# HE LATE COL. DAVIS.

## HE WAS A MAN OF GREAT ABILITY.

**Director General of the World's Fair and One of the Chief Promoters of the Great Exhibition—A Veteran of the Civil War and Indian Wars.**

Col. George R. Davis, late director general of the world's fair and who died in Chicago recently, was a man of extraordinary executive ability and had a varied career. He was a lawyer, a statesman, a politician, and a business man. He was born in Palmer, Mass., January 3, 1840, of Welsh-Scotch parents. In 1860 he graduated from Williston academy, and spent the next two years in business with his father in Springfield, Mass.

At the outbreak of the war he enlisted and went to the front as captain of company H of the Eighth Massachu-

COL. GEORGE R. DAVIS.

setts. After serving with distinction he accepted a commission with the Third Rhode Island cavalry, and later he was promoted to the position of major. At the close of the war he had the brevet rank of colonel and became attached to the headquarters of Gen. Sheridan, and later was made superintendent of railroad, river and ocean transportation.

He was in the Indian campaigns of the west in 1868 and followed Gen. Sheridan to Chicago, where in 1871 he resigned to accept the management of the interests of several eastern insurance companies. Carter H. Harrison defeated him for congress in 1876, but two years later Mr. Davis was elected. Twice thereafter he was re-elected and served his district with distinction. When he retired from congress in 1884 he still continued to be a member of the Republican national committee and of the national executive committee. It was his intention at that time to retire from active politics, but he was persuaded to make the run for county treasurer and was elected.

Then he became identified with the preliminary plans for the Columbian exposition, and was selected in 1890 as director-general. His success in this capacity won for him the crowning point of his life. The past few years of his life he devoted to his business interests.

## FACTS ABOUT AMERICAN CITIES

**Some Data Regarding Health, Population and Other Conditions.**

Anticipating the work of the census takers and acting on instructions from congress, the department of labor at Washington has issued statistics relating to all the cities in the United States of a population of 30,000 or more. It was found that there were 140 such cities and the statistics collected throw much interesting light on their status and development. The oldest city in the United States is Albany, N. Y., which was incorporated in 1686, Philadelphia dating fifteen years later. New York, Chicago and Philadelphia are the only American cities whose population runs into the millions. Some odd contrasts are presented in the tables which give the area covered by the different cities. It appears that Taunton, Mass., occupies a territory greater than that of either Boston or Baltimore. New Orleans, a city of 285,000 inhabitants, covers 125,600 acres, while Newark, N. J., with a population of about the same size, occupies less than 12,000 acres. One expects to find the manufacturing districts of Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Illinois closely packed, but it is surprising to notice that Richmond, Va., covers only 6,520 acres and Louisville, Ky., 12,800 acres, as compared with Duluth, Minn., and Des Moines, Iowa, which, with much smaller populations in each case, covers respectively 40,960 and 34,560 acres. The health statistics show that McKeesport, Pa., is perhaps the healthiest city in this country. Its rate of deaths from consumption is only 1.09 per thousand, as compared with 12 in Boston and New York and 26 in Denver, Col., due, of course, to the fact that consumptives resort to Denver from all parts of the country. The rate of 13.60 deaths per thousand from old age (considerably the highest on the list) is accredited to Salt Lake city, a condition to account for which no theory has yet been brought forward. In Pittsburg and Chicago deaths from old age are only 2 per thousand. At a time when the extension of municipal functions is occupying public attention it is interesting to note the figures which relate to city ownership. Ninety-six cities own their water supply, among the exceptions being Indianapolis, New Haven, New Orleans and San Francisco. Four have municipal gas works—Duluth, Richmond, Toledo and Wheeling—and thirteen own and operate electric light plants.

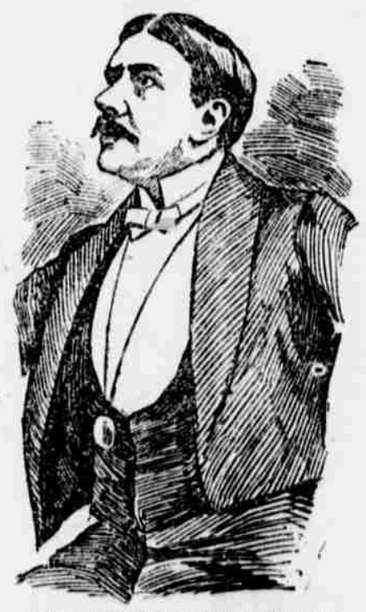
## METHODS AT CARRARA.

