

Head of Canal-Digging Force.



JOHN F. STEVENS CHIEF ENGINEER

FAMOUS RESORT TO GO

PLACE MADE FAMOUS BY LITERARY MEN BEING RAZED.

Langfellow, Holmes, Lowell, Booth and Many Others Once Guests—Will Become a Modern Apartment House.

Lynn, Mass.—A famous old house which breathes of Longfellow, and Holmes and Lowell, and Edwin Booth, and other famous persons is to fall by the ax of the utilitarian.

For 60 years the one-time home of Jeanne Margaret Davenport, the famous English actress at No. 16 Graystone Park, Lynn, was where literary and dramatic folk gathered; now it is being torn to pieces to be remodelled into the modern, though distinctly pebbled, apartment house.

When Jeanne Margaret Davenport lived there way back in 1861, it was a stately pile of gray stone, fashioned after the French style of architecture, and there was a French balcony and again French windows, and there was the long line of sea outside, and the acres of rolling land and shrubs and trees.

And there were seven fireplaces—The House of the Seven Fires—it has been called—and once as Langfellow sat by the huge cavernous one in the long library, with his hostess just across and friends all about him, he quietly repeated an allegorical little poem about the "House of the Seven Fires," a poem which had been lost track of, even by the friends who heard it.

Jeanne Davenport married Gen. Lander, of Lynn, and there were gatherings of note in the graystone house, which looked out at King's Beach and the sea.

Mrs. Lander entertained Edwin Booth, James Russell Lowell, Wendell Holmes, Henry W. Longfellow and many other notable literary and dramatic personages at her home. She was fond of Washington social life, and she was still more fond of the little gathering of the chosen few which congregated at her summer home. This was proved by the fact that after she had sold the place and spent many years abroad she came back to the Lynn shore to die within sight of the "House of Seven Fires," and the vista of sea which she had long looked upon. That was after being away for 20 years.

That house T. B. Aldrich has lived in for an entire summer; he took the place of Mrs. Lander. Frances Hodgson Burnett had it another summer, and Fletcher Webster, son of Daniel Webster, lived there also.

Mr. Moses Thompson and Mrs. Thompson, to whom Mrs. Lander sold the place when she went to Europe, lived there for 20 years, and to them came the first social circles of Lynn, and the huge fireplaces in the quaint, old-fashioned rooms were lighted often for the younger of the literary and dramatic folk who wanted to visit the place where the American salon of the English Davenport was 50 years ago.

And now the Thompsons have moved to Boston and the famous old place, followed by so many memories, is to be an apartment house.

Pony Will Take No Food. Pittsfield, Pa.—A pet Shetland pony owned by John Raring, a prominent business man of this place, is starving itself to death because of the desire of its young master, John Raring, Jr. While trying a new horse young Raring was thrown and killed. The boy always fed the Shetland pony, which would follow him about like a dog. When the little master refused to put in an appearance the pony refused nourishment nor could anyone else feed him. He has not eaten or drunk anything since the fatal accident and is slowly starving to death. It is a most remarkable case.

PRIZES FOR AIDS IN MINES.

Competitive Tests for Skill in Caring for Injured Coal Diggers.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—In the efforts to still further improve the first aid to the injured service in the mines of the Erie company, competitive contests were held at Valley View park near here by eight teams of five men each. These teams are composed of the five most able first aid men from each of the eight groups of mines owned by the company, and the contests were under the direction of General Manager W. A. May and other officials of the company.

The first aid service was established in the mines two years ago, following the enactment of a law compelling coal companies to have a small hospital inside each colliery at which first aid service could be given. Each mine then had a number of its men trained by physicians in the work of rendering first aid for all the many different kind of accidents which can occur in a coal mine, and the result of this has been the saving of many lives. As some 600 were killed and about three times that many injured in the mines last year, the need for such a service was apparent.

The contestants competed in the following classification:

First—One man carrying a man overcome by gas.

Second—Two men carrying a helpless man.

Third—Three men carrying a helpless man on an improvised stretcher.

Fourth—One man dressing an injured man with first aid packet.

Fifth—A team of five men performing artificial respiration, stopping hemorrhage from a bleeding wound, applying temporary splints to fractured legs, placing on stretcher, carrying over fall of rock, a fence and placing in ambulance.

In each of these contests the supposedly injured man had to be carried a certain distance, and his wounds marked and dressed in accordance with previous instructions.

