

WHY THE TWAIN DISPUTED.

John Bull Was Thinking of His Bill, the Hotel Clerk of His Baby. "How much?" asked Arthur P. Raglan of Leeds, England, offering to pay his bill.

DEATH'S VISITS IN SLEEP.

Apoplexy Frequently Attacks Its Victim While They Are Wrapt in Slumber. The frequent occurrence of apoplexy during sleep was illustrated in the case of Col. Albert D. Shaw. He had made a patriotic speech during the evening and had retired in apparently good health.

EAGLES ABOUT NEW YORK.

The Birds Are Protected by the Game Laws of the Empire State. An unusual number of eagles have been seen lately in northern New Jersey, and many have ventured even within sight of New York.

SPRING WORK OF BEES.

How the Queen Bumble Bee Starts Her Colony—She Alone Lives Through the Winter. Only humble queen bees live through the winter. They shelter themselves as best they can, and the weaker ones are frozen to death.

BIG-HEARTED AMERICANS.

Government Clerks Raised the Necessary Money and Won the Mother's Gratitude. A mother came to Washington from the home farm in New Hampshire to nurse her son in the hospital. A few days later, says Joe Mitchell Chaplin, in the National Magazine, he died.

Dwarfs of the Congo.

A study has recently been made of the dwarfs who live in the Congo forest in the vicinity of the Semliki river, in the Uganda protectorate. These dwarfs are of two types. Those of one are black-skinned, with considerable stiff black hair on their bodies.

Royal Mourning Etiquette.

There is no uniformity in the mourning etiquette of the foreign legations. The emperor of Germany was a grandson of Queen Victoria and the czarina of Russia is a granddaughter, yet the order from Germany is only 28 days of mourning, while the Russians have to wear crape and abstain from social pleasures for 90 days.

ART OF TWISTING STICKS.

In Japan It Ranks as a Science—Art of Arranging Flowers a Minor Detail. The chief difference between the arrangement of flowers in this country and in Japan is that whereas in this country the art is merely considered as a pretty accomplishment for gentlemen, in Japan it ranks as a science and a philosophy, which can only be mastered after several years of close study, says Pearson's Magazine.

EXPERIMENT WITH FISH EGGS.

Experts Have Been Trying to Artificially Produce Monsters with Little Success. A phenomenon that has been a puzzle to naturalists is the frequent occurrence of embryo monsters in fish eggs—that is to say, double-headed and otherwise abnormal young ones.

CHARLESTOWN'S OLD PEONY.

Valued Service Which It Rendered the Massachusetts City Subsequent to 1776. Growing in the garden at Charlestown, Mass., of Oliver Holden, composer of the tune "Coronation," is to be found an old-fashioned red peony. The peony, to a casual observer, would not seem any more attractive and perhaps not so handsome as many of the magnificent specimens which adorn the lawns of hundreds of summer homes.

An Odd Request.

An Englishman who recently died had three children, one son and two daughters, and he mentioned all of them in his will. The first clause is: "I leave my piano to Mary Elizabeth, when Arthur has done with it." The other clause is: "To Susan Jane—she may take whatever Arthur wishes to give to her." There is no doubt of Arthur's standing in the document, but the pointed question is raised: "Are Mary Elizabeth and Susan Jane beneficiaries under the will?"

CHEAPEST FAR FROM HOME.

Chocolate Falls in Price as the Distance from the Factories Increases. "Chocolate is one of the mysteries of trade," explained a well-known gentleman who has spent much time in South America, to a Washington Star Reporter, "for the reason that it is one of the few things in trade that grows cheaper in price the farther you are removed from where it is produced—that is, from where the cocoa bean, from which it is made, is grown. The finest grade of chocolate is produced in Venezuela, though there are good forms of cocoa beans and other prominent men, who, having retired from the career of political life, are in search of a hobby which will afford not only amusement, but will also offer intricacies and obstacles worthy of their trained minds.

INJURY FROM X-RAYS.

Instance Where Serious Physical Complications Followed the Use of Roentgen Light. The question as to whether the application of the X-rays to the human body causes any pain to the patient undergoing the treatment has aroused widespread discussion, but according to a recent case that happened in England it is evident severe suffering is occasionally inflicted by their application, says the Scientific American. A lady 65 years of age, while cycling, met with an accident which was supposed to have fractured her thigh. Shortly afterward an eruption broke out in her stomach and to diagnose the case the Roentgen ray apparatus was brought into use. The lady eventually succumbed to the malady and at the inquest which followed a letter was read in which she stated that she had suffered untold agonies by the "cruel over-exposure of the X-rays." The photographer stated that he made two exposures of 35 minutes and 45 minutes respectively. The surgeon who was present at the exposures and superintended the operations stated that death was due to the exhaustion from shock produced by the fracture of the thigh and the application of the X-rays.