**Famous Marble Still Quarried in the Methods of 3,000 Years Ago.**

Sculptors of every country are agreed that if there is one place on earth where modern machinery is necessary it is in the marble quarries at Carrara, Italy. For 2,000 years marble has been quarried there, and during all that time only one improvement has been introduced, the result being that the men who work there today use practically the same methods that were in vogue in the time of the Roman emperors. Carrara is situated near the gulf of Genoa, and its famous marble comes from the Apennine mountains, the quarries being located between Carrara and Massa. The industry attained its greatest prosperity at the time of the Emperor Augustus, yet even today it gives employment to 6,000 workmen and 1,600 sculptors, and it is estimated that of the 15,000 persons who live in the district there are few, if any, who are not supported directly or indirectly by the quarries. The latter cover about 20 square miles, and are located on the sides of the mountains generally near the topmost points. From each of them a pathway leads to the street and railroad at the foot of the mountain, and it is down this pathway that the blocks of marble are taken to their destination. The only improvement introduced during the past centuries is the use of powder. Yet it is doubtful if this is altogether an improvement, for the reason that, though immense masses of rock are dislodged by the explosions, they are frequently so badly shattered that much of the marble is rendered useless for artistic purposes. When a successful explosion takes place the work of cutting the marble into suitable forms begins, and this is done with precisely the same kind of old-fashioned instrument that has been in use for centuries, namely, an ordinary saw. It is unnecessary to say that the process is extremely laborious, and that those who have seen it cannot help wondering why the work is not done with a steam saw. A very primitive method is used for the conveyance of the finished blocks down the pathway to the railroad. A rope is tied to each, and then the descent begins. How difficult this task is can be seen from the fact that 18 men are required in order to handle and convey safely to its destination a block weighing 11 tons.—New York Herald.

## THE LATE CHARLES COGHLAN.

Charles Francis Coghlan, who died in Galveston, Texas, recently, was one of the best known actors of the day and possessed dramatic ability of a high order. He was also the author of several plays, and adapted others from different languages. Coghlan was born in Paris, of English parentage, 56 years ago, and received a fine education. At 17 he went to London to study law, but gave it up at 19 for a dramatic career. Being a gifted linguist and of a charming manner he soon attracted the attention of London managers, and rose to a position of considerable prominence on the English stage. In 1876 he first came to this country and made a successful tour of the United States. He then returned to London, where he won high praise and became accepted as the leading romantic actor of the day. He played leading parts here and abroad with Ellen Terry and Mrs. Langtry, and for several years toured with his sister, Rose Coghlan. He became estranged from his sister in 1893, when he married a member of Rose Coghlan's company. He had been starring of late in "The Royal Box," a play written by himself.



CHARLES FRANCIS COGHLAN.

**A City Sliding Down Hill.**

Butte, one of the largest cities in Montana, seems about to separate from itself. It appears that a portion of the town is sliding down hill, apparently determined to seek a new home. Evidence of this peculiar phenomenon is seen on a number of large buildings, including the county court house and the residence of United States Senator W. A. Clarke, these buildings having become cracked and fissured from one side to the other. Geologists who have investigated the matter say that the buildings damaged are on a seam of rock along which a cleavage is taking place. Frequently such separations of soil and rock occur in the mountains the result being a slide that may carry with it great tracts of land. The city of Butte is built on the slope of a hill, and the disturbance is in about the central portion of the town. So it is barely possible that nature will some day tear down quickly the structures that man has spent great time and labor in erecting.

