, \$8,170,000; agricultural implements, \$3,636,145; copper and its manufactures, \$1,264,272; iron and steel manufactures, \$1,198,135; flour, \$1,028,530; naval stores, \$432,733; provisions, \$294,405.

The trade of the United States with Korea is half that with Russia, or \$15,000,000, for the year just ended.

Steel Replacing Wood. Steel is taking the place of wood in construction, says the World's Work. Many freight cars are now built entirely of steel. Steel hopper coal cars are in use on most of the coal roads—huge things larger than the old box cars, holding 50 tons of coal and capable of being rapidly unloaded by means of the hoppers in the bottoms.

A Lucky Blow. The finding of \$50 in an old bellows by a New Jersey man, remarks the Philadelphia North American, emphasizes the value of this instrument as a means of raising the wind.

Apparent. The Massachusetts supreme court has decided that a quart bottle always holds a quart. This decision, says the Atlanta Journal, must have been handed down by a full bench.

Need Room to Spread. Criticism must be coming into fashion again, remarks the Memphis Commercial-Appeal, as Vassar college needs six new buildings.

RESCUE WILD GAME.

Mountaineers of West Virginia Prove Good Samaritans to Half-Frozen Deer and Birds.

The small game and some of the larger kinds in the vicinity of Parkersburg have been wiped out by the intense cold which has prevailed in West Virginia, particularly in the mountain districts, since early in November. That is the general report of farmers and settlers of the tier of counties in the foothills and villages of the Alleghenies.

Entire convoys of partridges have been found frozen to death everywhere. Mr. Hannamery, of Wirt county, said recently that he found on one day over 50 quail frozen "stiff and hard" on the lee side of a fallen tree. "So far," said he, "I've picked up over 100 birds."

The farmers in the mountains are doing all they can to save the game. Mr. Summerville, of Randolph county, said recently:

"I have four deer feeding in my barn with my cattle. They are a three-year-old buck, two does and a half-grown fawn, and they are getting so tame that the does and the fawn will lick salt from my hand. Katy, my daughter, has two coveys of partridges and 17 pheasants in her chicken yard. They came to us several weeks ago, nearly starved to death, but they're getting fat and lively now. Down below, in Dry Fork, James James, Lew Harris, and other neighbors, are every one feeding and caring for something, either deer, wild turkeys or pheasants, and quails. We'll save a good many, but the most of the game in our locality is already gone."

Mr. McDougal, of McDougal county, is keeping a number of deer. Sometimes there are five and at others six or seven in his barn lot. "Mrs. Mac" says McDougal, "has 23 wild turkeys around the house and barn with our domestic fowls, and some of them are fine birds."

FIGHT LURID POSTERS.

War Waged on Ghastly Theatrical Pictures in London Theater—Managers Indignant.

The lurid, startling pictures which profess to represent some sensational scene in a modern melodrama are to pass from the boards of London.

In consequence of complaints received, principally from clergymen, the Bill Posters' association has appointed a committee, with Walter Hill as its chairman, to examine theatrical posters and to order the removal of any detail considered offensive to the eye or calculated to have an immoral influence.

Many alterations in posters have already been made. A dagger has been blotted out here, a revolver dropped there, and representations of ghastly scenes forbidden. Any poster deemed to be unsuitable is photographed and a copy sent to every bill-poster likely to be offered it by his advertisement stations.

Some theatrical managers, especially those whose bookings include melodramas, express indignation at the bill-posters constituting themselves censors in this matter.

"We want the great situations in the dramas illustrated," said an irate manager, "and the way in which this is to be done should not depend on the whim of a committee meeting once a month."

The suggestion that startling posters are incentives to crime is ridiculed by the managers, and it is urged that they simply induce people to go to the theater.

SAYS WOMEN ARE AWKWARD

President of Dressmakers' Association Declares Her Sex Is Without Grace—Many Are Pigeon-Toed.

"A woman may be perfectly gowned, perfectly coiffed, perfectly gloved, perfectly hatted and perfectly shod, yet all the effect intended to be produced is absolutely lost and thrown away if she is not capable of handling herself with grace."

This is the dictum of Miss Elizabeth A. C. White, president of the Dressmakers' Protective Association of America.

In describing a number of the Paris gowns, Miss White said:

"The new luster skirt is a boon to women, but it reveals the fact that women are bad walkers. A surprising number of women are pigeon-toed. They tread on the side of the foot, and run down the heels of their shoes. In sitting, also, women are guilty of a number of sins of awkwardness."

"Stout women, for example, invariably sit squarely, with their feet planted about 12 inches apart, and their toes turned out. They shoot poise themselves and sit very erect. The lean woman should choose the highest possible seat, and plant her feet squarely on the ground, thus reducing her excessive angularity."

