

some equally well-known person. Often the struggler relapses into barbarism under the mere weight of this odious necessity. Still other young Indians are burdened with false and ignorant English translations of the names given them by their parents, like Dog-That-Jumps-Around or Hole-in-the-Day (this great Indian's name should really have been translated Eclipse), or Old-Man-Afraid-of-His-Horses, and so on. With one bother and another, the young Indian's way in civilization is likely to be seriously obstructed by reason of his name. And even if he is given a simple and reasonable English name it often happens that a different surname is given to each one of the children of the same parents—a process which results in confusion in matters of inheritance and paves the way for much litigation."

**THE POSTAL SERVICE OF SWITZERLAND** possesses several unique features. A writer in the Washington Times says that the postoffice authorities act as bankers and express companies for the people. For instance, if you live in Switzerland and a man owes you, say, two dollars, all you have to do is to send him a bill for the amount in a sealed letter with a word or two to the postoffice on the outside of the envelope, and, in addition, a two-cent stamp. This stamp pays the postoffice for its trouble in collecting and delivering the money to you. The charge is about 1 per cent of the amount, and for this the money will be collected in any part of Switzerland. If payment is refused, however, the authorities will not enforce the collection.

**THE RAG PICKERS OF PARIS** RECENTLY held a meeting to protest against the contemplated action of the municipal council in providing for rubbish picking through an automobile system. It is said that there are 50,000 rag pickers in the city of Paris and referring to these people and their grievance, a writer in the New York Times says: "Some of the 'chiffonniers' in question, made famous in the novels of Eugene Sue, have even amassed large fortunes. M. Paulmier, who is known as the 'roi des chiffonniers,' has worked for nearly sixty years and is still hale and hearty. He has been the father of a score of children, seven of whom are living and following the parental vocation. His integrity is proved by the fact that he once picked up 62,000 francs in bank notes and immediately handed them over to the police. He declares that rag pickers are healthier than any other workmen and ridicules the prevailing microbomania. He considers that the introduction of the motor system will not only increase pauperism, but that it is a cruel and undeserved affront from the city of Paris, which has so often benefited by the services of humble citizens who have been repeatedly called upon to aid the authorities in times of epidemic and civil commotion."

**THE PEOPLE OF MANCHESTER, N. H.,** ARE boasting that theirs is a city of homes. In other words, they assert that in Manchester an unusually large proportion of the people own their dwelling houses; and yet the Manchester Union, while pointing with pride to its city's claim on this point, admits that there are some towns that make a much better showing on this point. According to census statistics, there are only twelve cities in the United States in which over 45 per cent of the families are owners of the houses which they occupy as homes, and these cities are Akron, Ill., Auburn, N. Y., Canton, O., Cedar Rapids, Ia., Jackson, Mich., La Crosse, Wis., Racine, Ill., Oshkosh, Wis., Saginaw, Mich., South Bend, Ind., Springfield, Ill., and Youngstown, O. It is pointed out that nearly all of these cities are in what is known as the middle west, and are manufacturing towns. It is explained by the Union that Manchester is not in this list because of its large floating population.

**A CONNECTICUT FARMER** AND HIS TWO sons were recently engaged in cleaning away the dense growth of underbrush and tangled vines that have taken possession of "Old Put's Hill." The Philadelphia North American says that during this work these men discovered three crumbled steps. Their discovery has aroused the interest of students of history everywhere in New England, for the belief is that the steps were a part of the long stairway down which General Putnam made his famous ride in revolutionary times. Tradition says it was down this identical hill that the indomitable warrior galloped and historians are quite ready to accept the discovery of the farmer and his sons as confirmatory of the tradition. It was at once suggested that more steps be cut in the rocky hillside so that visitors

to the place might climb them to the Putnam monument from the road, fifty feet below. This suggestion was speedily put into execution and already five steps have been completed.

**DURING THE YEAR 1902** GIFTS AND BEQUESTS for charity and educational purposes in the United States amounted to \$68,346,789. According to Appleton's Annual, five-sixths of the contribution for educational purposes were made by persons yet living while six-sevenths of the amount given for foreign missionary work came through bequests. These gifts and bequests were divided as follows: Educational institutions, \$20,127,525; church and Y. M. C. A. work, \$7,588,220; foreign missionary work, \$263,500; benevolent societies, \$4,364,724; hospitals and asylums, \$26,480,958; museums and art institutes, \$6,372,422; libraries, \$2,157,000; Cooper Union, \$942,440; New York historical society, \$50,000.

**A RESIDENT OF BALTIMORE** CLAIMS TO have in his possession the original military death warrant of Charles the First of England. Referring to this document, the Baltimore Sun says: "The warrant is written on thin parchment, upon which a muslin back has been pasted. It bears the marks of extreme age, and the chirography and some of the spelling are of the peculiar old English style. From papers found with the document, it is believed that the parchment was stolen by an officer and found its way eventually into the possession of the Chadwick family of England. Later it became the property of the Butler family, but was returned to the Chadwicks. It came into the possession of the present owner with a number of family papers that have been handed down through generations."

