

A Dock's Mysteries.

It is not an agreeable sight, the bottom of a ship's dock at low water, but a thought of what is hidden in and under the soft and bubbling mud must give pause to many a mind.

A large steamship dock in East Boston is being cleaned out for the first time in twenty years, and the many finds in the oozy substance, after it has been deposited by the capacious maw of the jaw-like dipper in the scow,

are very suggestive. Dishes of all kinds, spoons, knives and forks are hooked out by the hundred, whole and well preserved, to say nothing of the myriad particles of broken crockery, scraps of iron and other debris, which serve only to emphasize the ordinary impression of the dredgerman as his "pull" proves disappointing.

But the strangest happening of all and the luckiest fish-out of the season occurred recently, one man recovering more than four dozen pieces of tableware without a crack or a nick to mar the beauty of their surface—English crockery of the heaviest and most ornamental description in use on a first-class passenger steamship.

How did these valuables find their way over the water's side? No other theory seems plausible than that of a lazy scullion committing to everlasting mud what he was too indolent to "think" of throwing overboard.

The depth of mud in a dock is always problematical until tested by a pole or diver, the latter way being attended with more or less danger. Some months ago a large steamer was hauling and the man in charge of the wharf-line did not slip it at the proper moment. The result was, the captain head was wrenched from the deck, and this costly piece of machinery cast into the dock.

The vessel proceeded on its voyage, and a diver was engaged for \$50 to recover the captain. He descended in the usual way, with loaded shoes and metallic head-gear, but he did not bargain to sink so deep in filth, though in water it would have been comparatively a pastime.

Down, down he went, and with painful slowness, and hard bottom was not struck until he was far deeper than his own height, and he was not a "shanty" as the boys say. It was at the bottom of the question to attempt to grope around for the captain under such conditions, and he signalled to rise. Nothing daunted in his original purpose, however, he doffed the loading from his shoulders and, as a second descent, horizontally, as a swimmer sinks at will, and groped around for the missing article until he had explored by his sense of touch the surface mud of the dock.

No captain, no pay; and the discomfited diver was obliged to relinquish his search. The captain has not been found yet, and probably sank with his cable attached to a greater depth than human perseverance could fathom. It is expected that the present dredging will bring the lost captain to light.

Workmen engaged at Bradford, Pa., in digging a trench through the ground that was formerly the site of old Fort Bedford unearthed a number of cannon balls and several canisters filled with grape-shot.

The enterprising manager of a theatre called upon a famous artist and asked him to paint a drop-scene for a certain theatre and name his own terms. "You have seen my pictures then?" asked Meissonier. "Oh, yes!" exclaimed the manager, "but it is your name, your name I want; it will draw crowds to my theatre."

A Correctionville farmer sold a load of corn at that town the other day. When it was weighed he shyly stepped on the scales, and then drove off to his load. When the wagon was weighed he took good care not to be in it, and congratulated himself that he had cheated the buyer in good shape.

The first annual report of the Society for the Encouragement of Moderation in Drinking contains some figures that will startle the extremists who are skeptical about the success of men who began work on the principle that half a loaf is better than no bread.

Burmah.

Burmah, a kingdom of the Indo-Chinese peninsula, has, as it now exists, three well-marked divisions. Northern Burmah, Burmah proper, and the Eastern Shan, tributary States.

The inhabitants belong to the branch of the Monoids distinguished by a monosyllabic language; they are short-headed, broad-skulled, flat-faced, have black hair and dark brown skin, and resemble the Mongols more than the Hindus.

Both sexes wear a white linen jacket, called *sa-gie*; the men wrapping round the lower part of the body the *put-oo*, several yards long, and the women wearing the *le-mine*, a scant silk or cotton garment, to which are added on occasion silks, muslins and gold ornaments.

The men and women alike smoke cigars and chew betel-nuts to excess. The former are, for the most part, robust and well made, and excel in boxing, rowing, wrestling and other athletic exercises, and have considerable mechanical skill.

The houses are a framework of bamboo, thatched with the water palm and are built on posts several feet from the ground. The women, more industrious than the men, buy, sell, weave and attend to domestic duties. Both sexes are very fond of feasting, sight-seeing, buffoonery, theatricals and buffalo fighting.