The contests were judged by a committee of physicians. The winning team received a silver cup, each member of the winning team received a silver badge and the member of each team showing the best individual work was given a certificate of merit.

FIRE EXTINGUISHES ITSELF.

Blaze Results in Peculiar Culmination of Circumstances.

Ypsilanti, Mich.—It isn't every fire that is so accommodating as to put itself out before doing much damage, but a blaze that started in the local high school did just that.

Lightning struck the high tension wire of the light and power company. This wire was burned off and fell on a feed wire leading into the high school, and this in turn burned and fell on a gas pipe, so that the gas was ignited in the bathroom. The gas burned up into the pipe and the ceiling caught fire, but the bathroom was so tightly closed that the smoke soon smothered the flames.

The heat of the burning gas melted the pipe and the metal ran down and choked up the gas meter, stopping further flow of gas. The damage was slight, but it might have been serious had not the bathroom been tightly closed and the gas shut off by its own heat.

Find Coin in Mule's Shoulder.

Pittsburg, Pa.—A silver half-dollar bearing the date of 1904 was found in the left shoulder of a mule that was operated on by a veterinary surgeon the other day, according to a special dispatch from Cumberland Md. The mule had been lame for several days and an examination revealed a large lump on the shoulder. After the removal of the coin the lameness disappeared. The veterinary expressed the opinion that the coin was swallowed with food.

PRIDE OF THE NAVY

NORFOLK HAS GLORIOUS PLACE IN NATION'S HISTORY.

Vessels From There Lowered Colors of England's Fleets—Scene of Fierce Sea Battle During War of Rebellion.

Washington.—One of the most important supplementary attractions that visitors to the Jamestown Tercentennial exposition will have an opportunity to see is the Norfolk navy yard, which many people may be surprised to know is not located in Norfolk at all but just across the Elizabeth river in Portsmouth. The naval training station attached to the navy yard is, however, located in Berkeley, on the left side of the Elizabeth, which is now part of Norfolk.

The naval glory of the United States is inseparably connected with the Norfolk navy yard. From this yard have gone forth the great naval captains who have alone been able to lower the colors of England's navy. It was here that the Merrimac, of Virginia, was sunk in the general destruction of government property when the federal authorities evacuated Norfolk in 1861. She was later repaired and armored to fight a battle with the Monitor which changed the character of naval architecture throughout the world.

The first dry dock ever used by a ship of the line was constructed here and that ship, the Delaware, was placed in it on June 17, 1833, the fifty-fifth anniversary of the battle of Bunker hill. The dock was built of stone and was at that time considered a magnificent specimen of that class of work.

The occasion of its opening was made a general holiday in Norfolk, Portsmouth and adjacent cities and crowds flocked to Portsmouth from many miles around. Speeches were made by citizens of Delaware, the federal authorities and navy yard officials.

The Delaware was one of the first ships of the line ever built for the United States government. She was a 74 gun ship and was the second of that name, the first having been a 24 gun vessel. She was begun in 1818 under the superintendence of Captain Arthur Sinclair, who had been detailed from the navy department for that purpose. She was launched in October, 1820, amid general rejoicing. After the completion of her hull she was housed over, not being required for immediate service. After this she was fitted out and made several cruises. At the outbreak of the civil war she was again in the Norfolk navy yard along with several other vessels. When the federal officers decided to evacuate Norfolk and the government property was destroyed the Delaware was sunk along with the Pennsylvania, Merrimac and several others.

Of great interest to visitors to the Norfolk navy yard is the trophy park. Even those who have been around battle ships and naval shops all their lives find interest in the grim relics of American victories arranged there. The chief and largest objects of interest are, of course, the cannon, torpedo tube and torpedoes captured from the Spanish during the Spanish-American war. Under the heavy trees of great size which shadow the trophy park stands with all its equipment a 14-centimeter rifle taken from the wreck of Admiral Cervera's flagship, the Oquendo, after the battle of July 3, 1898. A level twisted out of shape and a rod broken there shows all too plainly the damage done by American fire.

Grouped about the flagstaff in the center of the yard are specimens of the armor of the ram Texas and the Albatross. At one side of the park are the torpedo tubes taken from the Spanish cruiser Reina Mercedes during the Spanish-American war. There are relics of famous American ships and trophies from British, French, Spanish, Chinese, Mexican, South American and Turkish ordnance shops. Perhaps the most curious trophy of all is the ancient Turkish cannon ball more than a foot in diameter which came from Constantinople. These trophies of past achievements are the strongest incentive to future deeds in those belonging to the naval branch and an equally strong incentive to loftier patriotism in those who do not.

