

# A GALVESTON HERO REWARDED

To show its appreciation of his heroic rescue of forty-three persons during the Galveston floods, the people of Texas have given a gold medal to Major Lloyd R. D. Fayling of Kalamazoo. The decoration which cost about \$500, is of 18 carat gold, solid, handsomely designed and studded with gems. The obverse side bears the coat-of-arms of Texas, supported on a Doric Maltese cross, with the inscription, "For Bravery, Galveston, September, 1900," encircling the state emblem. On the reverse side is inscribed, "Presented by Citizens of Texas to Major L. R. D. Fayling, who rescued forty-three persons at the peril of his own life. Placed in command under martial law, his ability, courage and energy restored and maintained law and order. His work was the saving of the city."

Major Fayling served as Deputy United States marshal in Chicago during the strike in 1894, rendering effective service. In 1895 he entered the secret service of the Cuban Junta with parties on slumming expeditions, and the more weird tales he can tell them about the places to which he takes them the larger will be his tips. A detective employed by one Broadway hotel for many years became quite as well known as the hotel itself. He was an authority on boxing, and the last word about any big contest was not said until he chose to express his opinion. He was also the stakeholder in many big bets. —New York Sun.

## "Cantillation"—A Musical Novelty.

The extreme badness of the words usually selected by musicians to write tunes around has often been a matter for sarcastic comment. The musicians have defended themselves by saying that the words are of the very smallest importance, because in nine cases out of ten no one hears them. Singers, so long as they bring out their notes clearly, have the smallest regard for the unfortunate writer of the

them. They could only try to reach the rocks at the side of the glacier, hoping to do so before the avalanche should sweep them away. Through the knee-deep snow they ran for their lives. "I remember," said Mr. Tuckett, "being struck with the idea that it seemed as if the avalanche were sure of its prey, and wished to play with us for awhile. At one moment it let us imagine that we had gained on it, and the next, with mere wantonness of vindictive power, it suddenly rolled out a vast volume of grinding blocks and whirling snow and fragments of ice, a frozen cloud, swept over us, entirely concealing us from one another. But still we were untouched, and still we ran. Another half second, and the mist parted. There lay the body of the monster, whose head was still carving away at lightning speed far below us, motionless, rigid, harmless." —Youth's Companion.

## Deep Sea Specimens.

Even in the tropics, the temperature of the water at the bottom of the ocean is only about 40 degrees Fahrenheit, and it does not vary at all from summer to winter, says Pearson's Magazine. It follows, then, that the abyssal fishes, though residing in the neighborhood of the equator, are accustomed to an Arctic climate, and, being suddenly exposed to a warm atmosphere, they quickly decompose. Thus it is very difficult to preserve them, and, in order to accomplish this, the tanks of spirits into which they are put are surrounded with ice, while the more delicate invertebrate specimens are placed in a cold room while absorbing the alcohol. The fishes are injected with alcohol by means of a hypodermic syringe, and so likewise are large shrimps and crabs. Deep-sea starfishes, sea urchins, and small corals are first soaked in alcohol and then dried; large corals are sprayed with alcohol and packed in salt; jellyfishes are hardened in a solution of picric acid, wrapped in cheesecloth and kept in strong alcohol.

## Three Presidents' Widows.

Three presidents' widows are living. Mrs. Grant makes her home in Washington; Mrs. Harrison lives in Indianapolis, and Mrs. Garfield at Mentor, O. Buchanan's niece and Arthur's sister, both prominent in Washington during the administration of those presidents, still survive.

## Killed in Spanish Bull-Fights.

About 5,000 horses are annually killed in Spain in bull fights. At these contests from 1,000 to 1,200 bulls are annually sacrificed.

Already nearly \$10,000,000 has been invested in electric undertakings in the Argentine Republic.

## NEW UMBRELLA PLATE

The advantage of having an umbrella marked with one's own name and address will be conceded by any one, but there are few persons who are systematic enough to go to the trouble of having this done. A scheme has just been devised by a resident of this city by which any person who can handle a pen is qualified to mark his own umbrella, says the Philadelphia Record. It consists of a double ring of metal, one placed inside the other and designed to be fitted around the han-



A PHILADELPHIAN'S INVENTION. The name and address is written on a gummed paper label and pasted on the inside of the hinged portion. In case of any change in the address it is a simple matter to remove the old label and insert a new one. The presence of this device is not only a means of recovering the umbrella should it become lost, but in case of accident it offers a means of identification. This idea has also been made use of in the manufacture of key-ring identifiers, the only difference being that for this purpose they are made smaller.