The natives are attached to their home, though they are very far from patriotic. Without individual enmity, they are indifferent to the shedding of blood by their rulers, and, while temperate and hardy, are hostile to discipline and continued labor of any sort.

Buddhism, the prevailing religion, has been preserved in great purity; its shrines, temples and monuments are numberless, and its festivals rigidly observed. The government is hereditary and despotic, the sovereign being assisted by a council of the nobility, over whose members he exercises a kind of feudal jurisdiction.

Millions of Mothers express their delight over Castoria. It is a safe remedy for assimilating the food. Unlike Castor Oil, it is pleasant to take, and unlike Morphine Syrup, it is harmless. Castoria regulates the Bowels, destroys Worms, Cures

Sour Curd and Wind Colic, and allays Feverishness. What gives health to the Child, promotes rest for the Mother. Children Cry for Castoria's Castoria. It is the most reliable, effective and popular article dispensed by Druggists.

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Physicians and Veterinary Surgeons endorse the Centaur Liniments as the best of men, women and children in all countries used them, and Housekeepers, Farmers, Planters, Travelers, Liveries, Transients and Stock-growers, are their patrons. They are clean, they are handy, they are cheap, and they are reliable. There is no ache, pain, or swelling which they will not relieve, or cure.

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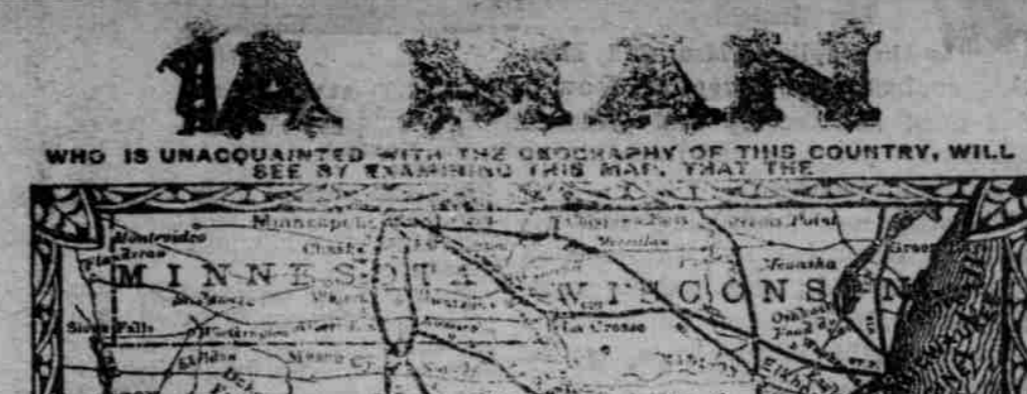
MORRIS O'ROURKE again comes to the front with his large stock of piece goods, and makes his standing offer of a FIT OR NO CASH OUT!

ROBERT DONNELLY'S WAGON AND BLACKSMITH SHOP.

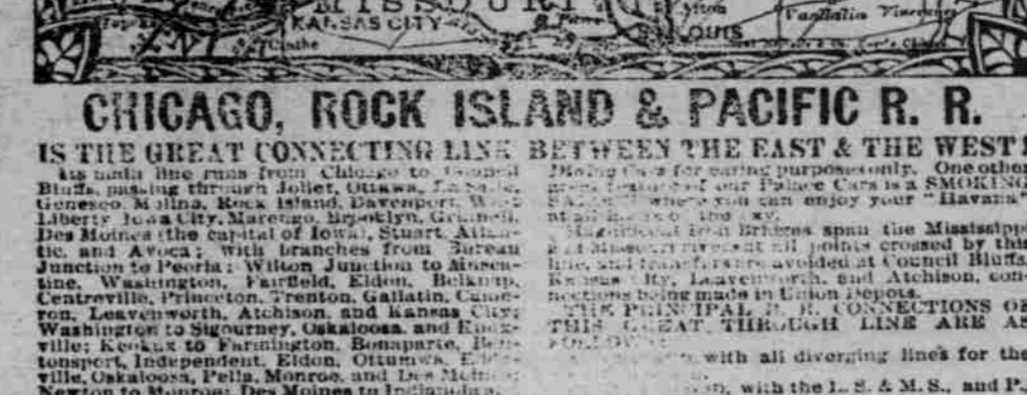
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