

PROBING MINE DISASTERS



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Clarence Hall, the United States government expert, who is investigating the numerous mine disasters which have occurred recently...

PUT LAUGH ON THE ATTORNEY.

Legal Light the Victim of Swede's Peculiar Dialect.

At a court in western Massachusetts, a man was on trial, charged with having committed a robbery early in the summer...

REALLY AN APT COMPARISON.

Good illustration of the True Position of China.

During a debate in the senate on foreign affairs one day one of the senators was discussing China's somewhat precarious position...

CONSUMED ALL THE "SCRAPS."

Shakeress Thoroughly Faithful to Her Religious Principles.

A peculiar custom of the religious sect known as the Shakers is that they never leave anything on their plates after they have finished a meal...

One of the "world's people" who live near a Shaker settlement—a woman of a charitable disposition—invited all the children belonging to the settlement to a dinner at her house...

SURELY A COMING FINANCIER.

Little Need to Be Alarmed About Bobby's Success in Life.

Bobby's parents had forbidden him to accept presents of money from casual visitors or strangers.

A nice old lady who was a friend of the family noticed Bobby passing one day, and calling him in, asked him to run down to a nearby store for her.

ILLUSTRATED CARD NOT NEW.

Prompted by the action of the Royal Academy at Leipzig in offering prizes for the best examples of illustrated visiting cards...

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TWO REALLY GOOD "BULLS."

In the report of a Dublin charity organization the following paragraph appeared:

"Notwithstanding the large amount paid by the society for medical attendance and medicine, very few deaths occurred during the year."

THE BITTER TRUTH.

Diogenes slowly entered the pawnshop and placed his lantern on the counter.

"What can I get for this?" he asked. The pawnbroker picked up the lantern and examined it curiously.

PROVED HIS CLEVERNESS.

The heiress to a cool million had been wooed and won by a poet—at least he called himself a poet.

A RETRACTION.

With a sigh she laid down the magazine article upon George Washington.

SOMWHAT DIFFERENT.

Green—On the strength of your assertion that you would trust Windy with your life I loaned him ten dollars, and now I can't get it back.

POINTS OF VIEW.

Her Admirer—Doris always keeps Lent so strictly.

SHIFTED RESPONSIBILITY.

"What did you do with your money?" "I tried to be careful," answered Mr. Sirus Barker.

ARMY MEN NOT EXTRAVAGANT.

Mrs. Franklin Bell Talks of Conditions Past and Present.

"When I hear persons talk about the extravagance of army folk I feel a little warm," said Mrs. Franklin Bell.

Where the price of living has gone! In my early married days we lived in Fort Lincoln, Dakota, and I had one maid of all work, a Swede.

HAD IT FIGURED OUT NICELY.

Washington Girl's Good Reason for Marrying Naval Officer.

Richmond Pearson Hobson, representative from Alabama, is one of the new members of congress.

"That reminds me of what a young Washington girl once said to me," remarked Representative Butler Ames.

"Well," she said, "I figured out the thing pretty carefully, and I concluded that if my husband didn't turn out to be my affinity he would be away half the time, and if he did he would be home half the time."

COUNTING CRABS.

The crab known as the scale-tailed apus was believed to have become extinct in Great Britain 50 years ago.

A nice old lady who was a friend of the family noticed Bobby passing one day, and calling him in, asked him to run down to a nearby store for her.

"My price for doing that kind of an errand," he said very distinctly, "is five cents."

THE BACHELOR'S DREAM.

Like the fox and the grapes, many a man hides his loneliness by a pretended contempt for home and marriage.

Deep down in his heart the bachelor dreams that somewhere in the wide world "she" is waiting for him.

THE LAST WORD.

"Keep still! You can't make me keep still!" shrieked the wife of Pharaoh.

SMART, WASN'T HE?

"I was named after George Washington."

PRUDENCE.

"Why did you hit that boy when he was down?" asked the gray-bearded man.

HIS INVESTMENT.

Old Lady (who had given the tramp a nickel)—Now, what will you do with it?

HUNGRY HOBBO.

Hungry Hobbo—Waal, I see mums, ef I buy an auto, there ain't nough left to hire a shofer.

TENDER HEARTED.

Mrs. Flagg—At last I've seen a tender-hearted tramp!

ADMISSION BY TICKET.

Mandy was a young colored girl, fresh from the cotton fields of the south.

SUPPLY IN DANGER OF EXHAUSTION.

"Did yuh hear that St. Hubbsky had gone and ordered a tonkstone for himself?"

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STATE BINDS LANDS

MASSACHUSETTS SUCCESSFULLY RECLAIMING PROVINCE LANDS.

Grass, Shrubs and Trees Being Planted —Tract Once as Barren as Sahara — Cranberries Flourish in Section.

Provincetown, Mass.—The effort of Massachusetts to keep its 500 acres of sand on Cape Cod, known as the Province Lands, from being blown into the sea, by binding the surface down through the planting of grass, shrubs and trees, is nearly completed, and it is expected that the remaining 170 acres will be reclaimed within the next three years.