SIGN NO-ELOPEMENT PLEDGE.

Church Members Promise to Refrain from Runaway Marriages.

Pittsburg, Pa.—"We, the undersigned members of the Young Woman's circle of the First English Lutheran church, do solemnly promise that we will not be parties to any elopements, such as has already become too common in our society. If we should choose such a method of assuming matrimonial bonds, we hereby relinquish all rights to the linen shower which it has been customary to give our newly wedded members."

The above agreement has been signed by 52 out of the 70 members of the Young Woman's Mission circle and will be forwarded to the remaining 18 members for their signatures. The reason is that last summer no less than 12 church members eloped, and as it has been a custom of the society to give each newly wedded bride from its number a linen shower, the treasury was seriously embarrassed.

PREACHER SOLVES RIDDLE.

Declares Sphinx Has Given Him Message He Won't Reveal.

Ringhamton, N. Y.—Baffling the wise men of the ages for untold centuries the Sphinx' stone face has at last given up its mysterious message to Rev. Dr. J. W. Phillips, a noted archaeologist and pastor of one of the largest churches of the state. If the announcement made by him proves correct.

By special invitation he will give his answer to "The Riddle of the Sphinx" at the spring meeting of American Archaeological society of New York.

Dr. Phillips spent a year in excavating among the Egyptian ruins and brought to America many inscriptions which he has since translated at his leisure.

This study has led to what he believes to be the successful solution of the world's greatest riddle. Dr. Phillips said today that he is not yet ready to make public the details of his discovery.

He said, however, that in substance his answer to the riddle proves that the ancient Egyptians were monotheists and not pantheists and that the Sphinx is a stone embodiment of their religious beliefs.

In answer to correspondence from him he has received appreciative letters from the American Archaeological society and from Dr. Budge, curator of the department of Egyptology in the British museum and secretary of the British society, congratulating him upon what the writers say they believe is a solution of the riddle of ages.

MANY STATES PRODUCE GOLD.

Country Second in Value of Output But Leads in Silver.

Washington—Gold is produced in 21 states in the union, silver in 23 states, and the United States leads the world in silver production and comes second in the output of gold, according to the statement covering the year 1905, issued by the bureau of the mint and the geological survey, which are cooperating in determining the output of gold and silver in the United States. The total value for the world for 1905 was: Gold, \$376,289,200; silver, 157,339,962 fine ounces.

According to the report, gold and silver both are produced in eight of the southern states, as follows: Alabama, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

The total number of ounces of gold produced was 4,265,742, and the commercial value of the silver produced was \$4,221,976.

The most important changes in gold production are shown by Alaska, which advances from \$1,168,500 in 1904 to \$1,925,600 in 1905. Colorado shows an increase from \$24,385,800 in 1904 to \$25,701,100 in 1905. Due to freedom from labor troubles, Nevada shows a gain from \$4,307,800 in 1904 to \$5,359,100 in 1905 and a gain in silver from 2,695,100 to 5,863,500 fine ounces. The total output of silver is about 1,500,000 ounces under that of the previous year, the three heaviest producers, Colorado, Montana and Utah, all showing a decline.

PLAYS WITH TITLE TO FORTUNE.

Boy Shows Chickens With Lease of Real Estate Worth Millions.

Milwaukee.—Millions lost because an ancient lease, considered worthless, was used as a plaything by children. Is the story told by Henry Forncrook, who was supposed to hold the paper upon which the Forncrook heirs all their claim to 160 acres of land in the heart of New York city, worth to-day at least \$15,000,000.

Henry Forncrook is now 84 years of age, and a member of the National Soldiers' home. He recalls that as a boy he rolled the lease into a club and drove chickens with it, and also used it as a spelling book. One day he took it to a cave, where he and other boys had a rendezvous, and that is the last he remembers of the document upon which hinge to-day the fortunes of people all over the United States.

No one paid any attention to the loss of the document at that time, as it was considered worthless for the reason alone that the land was considered worthless. The title was clear enough.

PHONOGRAPH DEFIES A CITY.

Trenton's Solicitor and Police Baffled by Harassing Music.

