

WHITE HOUSE RATS.

Are So Numerous as to Make Place Almost Uninhabitable.

Every Effort Made Thus Far to Get Rid of the Pests Has Proved Unavailing—Steel Floors and Ceilings May Be Necessary.

Rats are overrunning the white house. This is one of the reasons why a new executive mansion should be built. The present residence of the president is infested and determined with the rodent pests.

The danger to the building from their constant burrowing and undermining has led to repeated efforts to exterminate these executive mansion rats.

No one seems to know how or when the rats first came to the white house, but it is probable they came from the stables.

Many visitors have been startled when calling upon the president by a sudden roar and rush on the floors above the cabinet room.

Over in the Metropolitan club, where there was a host of rats a few years ago, it finally became necessary to put in steel walls and ceilings.

THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

Representative Cousins Says United States Consular Service Can't Be Beaten.

"Our consular service is considered the best in the world, and it is improving constantly," said Representative Cousins.

"The improvement is taking place constantly, as from time to time congress increases the salaries of the consular officers.

"These officers are always alert and are prompt to report to the state department any opening for American products.

ARE MENDING THEIR WAYS.

Leading Railroads of Great Britain to Economize by Revolutionizing Transportation Methods.

There is a disposition on the part of several of the leading railways of Great Britain to amend their ways in the direction of economy.

Kipling was on the high seas, bound for South Africa, when his poem attacking the English cricketers and polo players was published.

EXCEPTIONS TO ALL RULES.

A New York artist has bought a fine house in the fashionable district, where he intends to live.

Coffee Consumption in Europe. In Europe the greatest average consumption of coffee is in Denmark.

NOT HIS BROTHER.

But Efforts of New York Architect to Discover Missing Relative Being Joy to Others.

Though disappointed just when he thought he had found the brother for whom he has been looking for two years, William T. Doherty, an architect in New York city, has the consolation of knowing that his efforts have brought joy to a family who bear the same name as his own.

This proved the death blow to all William Doherty's hopes, but he lost no time in sending on the letter to Charlestown, and he has just received a reply.

PUNISHMENT FITS CRIME.

How Little Kindergarten Lad Who Had Stolen a Penny Was Dealt With by His Teacher.

A small boy in one of the free kindergartens of New York city the other day was charged with stealing a penny from a small girl.

The janitor was a just man. After half an hour's hard work shoveling coal the little prisoner returned to the schoolroom, grimy, but triumphant.

SCHWAB AT MONTE CARLO.

President of United States Steel Corporation Makes Big Winnings at the Resort.

Charles M. Schwab, president of the United States Steel corporation, who has been playing roulette very high at Monte Carlo, broke the bank the other afternoon.

TOY FLYING MACHINES.

The newest thing in children's toys is a flying machine. The fact that it cannot fly doesn't affect either its name or its popularity.

All on a Pin-Head.

A Baltimore jeweler has succeeded in engraving the alphabet, in capitals, on the head of an ordinary pin.

CANALS IN EUROPE.

American Capital Reaching Out to Secure Control of Them.

Plan is to Obtain All Water Routes for American Cargoes from Inland Ports in America to Inland Ports in Europe.

One of the most important of American commercial enterprises in Europe has just culminated at London. It consists in the securing of all water routes for American cargoes of grain and other commodities from inland ports in the United States to inland ports in Europe.

Frank W. Hawley, vice president of the Erie Canal Traction company, has been in Europe several months quietly securing concessions for the operation of European canals by electricity.

At the forthcoming session of parliament the British legislators will be asked to grant permission for the erection of central power stations for the propulsion of traffic on at least two British canals.

THE ROUGH RIDER DODGE.

Pretext Upon Which Scores of Visitors to the White House Ask to See President.

"If all these fellows who present themselves here and claim the attention of the president on the score of having been rough riders during the Spanish-American war are genuine productions," said an attaché of the white house.

"Another class also numerous, is made up of cowboys, who, on account of the president's hunting exploits, expect consideration."

THE SPINE HOME OF THE SOUL.

Professor at Ann Arbor University Declares He Has Proven This by Experiments.

Prof. Lombard, of Ann Arbor, Mich., instructor of physiology in the University of Michigan, believes that he has located the dwelling place of the soul in the spinal column.