The Province Lands are a direct inheritance of the commonwealth, having been decided originally to the province of Massachusetts bay by the crown of England and having never been relinquished, though they have for many years been the most unstable piece of property in the state.

During the past 15 years, however, the work of tying down the soil of the cape with roots of grasses and shrubs, thereby restoring equilibrium, has been progressing. So promising has the result been that it is regarded as possible, when the province lands are secured, that the state may extend its work to the Peaked hills of Truro, which adjoin the lands on the east.

The reclamation of the Province Lands began in 1893, when an appropriation of \$2,000 was made. At that time the tract was as barren as Sahara. Successes of the French horticulturists in Brittany and of the national government at Cape Hatteras and the Virginia coast encouraged the Massachusetts authorities to believe that a judicious planting of beach grass, pines and Scotch broom would gradually bring the tract back to stability and in time, perhaps, agriculture.

Since 1893 \$45,474 has been expended and 350 acres have been carpeted with a health that in the autumn glows like a Persian rug. There remain still about 170 acres to be replanted, but with the usual triennial appropriation of \$10,000 this year it is hoped to complete the work over the entire property of the state.

While the desire to bring financial profit out of the work was not the first consideration, the work has resulted in some return of profit. Last year there was revenue from the cranberry bogs of the section of nearly \$150, or nearly five per cent. on the annual investment of \$2,333.

In the adjoining town of Truro, where the town and private parties own the land, the problem of covering the famous Peaked hills promised to be much more difficult, but still not hopeless.

Cape Cod is swept by some of the fiercest gales along the Atlantic coast, and the inhabitants long ago learned that a slight rent in the thin top crust of the sandy surface in a short time might spread to unmanageable proportions before the boring and scattering force of the wind. Repairs now are quickly made whenever need is discovered, but on the Peaked hills devastation which probably occurred years ago was neglected, and the effect has been costly.

"HEN" AND "CAT" COST \$501.

St. Louis—A woman called an "old hen" and an "old cat" by a man has been damaged \$501, according to a jury in the circuit court here. Judgment for that amount was entered against Albert S. Block in favor of Miss Annie G. Kerone. Miss Kerone died suit for \$20,000, charging slander. Block admitted he used the terms, but said he meant no disrespect.

PLAYING FOR MILLION POINTS.

Two Cribbage Players Have Pegged Nearly 500,000 Each.

Des Moines, Ia.—A cribbage game for a million points, which has already lasted over seven years is being played in this city by Col. John C. Loper and Milo Ward. The score to date is 460,274 to 455,234. The players estimate that they will live to finish the exciting contest in 1915.

Both men are prominent here, Loper being sheriff of Polk county and Ward secretary of the Commercial exchange. The men play once a week, either Monday or Saturday nights, from 7:30 to 11. These men have played for 730 consecutive weeks and religiously keep their weekly engagement. The average number of points made each night for the last seven years is 2,150.

The game was suggested by Mr. Loper and Mr. Ward took him up. Just what the stakes are neither of the players will divulge. Both men have passed the 50-year mark.

The game has been divided into series of 100,000 points each. During their weekly contest they take a half hour for light refreshments. They play scientifically, and even politics and commercial interests are tabooed during the progress of the game.

The players have worn out a number of cribbage boards and about 25 packs of cards, so far. These are carefully preserved as relics of the contest. The men expect on their last series, which will come about eight years from now, to invite in their friends and card experts to see the finish of probably the longest card game ever played in the world.

TUFTS STUDENT ENGLISH LORD.

King Will Assist Him to Secure Estate, Now Held by Cousin.

Boston—Hugh Fitzgerald Lovering, 18 years old, a student of Tufts college, who lives with his mother in Lowell, it has just been discovered, is Lord Hugh Fitzgerald Gough of Ireland. He will soon come into the right and title of his heritage in England.

"Hughy Lovering," as his college mates have always called him, is said to be heir to the title and large estates in England, as well as landed property near Goffstown, in Ireland. King Edward is said to be taking a lively interest in seeing to it that the Massachusetts boy shall come into his rightful property and titles and that the usurper shall be compelled to step out of the way.

"It is a cousin who is now in possession of the Gough estates in Hertfordshire, England." To retain the properties there and to oust the Lowell boy, this English claimant will be compelled by King Edward to prove his right of possession. Charles Gough Lovering, the present claimant's father, came to America 20 years ago and married a Miss Huntree, who lived near Tilton, N. H. Lovering was their only child.

MODERN GIRL WINS OUT.

Jersey Grangers Decide She Still Makes a Good Wife.

Harrisonville, N. J.—Farmers and their wives, composing Gloucester county's board of agriculture, took a hopeful view of the farm situation at the quarterly meeting and turned out in such numbers as to pack the hall to the doors.

The question, "Are Our Young Girls of To-day as Well Trained to Make Skilled Housewives and Homemakers as the Girls of Fifty Years Ago?" showed a diversity of opinion. A dozen or more prospective brides attended to hear whether or not they are prepared to meet the new life that awaits them.

During the discussion these young women blushed profusely as some remark was dropped that seemed to fit into their lives. The trend of the discussion seemed to be that the girls of to-day make as good wives as those of years ago, because, as a rule, they are better educated.