## Beating an Avalanche.

One of the most exciting Alpine adventures on record was Mr. Tuckett's race with an avalanche on the Elger Glacier in 1871. He was ascending the glacier with two friends and a guide, Says Travel. The glacier sloped somewhat steeply, and on the upper part, above the climbers, a mass of loose, freshly fallen snow had collected. Suddenly the travelers heard a thundering noise, and perceived a huge mass of snow and ice sliding down toward

## NATIVE PLANTS OF HAWAII.

Excessive Use Has Exhausted Supply of Once Abundant Sandalwood.

A description of the native plants of the Hawaiian islands is contained in a bulletin in course of preparation by the department of agriculture. Of these, it is said, the most important are the woods of the islands. They served to make the enormous canoes in which the natives crossed from island to island of the group, and occasionally made voyages to other islands in the South Pacific. Others were used for outriggers and masts, idols were carved from soft as well as the hard woods. The birds' nests furnished the mallets for beating kapa cloth. These mallets were elaborately carved and of a different pattern on each piece. They were used in such a manner as to stamp the pattern upon the cloth. From the forests came the bark, leaves and fiber out of which kapa cloth, mats, fishing lines, nets, etc., were made. From the various trees came the dyes which they used in coloring the kapa cloth, and in tattooing their skins. The materia medica of the kahuna, or native doctor, was gathered exclusively from the forests and fields. The islands once abounded in sandalwood, but the great demand for this wood in Canton, China, for incense and for the manufacture of fancy articles caused a trade which quickly destroyed the forests of this tree. Between 1810 and 1825 this trade in sandalwood was at its height, and while it lasted brought great wealth to the kings and chiefs in guns, ammunition, liquors, boats and small ships, which they received in exchange. It brought from six to ten cents per pound. It was the first export that attracted commerce to the island. So great was the destruction of these trees that it was found necessary to lay a "tabu" on the few remaining ones. A great many sandal trees have since sprung up in the islands, but nowhere in such quantities as to justify a revival of the trade. After the sandalwood was exhausted there was exported to China a false sandalwood, called by the natives nio. The wood and roots of this tree, when dried, possess a fragrance strongly resembling that of the sandalwood. It has also good building and excellent burning qualities, and is used for torches in fishing. The ohia-ha is a durable timber, and is used for railroad ties and posts, while kela is a very hard wood, closely resembling ebony. For fence posts the wood of the mamame is said to be the most durable, while it is also a good firewood. The halepepe was once used by the natives, who carved their idols out of soft wood. So, also, was used the wood of lehua, the most generally prevailing tree on the islands. It is very hard, is a good building material, and the best of fuels.—Chicago News.

## CHASING WHALES IN PACIFIC.

Big Fish Is Inclined to Be Familiar and Merry.

The coast of southern California is protected, to a certain extent, by the islands off shore. The group begins at Santa Barbara with San Miguel; then comes Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, Anacapa, and further out to sea, thirty miles, San Nicholas. The next following south are Santa Barbara, Santa Catalina, San Clement, and then with a break of seventy miles to the Coronado. These islands are almost parallel to the coast range and constitute virtually an out-to-sea coast range of mountains, which, in all probability, were thrust up at the time the coast was formed, leaving a deep depression between them and the mainland. This region of extremely deep water is a famous roadway for whales, several kinds being found here feeding upon the vast schools of jelly fishes which are nearly always present. The whale most common is the California gray, which goes every year to the shallows of the gulf of California to give birth to its young, then moving north along the California coast in what is virtually a great procession. At this time the channel is the sporting ground for the huge animals, and nearly every steamer that crosses sights a school, the scene forming one of the attractions of the trip, as the whales, far from being wild or timid, sometimes evince a playful mood, or, incited by curiosity, come near the steamer, affording the passengers a near view of the largest of living animals. This social disposition has resulted in several encounters between the whales and vessels, in which the former have always come off second-best. Some years ago a steamer on the trip from San Pedro to San Francisco struck some body, supposed to be a log. Several of the men were thrown to the deck; the wheel turned over so violently that the helmsman was thrown down and the steamer for the moment came to a standstill. All hands were called, the pumps sounded, and as the mate ran aft he saw a large whale lashing the water astern. The vessel had struck it directly back of the right paddle and evidently crushed it down, rising over it. This whale drifted into Santa Catalina some days later, and was towed into one of the little bays of the coast, where it was cut up by the fishermen.—Chicago News.