A Miniature Engine. The marvel of the national auto-boast exposition in New York city recently was a new steam engine invented by a man named Weeks, from Canada. Mr. Weeks has a six-horse power steam engine that is about the size of a dollar watch. It is made of old boiler tubing and is applied to a ten-inch circular saw, which cuts through cypress or oak several inches thick. A 50-horse power engine, if made of nickel steel, Mr. Weeks says, could be held in a boy's hand or carried in the pocket of a sack coat.

Hope—Not Prophecy. An Englishman who has arrived from the old country says he is going to live to be 400 years old. We would like to see him do it, says the funny man of the Memphis News.

THE PENSION ROLL.

INTERESTING FACTS CONCERNING "UNKNOWN ARMY."

Five Persons Still Drawing Government Allowances on Account of the Revolution—List Is Growing Smaller.

The economists, for instance, may find consolation in the statement made here that the pension system was the greatest as a burden to the people of the United States in 1893, since which time the burden has been constantly decreasing, until it has shrunk in ten years from \$224 to \$132 per \$1,000 of taxable wealth. In ten years more, Mr. Ware thinks, the burden will cease to be noticed, unless some new legislation is enacted such as that recently demanded by the Grand Army of the Republic, in which case it may be larger for a while instead of less. The report places the total number of pensioners now on the rolls at 936,545, of which 729,356 are soldiers and 207,189 are widows and dependents.

It is interesting to learn that what the commissioner calls "the unknown army" that is, the living soldiers of the civil war who have not applied for pensions, numbers about 200,000, or about 20 per cent of the total number of survivors, who are placed at about 900,000. This "unknown army" is applying for pensions at the rate of about 14,000 a year.

Mr. Ware estimates that if the pension laws remain unchanged this army in five more years will be reduced to about 60,000, and in ten years will cease to be a factor. The union soldier who has the distinction of being the first to have a claim allowed at the pension office appears to have been one Leopold Charrier, a member of company G of the Twelfth regiment, New York militia infantry, whose claim was allowed August 12, 1861.

Mr. Charrier, it appears from the record, was discharged from the service August 6, 1861, because of a gunshot wound through both arms, received while at drill by accidental discharge of a musket. The woman who obtained certificate No. 1 as the widow of a union soldier was Mrs. Caroline Oby of Washington, D. C., whose husband was killed in a skirmish at Great Falls, Md. in June, 1861.

Five persons are on the roll of the revolution, 1,116 on account of the war of 1812, 4,774 on account of the Indian wars and 13,874 on account of the Mexican war.

The great bulk of the roll is as follows: Civil war, invalids, 7,240; widows, 248,360; Spanish war, invalids, 9,200; widows, 2,692; regular establishment, invalids, 2,170; widows, 2,978.

Of the few surviving widows and daughters of revolutionary soldiers on the pension roll June 30, 1903, the oldest was Hannah Newell Barrett of Boston, aged 103, who was pensioned by special act as daughter of Nathaniel Harrod, who served two years, from May, 1782, as private in Capt. George Webb's company, Col. Shepard's regiment of Massachusetts troops.

The other four in the order of their ages are: Rebecca Mayo of Newbern, Va., aged 90, pensioned as the widow of a private in Virginia troops; Esther S. Damon of Plymouth, Vt., aged 89, the widow of a private in the Massachusetts troops; Sarah C. Harbutt, Little March, Pa., pensioned as the daughter of a soldier who served with a regiment of Massachusetts troops, and Rhoda A. Thompson aged 82, who served for six years as a private in a New York regiment. The last surviving soldier of the war of the revolution was Daniel F. Blakeman, who died in Freedom, N. Y., in 1869, at the age of over 102 years.

CAVE \$500 FOR A BRIDE.

Lancaster, Pa., Merchant Pays the Woman of His Choice to Marry Him.

The sum of \$500, it is alleged, was paid to an Elkton (Md.) junk dealer by a merchant of Lancaster, Pa., for an Elkton bride.

Recently a storekeeper of Lancaster came to Elkton to visit a friend. While in the town the visitor became smitten by the beauty of the Elkton girls, and made an offer of \$500 if a wife could be secured to participate in his joys for the rest of his life.

Several marriageable members of the sex were interviewed. Among them was one whom the Lancaster man offered, as an inducement, to settle a stipulated sum on if she would wed him. A few hours after the woman consented and left for her new home in Lancaster. The bridegroom is in his sixty-seventh year, while the bride is approaching her thirty-third summer.

Fish Easy to Catch.