# SANG FOR MEN'S SOULS

## THE LATE DR. LOWRY'S HYMNS ARE WORLD FAMED.

**The Author of "Shall We Gather at the River," and "Where Is My Wandering Boy To-Night," and Other Sacred Ones, Has Lately Passed Away.**

Throughout the Christian world, wherever gospel songs are sung in the English tongue, the name of the Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry, whose death took place a few days ago at Plainfield, N. J., is known. Dr. Lowry was the writer of many songs, and though he was known as an able preacher his greatest reputation rested on the merit of his musical compositions and verses. All the songs written by Dr. Lowry are marked by the expression of human sympathy, giving voice to that side of religion which answers to the common yearnings of the human heart—hope for a life beyond the grave, wherein those who have been friends on earth shall be still united; trust in a greater power to supplement the frailties of human nature. From this it has come about that many of the songs written by Dr. Lowry have become popular among men of a class to which few religious songs appeal, while in the Sunday school, the church, the prayer-meeting, and the Christian home all his best hymns are firmly fixed as favorites. How many grief-stricken families, mourning the loss of a dear one, have been consoled when beside the open grave they have heard the sure answer of faith in Dr. Lowry's perhaps most noted hymn: "Shall We Gather at the River?" when the chorus rings out:

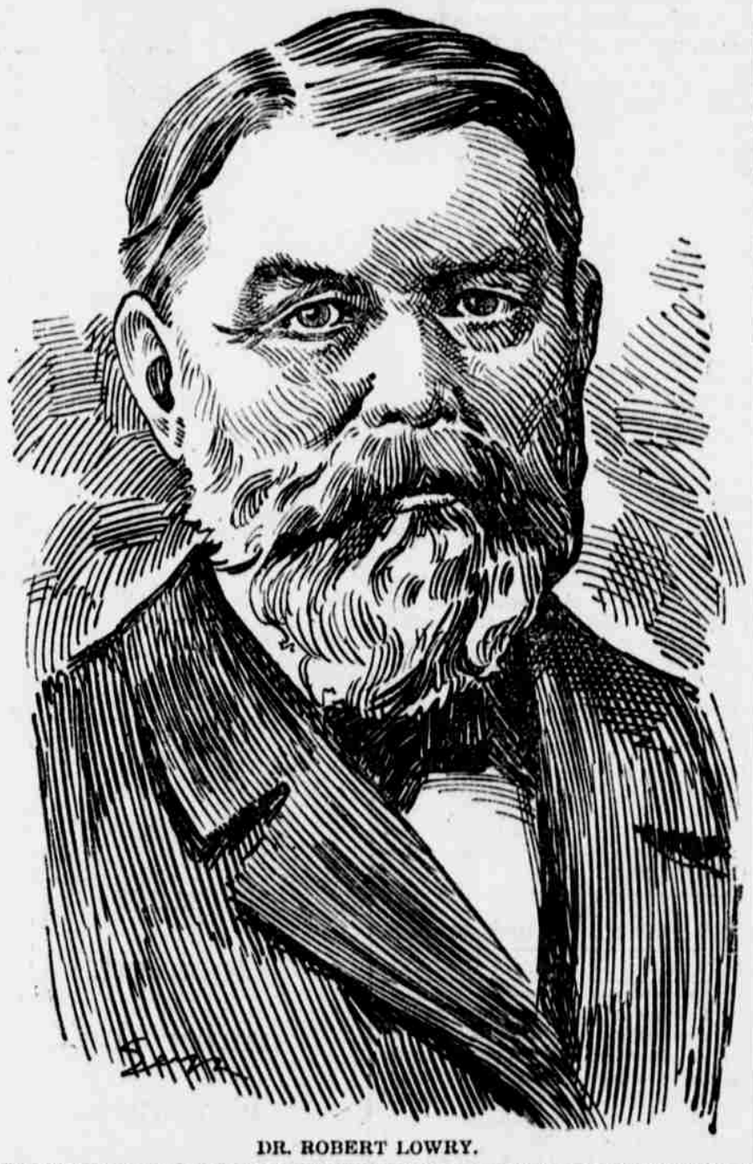
Yes, we shall gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river,
That flows by the throne of God.

Another song that is sung outside of religious circles probably as much as any hymn ever written for religious use is "Where Is My Wandering Boy Tonight?" Strangely incongruous as it may seem, there is no song to which drinking men—men who have wandered far away from the holy influences of good homes—will listen more attentively. Many a bartender can tell of seeing young men push away untouched their glasses of liquor on hearing some chance companion sing:

Then go for my wandering boy tonight,
Go search for him where you will;
O, bring him to me, with all his blight,
And tell him I love him still.

