

and now the once hidden "9" appears as distinctly as the other numerals."

**T**HE DOME OF THE CAPITOL AT WASHINGTON is being repainted, and the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Public Ledger, in describing the event, says: "It is nine years since the huge structure was painted, and the work is being done as much to protect the iron from corrosion as to preserve its whiteness. It takes 1,000 gallons of paint to cover the dome."

**D**URING THESE DAYS OF STRIKES AND labor disturbances, not the least interesting is the account of a strike that recently took place in Athens. The Kansas City Journal gives an interesting account of the event in these words: "Fifty young women, wearing the picturesque costume of nurses, marched in procession through the principal streets and finally went to the government palace, where they asked for an audience with the mayor. They were the nurses employed in the founding hospital, and they had gone on strike because they had not received any salary since the beginning of November. When the mayor received them they told him they had sent a formal petition to the manager of the hospital, but that he had paid no attention to it. The mayor, in reply, assured them that if they would return to work their salary would be paid without further delay. They took his advice, and that evening they received the money due them. The incident made a great sensation in Athens, and an immense crowd followed the nurses during their march through the city."

**T**HE WASHINGTON POSTAL AUTHORITIES were recently much interested in a story of genuine feminine pluck, in connection with the rural free mail delivery service in northern Wisconsin. The heroine of the story is Mrs. Nellie Clapp, whose husband was the carrier on a route that is twenty-five miles long, serving 125 families daily and about 600 persons. Near this route is another traveled by another carrier, who was too infirm to face the weather during a severe blizzard that recently raged in that country. Mrs. Clapp insisted that her husband cover the latter route while she took her husband's route with which she was familiar, and this was done, the route covered in safety and the mail delivered. Mrs. Clapp has received an official letter of thanks from Washington.

**P**AUL BELLONI DU CHAILLU, WHO DIED on May 1 at St. Petersburg, at the age of 68 years, has been before the public nearly half a century in the character of explorer and it might also be said of a discoverer. The St. Petersburg correspondent of the St. Louis Republic gives an interesting account of the life and work of this great explorer and author, saying: "Mr. Du Chaillu was the son of a merchant, and his birthplace was New Orleans, and not Paris, as it was once believed. When scarcely 20 years of age he fitted out an expedition at the French settlements on the Gabbon river, in Africa, where his father had a consular appointment. In 1855 he explored territory on the west coast of Africa, on both sides of the equator, accompanied only by natives. He made a journey of 8,000 miles in a country which was practically unknown, and, although he made no pretensions as a scientist, he added sixty species of birds and twenty of animals to the then known zoology of Africa. His most important achievement in zoological research, viewed in the light of developments, was the discovery of the gorilla. His vigorous descriptions of the ferocious apes called down upon him many attacks, and, although there were persons who compared him with Bruce, the Abyssinian traveler, and with Baron Munchausen, he insisted that the gorilla existed, and wrote a book to prove it."

**A** LONDON CABLEGRAM TO THE CHICAGO Inter-Ocean makes the interesting statement that the recent earthquake in Palestine which took place on March 30 seems to have been most severe in the Valley of Jordan and around the Dead sea. The level of the Dead sea has fallen considerably, and now, according to report, the Jordan pours its waters into the lake from an elevation, whereas formerly it was nearly on the same level. Evidently the bottom of the Dead sea must have subsided during the earthquake. The whole region of the Valley of the Jordan near the sea is volcanic.

**C**ONTRARY TO THE USUAL ORDER OF things, there is an asylum for indigent old people near Paris that is having difficulty in ob-

taining inmates. A dispatch to the Chicago Inter-Ocean under date of Paris, May 2, says: "A curious state of things is reported from Chalons-sur-Loire, where, with the money left by a rich landed proprietor, an asylum for indigent old people has been built. Everything is now ready and the asylum will be opened this month. The prefect and all the local authorities had arranged to be present, and a high functionary from Paris was to grace the inaugural proceedings. Only one thing was wanting—the inmates. Although every effort has been made to find old people who will accept the hospitality of the asylum, the institution is still without those for whom it was built, and it is now feared that the opening ceremony will have to be indefinitely postponed."

**A**NOTHER THIRTY YEARS' WAR HAS been ended by the Dutch conquest of the ancient empire of Atjen, which lies in the northern isthmus of Sumatra. The war raged up to the beginning of this year and has cost enormously in both men and money on both sides. The sultan of Atjen and his son recently surrendered to the military governor of the province, General Van Heurtz, and in grateful recognition of his services in bringing the war to a close Queen Wilhelmina has conferred upon him the highest distinction that can be conferred upon a soldier. This war has drawn heavily upon the resources of the Dutch government, it being said that there is scarcely a family in the land that has not had some relative either in active service in the Dutch Indies or lost during the long struggle.

**A** NOVEL AND PLEASING GIFT WAS RECENTLY made by the German emperor to the empress. According to the Berlin correspondent of the Chicago Inter-Ocean, the empress has expressed so much delight over this gift that she declares she will wear it to her dying day. The Berlin correspondent says: "It consists of seven discs of solid California gold of the purest quality, each disc being about the size of a silver 25-cent piece, but three times as thick. The discs bear enameled portraits of the imperial children, each disc being enclosed in thickly set diamonds. Hanging from the bracelet is a heart of solid gold weighing about two ounces, on which is a portrait of the emperor."