Trenton, N. J.—City Solicitor Charles E. Bird and Capt. John J. Cleary held a conference the other day in an effort to find some way to silence the big phonograph which has been making life miserable for residents and business men in the vicinity of State and Broad streets, the center of the city. Complaint as to the nerve-debilitating power of the machine has been made by the clerical force of the city board of assessors in city hall, just opposite. They allege that it is impossible to figure correctly when such melodies as "Keep on the Sunny Side" and "Moon Dear" are being poured into their ears.

Councillor William J. Backes has offices adjoining and he complains that his reading of Blackstone is impossible, while the racket is going on. The city authorities are hopeful that they can make the "anti-noise" ordinance fit the case and some action will likely be taken by the common council.

TOSHOWCRIMEREELICS

KANSAS SUPREME COURT WANTS STATE CHAMBER OF HORRORS.

Would Exhibit Ghastly Mementoes of Famous Tragedies as Warning to the Wicked—Now Stored in Vault.

Topeka, Kan.—Along with the state historical collection, the exhibit of farm products in the suite of offices of the state board of agriculture, the display of orchard products in the horticultural rooms, the Glass collection of stuffed birds, the minerals in the academy of science room in the capitol building at Topeka, Kan., may have another collection for state house visitors to view—the gruesome relics of famous murder cases and other tragedies which have been before the supreme court.

When a case is appealed to the court and there are submitted in evidence guns, revolvers or weapons of any sort, they remain forever a part of the record in the case and can not be removed from the court chambers. As many cases have been appealed to the supreme court in which weapons have been presented as evidence, the court chambers are crowded with such relics, as there is no suitable place in which to keep them.

A vault, unused for other purposes, is filled with guns, revolvers, clothing, miniature freight cars and locomotives to represent the trains which caused the death of men, women and children, razors, bridges in miniature. This vault is now filled and the books and corners of the courtroom proper are being used.

To preserve these ghastly mementoes as required by law, the court is planning to ask for a special appropriation for the construction of a chamber of horrors where all these ghastly witnesses of tragedies may be filed and tagged and kept in order behind glass doors.

The apartment in which would be displayed relics of the tragedies of Kansas, beginning with some of the early days of the state when "Wild Bill" and other desperadoes were active with their trigger fingers, would be unique.

Here one would find the revolver with which Emmet Dalton fought his way into and out of the bank at Coffeyville on that memorable day 15 years ago when the Dalton gang made its last raid. There is another collection of arms, sufficient to constitute a small arsenal. And they did, in fact, form the supply of weapons of the Dewey ranch in Rawlins county when Chauncey Dewey, now of Chicago, and talked of as the negroes' candidate for mayor, with his ranchmen, armed themselves to ride over to the Barry ranch on that fateful day when the "battle of the ranges" was fought. The Dewey men left the Barry after the loss of one horse, while the Barrys left three dead.

In this same chamber of horrors are a razor with which Jessie Morrison killed Mrs. Olin Castle at Eldorado would be placed. This was one of the most extraordinary cases ever heard, and there were three trials before Jessie Morrison was finally sent to the penitentiary to serve a life sentence for murder.

In one particular railroad case appealed to the court a train of freight cars was necessary to the evidence of the railroad, the Missouri Pacific and as a train could not be taken into court a string of miniature cars, 14 inches high and 12 feet long, were used. The case was that arising from the death of Henry Brinkmeier, whose relatives sued the railroad for damages.

In Linn county a man was killed by a train and his coat, covered with blood and cut by the wheels, is hanging on a peg as part of the evidence in the suit.

Another exhibit is a bottle of whiskey. It was filed in the department proceedings against a lawyer. His attorneys asserted that he had been given a drink of whiskey which had been drugged and that this accounted for his peculiar conduct in court. The bottle of whiskey was introduced to prove the assertion, but each judge refused to see whether it was drugged or not.

ADVERTISES FOR IDEAL WIFE.

Must Weigh 200 Pounds, Have Kind Ways and Other Accomplishments.

Port Edward, N. Y.—George Marshall of Granville, a widower, advertised for a wife who could tip the beam at 200 pounds, was opposed to race suicide, was charitable inclined, had a soft voice and quiet demeanor, and could bake good bread. No society butterfly, club woman, or physical culturist need apply, he added.

A colored woman drazing three children was the first applicant. One buxom widow was up to requirements in every respect but weight. She traveled several miles afoot, only to be rejected. Marshall has received several more applications, but none is satisfactory.