**IT IS ADMITTED THAT SOME INACCURACIES** of date appear in the document referred to. For instance, it bears the date of January 24, 1648, and refers to sentence having already been passed, whereas Charles I. was not sentenced until January 27, 1649. He was beheaded January 30, 1649. The document is as follows: "At the high court of justice for the trying and intytinge of Charles Steuart, Kinge of England, January 24, Anno Dom. 1648. Whereas Charles Steuart, Kinge of England, is and standeth convicted, attaynted and condemned of high treason and other high crimes and sentence upon Saturday last was pronounced against him by this x o Ex. X. be put to death by the severance of his head from his body, of which sentence execution yet remaineth to be done. These are, therefore, to will and require you to see that sentence be executed in the open streets before Whitehall upon the morrowe, being the thirtieth this instant month off January between the hours of tenn in the morning and five in the afternoon of the same day full effect and for soe doing this shall be yr sufficient warrant. And these are to require all officers and soldiers other the good people of this nation of England to be assisting unto you in this service. Given under hands and seals." At the bottom the warrant is directed to three officers, "or either of them," whose names are indistinct. Fifty-nine signatures follow, being the names of the members of the court. The first signature is that of Bradshaw, president of the court. That of Cromwell is third, followed by those of Gill, Ireton, Goff, Whalley and others.

**IT HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED** that the sultan of Achin has yielded to Dutch sovereignty and that after a thirty years' war between the Dutch and Achines, peace reigns in Sumatra. The interesting history that makes this announcement of some importance is related by the New York Tribune in this way: "Years and years ago it was already an old story. Other wars began and ended, but Achin went right on. The Russo-Turkish war, the wars in Egypt and the Soudan, the Russian conquest of Central Asia, the war between China and Japan, the Cuban revolution and the 'Yanko-Spanko' war, the tedious Boer war, our troubles in the Philippines, and Central and South American revolutions without number, rose, ran their courses and passed away into the Ewigkeit, while the Achin war, which began before them all, survived them all in perennial belligerence. Most of all, however, there will be hearty satisfaction at the removal of this long defunct fly from the pot of otherwise fragrant ointment of Dutch colonial government. Holland has long maintained one of the largest colonial empires in the world, and has done so very successfully. She has, of course, paid little heed to the theory of the 'consent of the governed.' In her view of the case, East Indians—like Kafirs in the Transvaal—were made to be governed,

willy-nilly, and Dutchmen were made to govern them according to their own sweet will. That principle, curiously compounded of despotism and benevolence, has on the whole worked well, save in that one sneeze-named region of Sumatra. It has been a source of considerable Netherlandish mortification that no Dutchman could ever point the contumelious finger at Britain in South Africa, or at America in the Philippines, or at any other good power struggling with adversity, without suffering the retort, 'Remember Achin!' Now that reproach is removed."

**A MAN WHO IN HIS IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORHOOD** came to be known as a jingo of jingoes died recently at New Haven, Conn. The name of this man was William H. Fowler. He was a bachelor and left an estate estimated to be worth \$250,000. He was always regarded as a rather conservative man and it is said that he was never known to show any particular enthusiasm concerning anything until the war with Spain. It seems that Fowler had for years entertained a hatred for Spain and Spaniards and he went to considerable trouble and expense to have all the trees on his spacious lawn painted red, white and blue.

**THE MANY ACCIDENTS** BECAUSE OF THE use of gasoline for kerosene has prompted the Minnesota legislators to undertake to devise means for preventing such mistakes. One measure introduced in the Minnesota legislature provides that kerosene intended for sale in Minnesota must be colored a deep red by the use of alkamet or similar dye stuff. Another bill provides that gasoline must be kept in red painted cans.

**A CURIOUS CUSTOM** WHICH HAS BEEN IN existence for nearly two hundred and fifty years was observed recently in the council chamber of the town hall at Guildford, England. The New York Tribune describes this incident in this way: "In the presence of the municipal charities trustees two domestic servants threw dice for what is known as the 'maid's money.' The fund was endowed by John How, mayor of Guildford in the reign of Charles II. His will provided that a sum of £12 12s should be annually presented to a servant maid who had lived for two years and upward in one employment in the town, and who threw the highest number with two dice. This year the two applicants were Florence Ansell, who has been nine years in her present place and was successful last year, and Isabella Law, who has nearly eight years' service to her credit. Ansell threw four and Law ten, and the money was accordingly handed to the latter. Ansell, however, had the consolation of receiving £13 7s 10d 'apprentice' money, owing to the fact that there was not a youth forthcoming who could declare that, after serving seven years with a freeman, and having taken up his freedom, he was not worth, directly or indirectly, £20."

**IT WAS INTENDED THAT THE FRESCOING** at the base of the dome of the national capitol should represent the chief historical events of America and more particularly those of the United States. This frescoing now extends nearly around this great circle beginning with a picture representing the discovery of America by Columbus and ending with the discovery of gold in California. Referring to this work the Washington Post says: "A good deal of history is depicted, but there yet remains considerable space. The blank is very unsightly, and nearly every one says it ought to be filled. But how? That is the question. If you care to listen to the guides who may be showing visitors about the capitol you will learn that difficulties have arisen in depicting the next great event in the history of the country. Naturally the civil war and the end at Appomattox would be the next picture, but the guide explains that there is little disposition to place upon the wall anything tending to offend one section of the country as an Appomattox picture might, and great difficulty has been found in picturing an event which should be historically accurate and alike creditable to both sides in the great struggle. It has been suggested that the war might be passed over, and at one time it was seriously proposed to fill the gap with something representing the Centennial and the World's fair commemorating the discovery by Columbus. It went so far as to show President Grant opening the Centennial and President Cleveland the Chicago exposition. But the suggestion of Cleveland raised a storm. There was too much ill feeling manifested toward him to make the suggestion feasible, and so the blank space remains, because no one can hit upon a design which shall not cause serious objection."