**A**N INTERESTING STORY OF A TEST RECENTLY made of the endurance and flying capacity of birds was recently told. The Berlin correspondent of the Chicago Inter-Ocean says: "A Warsaw journal relates the following story of an experiment made by a Polish nobleman to ascertain how far storks migrate during the winter. He caught a stork and attached a plate to its neck on which were inscribed the words: 'Haec ciconia ex Polonia' (the Stork comes from Poland.) In the following spring the same stork was found in the nobleman's park with a bundle round its neck, containing several precious stones of great value, and the metal plate with these words on the other side: 'India cum donis remittit Polonis' (India sends him back with presents to the Poles)."

**T**HE NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT OF THE Chicago Record-Herald writing to his paper recently, made the statement that it is expected that by July 4, in connection with the opening of the new cable to the insular possessions of the United States, an effort is to be made to circle the globe in forty seconds. The message will be sent from the main office of the company in New York, and it is hoped will be received on the opposite side of the room within forty seconds after the operator sends it on the other. This feat will immediately follow the exchange of messages between President Roosevelt and Governor Taft at Manila. The message will probably travel over only two lines. These will be the land and ocean wires of the Postal and the Commercial Cable company, which may be considered one, and those of the Eastern Telegraph company. The message will go from New York to the Pacific coast by the land lines of the Postal, and thence to Manila by the Commercial Cable lines. At Manila it will be taken up by the Eastern and hurried on to London, where it will be again turned over to the lines of the Commercial Cable for transmission under the Atlantic. To make the time calculated on there will have to be instant communication between the various relays.

**T**HE VILLAGE OF JASPER, N. Y., WILL probably soon be known to fame as the seat of a new educational institution known as the McKinley memorial college. This institution will be operated somewhat after the plan of the Tus-

kegee normal institute, Booker T. Washington's famous school in Alabama. Its object is to give an opportunity to young men and women to obtain a college education by "working their way."

**T**HE PROJECT OF CONNECTING BUENOS Ayres with Santiago and Valparaiso in South America with a railway line that will necessarily have to cross the Andes mountains, is assuming active shape according to a report recently submitted to the state department by Consul Mansfield stationed at Valparaiso, Chile. A bill was passed by the Chilean congress which adjourned in February, providing for the construction of this line. The Argentine government has already begun the work of building a railroad from Buenos Ayres which will connect with the line from Valparaiso, and it is expected that the line will be completed within a few years.

**A**S AN INSTANCE OF THE GREAT CARE that is taken in France to protect trade secrets against all foreigners, the Paris correspondent of the Chicago Tribune cites a law that is in force in that country. This correspondent says: "A law still obtains in France, according to the Patrie, under which any workman who divulges information regarding a secret process practiced in any industry to a foreigner, or even to a Frenchman resident abroad, commits a penal offense, and for such is liable to a sentence ranging from two to five years' imprisonment and a fine of from \$100 to \$4,000. He is furthermore subjected to from five to ten years' police supervision after his release from jail. Even the communication of such information to another Frenchman resident in France is punishable, though the sentence in this case is not so severe, the sentence varying from three months' to five years' imprisonment, accompanied by a fine ranging from \$3 to \$40. On the other hand, a French employer is entitled, without reserve, to any invention or discovery made by a workman in his employ that is within the scope of the work undertaken at the factory."

**A** NOVEL MEANS OF SELF-DESTRUCTION was recently recorded in England. A London cablegram to the Chicago Tribune says: "A coroner's inquest at Shrewbury this week revealed a remarkable case of suicide. Mrs. Roberts, the buxom wife of a small farmer, died in the Shrewbury infirmary. A post mortem examination revealed the fact that the deceased had swallowed thirteen darning needles, two ordinary needles, twelve pins, five safety pins, a hat pin, a boot protector, a button hook, two screw nails, twelve wire nails, eight short nails, three tacks, a piece of the stem of a clay pipe, two bits of colored chalk, a Manx coin, an English farthing, twelve fragments of glass, and other articles, 122 in all."

**A**N INTERESTING POINT IN LAW WAS RECENTLY brought out in an Alabama county, according to the Kansas City Journal. Two weeks ago, runs the story, a negro was hanged for murder in due process. The body was cut down and pronounced dead by the physician attending, and was then turned over to the relatives, who took it away. They observed signs of life in it, whereupon a physician was called in, who applied restoratives and the man came back to his former existence, in which he now abides in health and strength. The question is whether the law can again lay hands upon him for that crime, since officially he has paid the full penalty, and stands as dead in the legal records of the case. At any rate, nothing has been done looking to his re-arrest.

**D**URING THE YEAR 1902 THE NUMBER OF immigrants who left Irish ports was 40,401 or 9.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population. This was an increase of 531 over the emigration of 1901. The Dublin correspondent for the Philadelphia Press says: "Of the total emigrants 40,190 were natives of Ireland and 211 were persons belonging to other countries. The number of males was 18,893, and the number of females 21,508, and nearly half the emigrants were between twenty and twenty-five years of age. The United States received 33,249 of the emigrants, Canada 732, Australia 496, New Zealand 74 and Great Britain 4,718."

**I**RVING M. SCOTT, WHO BECAME FAMOUS as "the man who built the Oregon," died at his home in San Francisco April 28. Mr. Scott was sixty-six years of age. He was born in Baltimore county, Maryland. He has been in poor health for many years.