Marshall is related to members of the German nobility. Becoming offended at his parents, he left his aristocratic home and vowed never to return or give any information as to his whereabouts. He has kept this determination since he came to this country, 42 years ago.

Marshall's wife died several years ago. Every night after her death he visited her grave, rain or shine, and sobbed aloud for her to return to life. One night he disinterred her body.

SENATOR WOULD DRAIN SWAMPS

Success of Project Would Reclaim 75,000,000 Acres.

Washington.—Senator Flint, of California, will lead a movement at the present short session of congress to have the federal government adopt a general policy of draining swamp lands, in the same way that it is now reclaiming desert land by irrigation. Senator Flint has prepared a bill which he will introduce. The south-west Missouri swamps would come under the measure.

Senator Flint proposes that \$1,000,000 a year be appropriated until a fund of \$10,000,000 is on hand. As land is reclaimed from a submerged or partly submerged region it would be sold and the proceeds turned into the drainage fund. This is similar to the plan of the irrigation law, though in this case the original fund is taken from the proceeds of the sale of public lands.

The vastness of the project involved in the Flint bill can be understood when it is stated that the total area of swamp lands in the United States is, roughly, 75,000,000 acres, or about 120,000 square miles. This is over half as large as the whole German empire, and greater than the area of most states in the union.

The land is distributed all the way from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the lakes to the gulf. Virginia and New Jersey contain a large part of the total in the diamond swamp and the Hoboken flats.

There is some swamp land in New England, but less than elsewhere, on account of the generally hilly character of the ground. Michigan contains nearly 6,000,000 acres of swamp lands; Minnesota contains more than that. There are about 4,000,000 acres in the Sacramento valley, California, alone.

The estimated area of the Everglades swamp in Florida is 7,000,000 acres, and there are vast areas of swamp lands in Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and other southern states.

SEAWEED IN JAPAN.

\$2,000,000 Yearly Derived From It—Plans to Increase the Crop.

Washington.—Japan, which wastes nothing in its domestic economy, realizes \$2,000,000 annually from its seaweed products. According to the report of C. J. Davidson, an attaché of the British embassy at Tokio, more than 50 varieties of the seaweed found along the Japanese coast are utilized either for food or as manufactured products.

The traveler sees bundles of dried seaweed, white with the crystallized salt of the sea water, hung from the front of every food stall. The coarser varieties are stewed and served with fish. Some of the delicate springs of sea grass are boiled with fish soups and remain a vivid green, floating against the red lacquer of the soup bowls.

Other species of seaweed are used in the manufacture of glue, of plaster and of starch. Whole villages are given over to seaweed fishing and the drying and packing of the product for shipment to the manufacturing plants in the large cities. In the country along the seashore the farmers use the coarse andropy kelp for fertilizing their vegetable fields.

During the past few years the Japanese government has taken up the subject of giving its encouragement. Experiments have been carried on in many places along the coast with a view to increasing the yield of the deep water algae. The government offers a reward for the best method of producing iodine from sea plants.

CUTS THE NIGHT IN TWO.

French Savant Advocates New Arrangement of Working Hours.

Paris.—Prof. Hallopeau of the Academy of Medicine, says: "The true secret of long-continued, valuable brain work is to cut the night in two. The scholar, the inventor, the financier, the literary creator, should be asleep every night by 10 o'clock, to wake again at, say, two in the morning. Three hours' work from two to five in the absolute tranquility of the silent hours should mean the revealing of new powers, new possibilities, a wealth of ideas undreamed of under the prevailing system."

"From five to eight or eight-thirty sleep again. Taking up then the day's work the brain will be still saturated with the mental fruits of the midnight vigil, there will be no effort in putting into practice or carrying further what was planned or begun those few hours before."

"The habit may be hard to acquire, but mechanical means of waking at five will induce the predisposition. Loti has long had the habit of so working and declares that his best thoughts, his clearest intellectual vision, his choicest phrases, come to him when he works fresh from sleep, with all the world still in dreamland about him."

Professor Hallopeau cites also Napoleon and Cavour as brilliantly proving the merits of the system he advocates.

Family Has Divorce Mania.

Omaha, Neb.—George Timm, who was divorced in May, has married his brother's wife, who was divorced in June. George's sister was married the same day. This makes five marriages and five divorces in the Timm family in five years.