Dr. Lowry was born in Philadelphia, in March, 1826. He received a common school education and engaged in secular business for a time; but in 1848 he entered the university in Lewisburg, Pa., as a theological student, and was graduated in six years. After a short pastorate in West Chester, Pa., he became pastor of the Bloomingdale Baptist church in New York City in 1858. He remained there three years and then went to the Hanson Place Baptist church, in Brooklyn, where he remained eight years and increased the membership of the society more than 400 souls. Dr. Lowry became the professor of belles-lettres in the University in Lewisburg in 1869. In addition, he filled the pulpit of the Baptist church there. He subsequently was elected chancellor of the university. Upon the organization of the Park Avenue Baptist church in Plainfield he became its pastor. He saw the society safely housed in a $40,000 building and then retired.

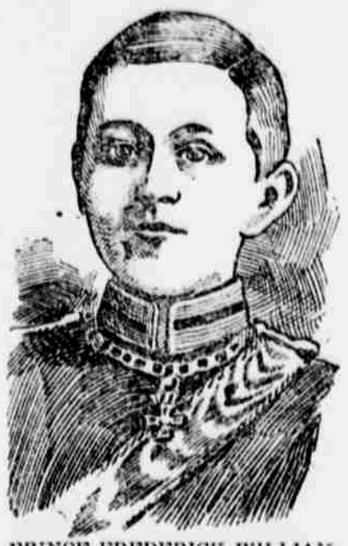
It was during his Brooklyn pastorate that Dr. Lowry first came into prominence as a writer of hymns. Once known, his reputation increased apace, so that when he left the professorship in the university he intended to devote the remainder of his life to hymnology.



DR. ROBERT LOWRY.

## MAY WED HOLLAND'S QUEEN.

If the story from Berlin that Queen Wilhelmina of Holland is to marry Crown Prince Frederick William of Germany turns out to be correct she will get a husband who, in case of necessity, could earn a good living for his wife as a carpenter. Like all of the Hohenzollern princes he was set early to learn a trade, and more than a year ago he presented his father with a chair made with his own hands, while the empress mother received a footstool as a result of her eldest son's industry. Like his father before him the young prince, who was born in 1882, is now a student at the University of Bohn, where he mingles freely with the other boys in the work and pleasure of college life. Prince "Eitel Fritz,"



PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM.

the emperor's second son, selected the goldsmith's trade, while Kaiser Wilhelm himself is an expert bookbinder.

**The Cunning of a Fox.**

A gentleman whose word cannot be doubted and who is not easily deceived tells the following: Very early one morning he saw a fox eyeing most wistfully a number of wild ducks feeding in the rushy end of a highland lake. After a while the fox, going to windward of the ducks, put afloat in the lake several bunches of dead rushes or grass which floated down amongst the ducks without causing the least alarm. After watching the effects of his preliminary fleet for a short time, the fox, taking a good-sized mouthful of grass in his jaws, launched himself into the water as quietly as possible, having nothing but the tips of his ears and nose above water. In this way he drifted down among the ducks and caught a fine mallard. Though this story seems extraordinary, it must be remembered that the fox manages to capture wild ducks, wood pigeons, hares and numberless other animals sufficient to keep himself and family, and it is plain to be seen that in doing so he must practice many a trick that would seem improbable if related, and quite beyond the instinct of animals.

**She Differed with Paul.**

A certain old lady was arguing strongly for woman's rights in the way of preaching, when some one attempted to put her down with a text from St. Paul. "Ah," said she, "that's where Paul and I differ!"

**Advice Heard Too Late.**

Mrs. Cross—O, you needn't talk. You were crazy to have me. Mr. Cross—That's what everybody says.—Stray Stories.