## Assessor Sold the Property.

A citizen of Owosso, Mich., put up a terrible howl to City Assessor Laverock, claiming that his property was assessed at an extravagantly high figure. He wound up by declaring that if Mr. Laverock could sell the property at the valuation named the city official named could have a commission of 2 per cent. In less than two hours Mr. Laverock had sold a fine residence and two business blocks. Then the taxpayer backed water, but the assessor declares he will have his commission, which amounts to \$499, even if he has to sue for it.

## ORIGIN OF ASPHALT.

WHERE IT IS OBTAINED AND ITS COMMERCIAL USE.

Operations at Guanoco and Trinidad—Some of the Noted Regions Where Different Grades of Asphalt Are Found—An Asphalt Mountain.

The dispute between two rival American corporations over the possession of an asphalt lake in Venezuela has caused especial interest in what an asphalt lake is like and how asphalt is mined and shipped to market. Asphalt, or asphaltum, is the solid form of bitumen. Bitumen is a generic term which is applied to a variety of substances, ranging from natural gas, naphtha, petroleum and mineral tar to asphalt. The asphalts of different localities vary greatly in composition, as is shown by their chemical reactions. Nearly all are amorphous and have the general appearance of pitch melting at about the temperature of boiling water. Asphalt, it is thought by scientists, has resulted from the hardening of the maltha and petroleum elements, through oxygenation and evaporation. One of the most interesting asphalt beds in the world is the pitch lake in the state of Bermudez, Venezuela. This valuable deposit was unknown to American capitalists until 1888, when an American engineer, Ambrose Howard Carnor, received a title to the property from the Venezuelan government. This he sold to the New York and Bermudez company, which is closely allied to the so-called asphalt trust, of which Gen. F. V. Greene is president. The several square miles which are included in the concession obtained here, in the last thirteen years, been steadily improved. The company has cleared the Maturin river to navigation, so that deep sea craft from all quarters of the globe can run in from the Caribbean sea, past the British possessions of Trinidad island, and inland to the docks of the company at Guanoco. The town of Guanoco is the river terminus of the Bermudez company's railroad. Here are hundreds of native Venezuelans, working under the eye of an American superintendent. The raw asphalt is brought from the lake, five miles distant, on flat cars, and shoveled into the holds of the vessels. At Guanoco this operation is much simpler than at Trinidad, where lighters are necessary because of the long shelving beach of the harbor. The railroad follows an old Indian trail, which led from the river to the shores of the pitch lake. The surface of the lake is so hard that for some distance from the shore it supports the weight of a loaded train. As one looks over the surface of this great deposit he at first sees nothing of a striking or unusual nature. He views only a black plain, resembling anthracite coal, or flint, upon which are groups of natives working with picks and shovels. Closer examination, however, shows that portions of the surface are soft like tar, where the asphalt is sticky and bubbling. Asphalt is distinguishable from anthracite not only by its form, but because it is soluble in bisulphide of carbon and benzole. These pitch pools resemble somewhat the hot springs of the Yellowstone region. They slowly cool, and become hardened after many years. As at Trinidad, they vary in depth. Some of them have never been fully sounded, and are thought by the natives to extend into the bowels of the earth. The asphalt which is mined at Bermudez lake is more or less hardened, and is obtained with some difficulty, as it retains the sun's heat to a trying degree. The Bermudez company, after years of experiment, has succeeded in putting on the market asphalt which will neither crack from cold nor melt under the burning sun. About a decade ago vehicles were likely to cut into asphalt pavements in the summer months. By chemical treatment this has been obviated in all the newer pavements, even in hot countries, where it fully resists the sun's heat, and at the same time retains its durability and elasticity. Asphalt is used largely in the manufacture of cements. It is mixed with a petroleum residue to render it plastic, and is then tempered with one-seventh its weight of sand. It also forms one of the most durable waterproof materials known. For roofing purposes it is mixed, while hot, with fine gravel, or is absorbed by thick rolls of felt paper. Asphalt is found in many countries. In Vera Cruz, Mexico, near the village of Molosann, is a mountain largely composed of asphalt. The deposits at Seyssel, France, and at Val de Travers, Switzerland, consist of limestone impregnated with bituminous matter, which, when heated, crumbles to a powder. After it has been pounded into molds and is cooled it resembles the original rock. Over 1,000 miles of the streets of Paris have been supplied from these two localities.—New York Tribune.

## Lighted Lamps in Orchard.

Last season William Reese, owner of a large apple orchard near Bean lake, Mo., sustained considerable loss through ravages of insects among his fruit. This year, in addition to spraying his trees, he will place fifty lighted lamps in different parts of the orchard at night, depending on a practical demonstration of the moth-and-flame theory.