First Municipal Crematory.

The first municipal crematory on record has been opened in Hull, England. It is a model establishment, costing \$12,500. The charge for cremating a body is five dollars. The mayor, in opening the crematory, said it was a departure from the established lines in municipal enterprise, but that it gave every promise of proving a great public benefit from sanitary and economic points of view.—N. Y. Sun.

Neighborly.

Husband—Isn't it about time Mrs. Borrone was returning our call? Wife—Yes, but if she does return it will be more than she does with the other things she gets from us.—Detroit Free Press.

A GIANT INDUSTRY.

Annual Output of Ore from the Lake Superior Mining Region in Four Years. The Century for March contains, in its series on great material achievements of the past century, a paper on "The Mining of Iron," the author being Walden Fawcett. It will amaze the general reader to learn what amazing strides the industry has made in this century since 1896. "Twenty million tons, which constitutes the yearly output of the Lake Superior region at the opening of the new century, is more than double the product of any other iron manufacturing region in the world during any single year in history. Loaded in freight cars of the ordinary type, three railroad tracks would be filled solidly from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast. Even persons thoroughly conversant with the meteoric flights of American enterprise must be surprised at the mushroom growth of this Lake Superior mining country. The first ore diggers went to work there nearly 45 years ago, and yet one-third of all the ore which has been produced there during the 4½ decades has been mined since President McKinley was elected the first time. Within two score years the annual output has increased 150-fold. Or, if still more convincing evidence is desired, take the record of last year or the year previous. In either one of these periods there was taken out of the ground nearly twice as much ore as in even so recent a year as 1896. Indeed, the output in each of the two closing years of the century exceeded that of any five years previous to 1899, and surpassed the entire 30-year period of shipments up to 1882.

DEATH IN HOTELS.

Peculiar View of the Subject Said to Be Taken by Some of the Proprietors.

"I had an experience in a New York hotel which struck me at the time as being rather odd and brought vividly to my mind the homelessness of hotel life," said a hotel boarder to a friend who had him at his home for dinner, relates the New York Sun. "A friend of mine died in the hotel where we both had rooms. The first thing thought of was a bit of crepe, or some other emblem of mourning for his door. So I went to the clerk and asked him if they had any mourning emblems in the house. "He looked at me in amazement. Said he had been in the hotel business 20 years and never had that question asked him before. Then I asked him if there would be any objection to my buying something of the kind and putting it on my dear friend's door. "Certainly, there would," he replied. "It would never do. It would alarm the other boarders. Might as well stick a scarlet fever sign on the door. And," he added, in a peculiar manner, "please do not have your friend's funeral from the hotel if you can help it." "Why not," I asked. "I don't know," he answered, "but somehow guests don't expect people to die in a hotel. Of course they do die, but it is usually unexpected." "I reckon he was right. I don't know why anybody should want to die deliberately in a hotel."

REFUSED CROWN OF SPAIN.

An American Girl Preferred Private Life to Shaking the Spanish Throne.

The remarkable romance of Elsie Hensler, the Boston girl, who married King Ferdinand of Portugal, is recalled by Mabel Percy Haskell, in the Ladies Home Journal. At her marriage Miss Hensler was created the countess of Edla, and with her royal husband took up her home in the beautiful Palace of Cintra. "Had she wished it the countess of Edla might have been queen of Spain, for King Ferdinand declined the crown of Spain in 1869, soon after his marriage to the beautiful American girl. It was offered to him by Gen. Prim and Gen. Serrano, and both the king and his lovely wife decided that their quiet life so free from cares of state was infinitely to be preferred to the worry and fret of a great European court. Ferdinand died in 1885, and since then the countess has lived in retirement in the Palace of Cintra. She is visited by members of the present royal family and is greatly beloved by them, for they never can forget how fine and good was her gentle influence over the king, and they shared his admiration for her. She is treated as if she had been born to the purple instead of far across the sea."

Women Refuse Handers.