Results of the last two days' experiments seem to demonstrate that death through the medium of the brain does not terminate the control of the muscles.

THE OLDEST MAN AGAIN.

Claim of Napoleon (O.) Man Disputed by Noah Baby, Who Claims to Be 129 Years Old.

The claim of Martin Head, of Napoleon, O., to being the oldest man in the United States is not well founded.

DUCK TROUSERS OF WEST POINTERS.

It will probably be the purchase of a thousand dollars' worth of machinery to keep the white trousers of the military academy clean in preservative condition.

CRUCIFIX IN MARQUETTE'S.

Evidence was found the other day that proves almost beyond a doubt that the crucifix found at Frankfort, Mich., last summer by workmen excavating for the foundation for the Ann Arbor summer hotel there was the property of Father Marquette.

SPANISH GAME OF PELOTA.

The Spanish game pelota is to be introduced in New York, where it is expected to become popular.

ARKANSAS FORESTS.

In Arkansas vast belts of forest lands still lie untouched by the ax of the woodman.

MAKES THE HAIR FLUFFY.

Scalp Massage Proves Successful and Popular with the Society Women of New York.

The new method of making the hair fluff, and what is yet more important, manageable—namely, by massage—is gaining converts daily at New York.

All that is needed is willing and active finger tips, which, once a day at least, and, if possible, oftener, will lightly knead the scalp at the temples and forehead until the hair is in that state of fluff admired by all but possessed naturally, alas, by few.

When you see a woman nowadays whose otherwise straight hair fluffs not artificially but becomingly about her face in a way to recall the French saying that "The ugliest woman may be made beautiful if she but know how to comb her hair," you may know that such a woman is indulging in daily scalp massage.

PREVENTION OF HYDROPHOBIA.

Muzzling of Dogs Has Stamped Out the Disease Throughout Great Britain.

There was a great outcry among owners of dogs throughout the United Kingdom over an order of the board of agriculture requiring the muzzling of all dogs running at large.

After that date a new regulation will come into force. All dogs will then be subject to a six months' quarantine at the expense and on the responsibility of their owners.

BRILLIANT COURT SCENES.

Splendor of the Coronation Fore-shadowed by Elaborate Plans for Opening of Parliament.

The return of the king and queen to Marlborough house for the opening of parliament marks the beginning of the festivities of the coronation year.

MACMONNIES WAS HOMESICK.

American Sculptor Glad to Get Back to the United States—To Take a Rest.

Frederick MacMonnies, the American sculptor who has been working in France for 17 years, and who has just arrived at New York, announces that it is his intention of making that city his home in the future.

MONEY ORDERS POPULAR.

Great Increase in the Business Done at the New York City Post-Office Last Year.

Joseph Elliott, the superintendent of the money order department of the general post office at New York, has just handed to Postmaster Van Cott the annual statement of his department for the year just ended.

DIVORCE ENDS ROMANCE.

A decree of absolute divorce was granted in the supreme court the other day to Ida Cuthbert, a daughter of Capt. Nelson Bronson, U. S. A., retired, from Frederick R. Cuthbert, a bassist.

MARRYING INTO SOCIETY.

Dr. Nichols list shows in several places that if one can't buy his way into the "real smart set," says the Chicago Record-Herald, he may still marry into it.

IT BOBS UP AGAIN.

Question as to Number of Verb Which Goes with United States.

House Committee the Last to Run Up Against the Puzzling Question, But Usage Forces the Adoption of Singular Form.

The house committee on the revision of laws, in the course of some tinkering with the statutes, ran up against the time-worn proposition whether a singular or plural verb goes with the United States.

Accordingly the librarian of congress, the supreme court officials, and others were asked to throw light on the matter. The result showed that while the constitution and nearly all the laws, documents and messages in the early days of the republic used the plural verb, the tendency had been steadily toward the singular form, while for the last 15 or 20 years the latter had obtained almost exclusively.

The question was practically settled, however, as far as the committee was concerned, by the discovery of a pamphlet written by former Secretary of State John W. Foster, with the title "Are or Is?"

WANTS TO WIN DERBY.

Richard Croker's One Ambition Is to Have Winning Horse on English Turf.

Richard Croker in an interview with a reporter said among other things: "I have not decided on my future plans and don't know just when I will sail for England.