"Fishing has never been so good in the lakes about Madison as during the present winter," said Graham Rice, former railroad commissioner, recently. "The lakes are frozen over solid, and the fish are so hungry that when you cut a hole in the ice they will just swarm to it and can be caught with a piece of red flannel for bait. The game warden are active in preventing the catching of protected fish, but we are having perch served up for breakfast that are ten inches long."

Indigestion from a Street Organ.

An Italian organ grinder was recently fined eight shillings in a London police court for persisting in "grinding his instrument of torture" while Miss Brown, described as a "litterary lady," was "trying to finish her lunch." The plaintiff held that the playing gave her "violent indigestion."

LONG-LIVED PREACHERS.

Historic Abington, Pa., Church, 190 Years Old, Installs Its Twelfth Pastor.

The Abington (Pa.) Presbyterian church is 190 years old, and now a new minister, the twelfth pastor in all these years, has taken charge of the historic old church—Rev. James W. Williams, of Philadelphia, where he was assistant to Rev. Dr. Charles Wood.

This is one of the most historic churches in the United States, being closely connected with the old "log college" of Bucks county, famous throughout the country. Abington's founder, Rev. Malachi Jones, a Welshman, applied to the presbytery of Philadelphia for license to minister here in 1714. It was granted, and he at once began his labors. The presbytery was then yet in its infancy, having been established but eight years, and Abington was the twelfth member. Services were first held in a log cabin in the present cemetery plot, and this served as a church until the congregation became prosperous enough to erect one of stone on the opposite corner in 1733. This was the first house of worship ever erected by the Presbyterians in Montgomery county.

In 1823 a new structure was erected on the site of the present church, and was the gathering place until destroyed by fire in 1855, the only part left standing being the bare, blackened walls. The church was immediately rebuilt.

The handsome church holds a commanding position on one of the highest eminences around Philadelphia, and topped by its spire 150 feet high, forms a landmark.

Abington has been particularly fortunate in selecting pastors, the first five serving 15 years, and the last six the balance of 30 years, averaging over 17 years each.

LIVES WITHOUT SLEEP.

Strange Case of Trenton, N. J., Man Who Retires Regularly But Never Closes His Eyes.

Albert Herpin, born in France in 1867, and for 37 years a resident of Trenton, N. J., declares he has not slept a wink during the last 20 years and his eyes were seldom closed in slumber for several years preceding. He is in perfect health, and does not seem to suffer any discomfort from his remarkable condition.

He goes to bed regularly, but says he never closes his eyes, or at least never for an instant, his eyes close because of all that is going on about him. In the morning he arises refreshed and ready for another day's work. He declares a change of position and carelessness of a room seem to give him all the rest he requires.

The man's story is sustained by physicians who have examined him and who have treated him in a vain effort to afford him relief. In telling his story recently Mr. Herpin said:

"I go home at night. I do not sleep, however, and merely sit down for the hour or so that I live. In the morning I arise about four or five o'clock, almost as refreshed as if I had slept through the night. I have been to hospitals where they have attempted to treat me in every possible way, but I would not undergo that sort of treatment. I have given up any idea of sleeping for the rest of my life. In fact, I am so used to it that I think no more about the matter. I have heard of people going insane when troubled with insomnia, but I never will, as I am well and happy and can eat three meals a day every day in the week."

33 YEARS IN CONGRESS.

This on March 4 Was the Record of the Two Senators from the State of Maine.

March 4 marked the completion of 33 years of service in congress for each of the Maine senators. Probably there is no exact parallel to such a record in the history of the government.

Mr. Hale entered the house of representatives March 4, 1868. President's two years later Mr. Frye also became a member of the house. Mr. Hale however was not a member of the Forty-third congress in either branch, but Mr. Frye served continuously in the house till he was elected senator.

Successing Hon. Hannibal Hamlin, vice-president during Lincoln's first term, Mr. Hale took his seat in the senate March 4, 1881, succeeding Hon. James G. Blaine, who succeeded President Garfield's cabinet as secretary of state. He thus became a senator 14 days later than Mr. Hale, but Mr. Frye served 14 days longer in the house than did the senior Maine senator.

Nevertheless, their aggregate service in the senate and house is the same to a day—33 years in all for each.

Land and Water of the Globe.

The land surface of the globe covers 52,000,000 square miles and the water surface 144,700,000. Taking the average pore space of the surface rocks occupied by moisture at ten per cent, S. S. Churcher of the United States geological survey, estimates the amount of ground water, which reaches a depth of six miles, at 565,000,000 cubic yards. This is thought to be about one-third the amount of oceanic water and would cover the globe to a depth of 3,000 or 3,500 feet.

A Mere Bagatelle.

A Philadelphia waiter who inherited \$100,000 a few days ago is working right along as if nothing had happened. What is a mere million, remarks the Chicago Record-Herald, to a waiter who has a good "tip" route?