# ORIENTAL PAPERS.

## JAPAN AND CHINA BEAT ALL THE WORLD.

**That Is, in the Fineness of the Fiber—Hand-Made Paper of Rice and Straw—Some Varieties Adulterated with Starch.**

The results of the inquiries of the commission of industrial experts which was appointed by the German government to visit and report upon the markets of east Asia, show, according to the Kansas City Journal, the various markets present excellent prospects for the paper trade and the paper industry generally. The Korean hand-made papers, thus far very little known in foreign markets, are of much interest. They are of yellowish color, silk-like gloss and extraordinary strength. In purity they are behind the better grades of Chinese papers. These papers are made in sheets about 29½ by 51 inches. Oiled papers of this kind are used in place of window glass and very impure but extremely strong board is also made of the same raw material, as well as blotting and wrapping papers. The Japanese handmade papers are divided into two classes. The so-called "hansi" (half paper) is loaded with about 20 per cent of rice starch; the "minogam" consists entirely of fiber. The hansi papers are the stronger and the coarser and are made in smaller sizes (about 9¾ by 13 inches), while the minogami papers are thinner and better and larger—11 by 16 inches. A quire of paper is called "jo" in Japanese, and has from 20 to 48 sheets; a ream is called "shime," and has from 480 to 2,400 sheets. The prices of hand-made paper have recently risen about 15 per cent, because the growers of bast demand and obtain higher prices for their product. Printing paper is used in Japan not only for printing purposes, but also for writing. The most popular sizes of printing paper are 25 by 27 inches and 31 by 43 inches, flat. The consumption of paper has increased extraordinarily in Japan, and, although the home production is large, there is a good market for imported paper. Rice straw is an important factor in the manufacture of Japanese machine-made paper; only when there is a poor rice crop is wood fiber imported to any appreciable extent. Among the most curious things to be seen in Japan are the jackets and trousers of strong hand-made paper with which the Japanese soldiers were supplied during the war between Japan and China. The seams and buttonholes were sewn with cotton thread. Chinese hand-made papers are made mostly of rice straw, and are colored or stained on one side by hand; for instance, crimson for visiting cards (which are thin, large octave sheets), pale red for bills, yellow sprinkled with gold or green for wrapping goods, orange for wedding finery, etc. Large quantities are consumed in the principal place of its manufacture for decorating various places of worship, which are visited by Chinese from all over the country, and considerable quantities are also sent to the adjoining provinces. There is no doubt that cheap imported machine-made printing papers, stained or unstained, could successfully compete with these home-made and hand-made papers.

## AMERICA'S GREAT ENGINES.

**Smaller Range of Power Given to the English Locomotive.**

The American locomotive engineer deems it advisable to design his engine with a large margin of power, says the Engineering Magazine. If an express engine is designed to take a 200-ton load at fifty miles an hour, and if that load should happen to be increased to 300 tons, the locomotive is still expected to be able to take it and keep time, and usually does so. Such, at any rate, is the experience of such an impartial and level-headed observer as Mr. W. M. Acworth. If an American express be late at one point of its journey, the engine is expected to make up the lost time, even if the load be larger than usual. And, again, this is generally done. But if an English engine is given a single coach above its prescribed load, the driver at once insists upon having a "pilot," and commonly he gets one. Or should the weather be bad, with strong wind or a slippery rail, he demands an assisting engine, and is accorded one, as a matter of course. Obviously this applies especially to the case of single-wheelers, which are so largely used on some English railways, because their range of power is much more sharply limited by adverse conditions than is the case with coupled engines. But in either case it seems indisputable that a smaller range of power is given to an English locomotive than to an American.

**A Genuine Antique.**

Mrs. Suburb—Is this the house you've been talking about? I don't like it at all. Agent—It's the latest Queen Anne style, mum. Mrs. Suburb—I don't like it. The kitchen opens right into the parlor, or nearly so. Agent—Yes, mum. Queen Anne was a famous cook, mum. She named that fine old apple pudding, "brown Betty," after Queen Elizabeth, mum. Queen Elizabeth was noted for doing things up brown, you know, mum. Mrs. Suburb—And, dear me! the cellar is half full of water. Agent—Yes, mum. In those old days people always kept water on hand to use in time of a siege, you know, mum.—New York Weekly.

**Friendly Advice.**

Buff—I'd have you know, sir, that I'm a self-made man. Gruff—Well, I'm sorry for you; but keep it dark and don't worry, and perhaps you'll get along all right.—Chicago News.