The dust sorting of London is carried on by women who handle the collected refuse at the wharves. Medical men have been trying to prevent women from engaging in this industry, and accordingly the Women's Industrial Council has made an investigation of it. The women said they liked the work, and laughed at the idea of its being unhealthy.

FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

Room Especially Arranged at Smithsonian Institution.

Practical and Effective Plan of Prof. Langley to Interest Children in Beauties of Nature and the Sciences.

There will in a few days be opened to the general public one of the most unusual features ever introduced under a government institution—namely, "the children's room" in the Smithsonian. Prof. Langley has long worked upon this pet hobby, and from some vague ideas has evolved a practical object lesson in natural history for children ranging from 5 to 15 years that is as charming in execution as conception. The professor's theory is that the time for forming a love of the sciences is during the first years of a child's life, when birds, butterflies and household pets first begin to amuse and interest them. With this in view he has brought from high, dusty shelves and Latin appellations some of the most interesting phases of bird and fish life and inanimate nature, placing them on a level with ten-year-old noses under fetching labels, written in the simplest and most beautiful English.

As a result, the children's room, on the sunny side of the gloomy-looking old building, is exquisitely decorated in soft green and gold and has a daintily tiled floor. It is a teeming mass of singing birds and birds that outshine the sun in glory of plumage; fish that swim about before the eyes of the youngsters; and curious things from earth and sea, as well as an exquisite arrangement of mounted birds, surrounded with enough of their natural environment to tell the story of their habits of life.

The chimney swallow has a cunning nest built in a more cunning chimney flue; the industrious woodpecker is perched on the side of a branch and looks to be working for dear life, while a curious little pewee has forgotten superstition and built her nest in a human skull. Besides the fetching birds that tell the habits in a manner never to be forgotten there are bits of verse that fall naturally from childish lips about Cock Robin and sweet Jenny Wrenn, the saucy old mocking bird and all the rest of the woodland pets with which children are familiar. In fact, the whole feathered tribe is there, from the magpie that can really talk, the canary about whose notes there is never a doubt, the frolicsome old Bob White who tries to drown out every other bird, and along down the line to the homely old sing-song hen who lays the eggs for your breakfast.

TO BETTER NEGRO RACE.

Huge Movement Started in Washington for Young People's Congress in 1902.

A movement has been inaugurated among the colored people of the United States at Astbury Methodist Episcopal church, Washington, by representatives of religious denominations and agencies engaged in religious work among the negroes for a monster gathering of young negro men and women in the summer of 1902.

This meeting will be known as the Negro Young People's Christian congress.

Bishop Wesley J. Gaines, Atlanta, Ga., was elected president of the movement; Rev. Dr. W. D. Isaacs, Nashville, Tenn., vice president; Prof. J. Garland Penn, Atlanta, Ga., corresponding secretary; Rev. B. W. Arnett, Springfield, Ill., assistant secretary; Rev. W. M. Alexander, Baltimore, Md., treasurer.

The purpose is to hold in a greeting to the negro, which says:

"The unreachd negro of little culture, with no practical piety and loaded with evil appetites which have their origin in former conditions, and which heredity has given him, is the criminal negro and must be reached."

The general theme of the programme will be "Reaching the Unreached Negro—the Race for Christ."

CARTE-BLANCHE FROM LIPTON

Designs Watson Tells of Instructions Regarding the Oup Challenge.

At a dinner party at Glasgow the other evening, at which the success of the Shamrock II. was toasted, Sir Thomas Lipton and George L. Watson replied. The latter mentioned that when Sir Thomas commissioned him to build the yacht, he said:

"Now, Watson, I have not got money to burn, but if you are going to make her go one second faster, you can shovel on five-pound notes."

Watson added that he had taken Sir Thomas at his word. They had "Willie" Jamieson with them, and next to Providence, "Willie" Jamieson was the best aid they could have. If the boat did not win he did not see that there would be anybody much to blame, but himself. If it was only a question as between Herreshoff and himself, he did not see that the Shamrock II. would have much chance, but he had associated with him such talent that, with a "wee bit of luck," which was nearly due them now, they hoped to pull through.

Must Be Students.

One of Yale's crack football players has been dropped by the faculty because he was deficient in his studies. It appears, says the Chicago Times-Herald, that they look for something more than brute strength in some of the colleges after all.

First Anti-Slavery Society. The first anti-slavery society was organized in 1775 at Philadelphia.