## ALUMINIUM IS A USEFUL METAL.

**It Is Available for Many Purposes in the Mechanic Arts.**

From Cassier's Magazine: The principal uses of aluminium are too many to be enumerated. The properties of the metal are so akin to those of copper and brass that, broadly speaking, aluminium or one of its light alloys should, to a large extent, replace both copper and tin and also nickel or German silver. Such a change would be followed by various advantages to all concerned. Not only would there be a considerable reduction in the weight of the articles, but they would not tarnish or turn black on exposure to air. The cost should be the same, if not actually lower, inasmuch as, bulk for bulk, aluminium is already cheaper than copper or tin, and its price will continue to fall as the demand increases. One field, however, remains which copper is bound to maintain as its own, namely, the construction of isolated electrical conductors. Experiments have already been made on a large scale with bare conductors of aluminium for telephones, with perfectly satisfactory results, its conductivity, weight for weight, being double that of copper. But when the mains have to be insulated copper is absolutely unapproachable, on account of its greater conductivity, volume for volume, which is 10 per cent that of aluminium. Besides the advantages set forth above aluminium is not poisonous and is pre-eminently adapted for the manufacture of cooking utensils. A steady demand for aluminium is springing up in various kinds of printing processes as well as in lithography. The metal appears to answer admirably for the construction of rollers used in calico printing and when its surface is properly prepared it is also capable of replacing the ordinary lithographic stone. It can easily be imagined that, instead of having cumbrous and heavy stones, which can be printed only on special slow-running "litho" machines, it is far better and cheaper to use thin sheets of a metal which can be bent into a circular form and printed on rotary presses. Bicycles, electric light fittings, chains, bridles, stirrups, surgical instruments, keys, cigar cases, pen and pencil holders, toilet articles, plates and dishes, spoons, forks, frames, name plates, door furniture, hat and coat pegs, boot trees, fire engine fittings, business and visiting cards and photographic cameras are a few of the things that are being daily made in aluminium by various firms. For motor cars there should be a large field for aluminium. A further demand for the metal will be brought about by its introduction into the military services. All parts of the soldier's equipments have practically been made in aluminium, such as mess tins, water bottles, buttons, helmets, parts of rifles, cartridge cases, fittings for guns, tents, horseshoes, portable bridges, etc., and it is well known that continental armies, notably the German army, are employing aluminium on a large scale.

## AUTOMATIC FUNCTIONS.

**How the Subconscious Mind Does Its Duty.**

Did you ever think how often you eat and never stick your fork in your eye? You always stick your fork in your mouth. If you ate in the dark it would be the same thing. You would never put out your eye by putting your fork in it. Why? Because your subconscious mind is doing its automatic duty and knows very well that you eat with your mouth and not with your eye, says the New York Herald. Many other actions are automatic. For instance, twenty people have gathered on a street corner to board a passing car. The very fact that they are there means that the car will stop. The first has already signaled the motorman. So do the other nineteen. And the same thing happens if ten people gather to descend in an elevator. The first comer rings the bell. So do the other nine—purely automatically. The sign says "ring," so each man takes this sign to himself and rings. A shoemaker once had a shop in the basement of a large building downtown. The shoemaker worked with his back to the door. Every time the door opened the shoemaker turned his head to the left to see who entered. For ten years the shoemaker worked and turned his head almost every hour in the day. Before many years had passed the shoemaker's head turned automatically, and now that man has spent every cent of money he has ever made trying to be cured of this automatic habit. But his head still jerks, so that he looks over his left shoulder constantly.

**Goethe's Last Love.**

Fraulein Ulrike von Levetzow, Goethe's last love has died at Triplitz (Bohemio) aged 94. It was to her inspiration that the German nation owes the "Triology of Passion." The ever-youthful Goethe was already 73 when, at Marieabad and Carlsbad, he first met Baroness von Levetzow, who was then only a girl of 18, though endowed with every charm of mind and body. She never married, her life being devoted to the memory of her affection for the poet. Her castle at Triplitz was a Mecca for all who wrote on Goethe, and she herself has been the subject of dozens of volumes of German literature.

**A Club Story.**

From the Woman's Home Companion: There is a good story told on Mrs. William Tod Helmuth. After a stormy session of a woman's club, over which she presided, one morning, she said, prior to the afternoon program: "Ladies, after we have finished the Lord's prayer, let us silently ask that there be more knowledge and less noise vouchsafed us." And in an instant, it is said, that prayer was answered.