## Male Wasp Misrepresented.

The male wasp is said by some naturalists to perform no work whatever, while others assert that the males are the scavengers of the community, keeping the nests clean and carrying out the bodies of the dead.

## TRAMPS AVOID MT. CARROLL.

This Jail a Terror to Hoboes—Hangs Over a Precipice.

No hobo who has ever visited the town of Mount Carroll, Ill., has been known to venture within a mile of it again. This fact is owing to the location rather than to the condition of the town jail. Once a tramp catches sight of it he would no sooner linger within its shadow than would a crow light upon the made-up figure in a cornfield. Indeed, the contrivance is made to serve the purpose of a tramp scare. The Wandering Willie who for a single night has lodged in the Mount Carroll jail has carried away with him sufficient terrors to keep him out of the county during the remainder of his wandering life. It comes nearer being a calaboose in the clouds than any earthly bastle. Mount Carroll is high, but the jail is several pegs higher. Around the town winds the Waukarusa river. One may step aside from a main street and look down a sheer descent of several hundred feet into the lazy stream. One of the streets ended at the brink of this steep bank. The city fathers thought it would be a good idea to blockade the avenue by erecting a town building on the edge of the jagged palisade. It would not only serve to keep careless people from pitching over the brink, but could be used as a jail, in which trivial offenders could be held. It so happened, however, that the structure was made to block up the premises of a citizen. The big box-like affair presented a broadside to the citizen's front door. It was so near that an imprisoned bacco fiend could from an open window expel over the steep roof. The town was threatened with a damage suit if it did not take the thing away forthwith. There was only thing to do, and that was to move the jail over the precipice and set it on stilts. About fifty feet below is a rocky ledge fifteen feet wide. A framework of props was set on this ledge and this was surmounted by the window grates. From one of the windows to the muddy Waukarusa is a downlock capable of appalling the heart of this most hardened hobo in the land. It is a constant fear that the high winds which have a habit of prevailing in Mount Carroll, will move the structure from its equilibrium and topple it over into the abyss. The flimsy contrivance, set up there on pegs, looks as though a single blast of Old Boreas would unsettle it, or, worse still, a twister take it up and whirl it off the earth. The unique excuse for a jail and its terrifying location has served the town well. Until the expected takes place and the shabby box tumbles down the cliff, no observing rambling Rufus will risk being shut up in it for a single night.—Philadelphia Times.

## GROCERS SELLING WATER.

It Requires Chemical Analysis to Suit Fastidious Brooklyn Tastes.

If the Brooklyn water famine continues much longer, reasonably pure drinking water will cost more in that borough than beer. People who can afford to have long bought their drinking water in bottles and demijohns and the trade in this commodity is increasing every day. Persons who have drunk all their lives from a well or a faucet as nature intended would be amazed at the different orders, genera and species of water found in Brooklyn. No matter if you take water from an old farm well and send it to the Brooklyn market, you must have a chemical analysis to print on your labels. It may be full of regenerating materials, or it may even contain those rare and valuable constituents, hydrogen and oxygen. Whatever it has or is must appear on its bottle or demijohn, because it has been so long since Brooklyn has drunk plain water that the article would be apt to be looked upon with suspicion. A few months ago distilled water at five gallons for 50 cents seemed to answer every need. Double-distilled water followed at the same price. But as time passed tastes became more fastidious. Now at the grocer's attention is called to something with a very choice chemical analysis label at 15 cents a gallon, or to a rare Jersey vintage in handsome, patent-rubber-corked bottles at two quarts for 20 cents. These are merely two samples out of the multitude which Brooklyn druggists and grocers are offering. The last-named, it will be seen, costs no more than beer. It is already a burning question in Brooklyn whether its hitherto fortunate and happy citizens are to be driven to drink.—Chicago Journal.

## Black Walnut Is Disappearing.

Very little black walnut is now to be found in Ohio, though in pioneer days settlers found their chief endeavor in clearing dense forests made up chiefly of this wood. One of the few walnut groves in Ohio has just been sold for export. Many an old barn in the buckeye state has flooring and managers made of this wood.

## "Switzerland of America."

New Hampshire very early in its history was denominated the "Switzerland of America," on account of its mountainous character and the hardy habits of its people. It has also been called the "Granite State," from the abundance of that mineral within its boundaries.

## Ship Butter to Porto Rico.

Northwestern Iowa has begun shipping choice butter to Porto Rico. The first consignment left Sioux City a few days ago, being sent from a very large creamery.



the rank of lieutenant, but was soon transferred to the firing line, and for two years saw much hard fighting under General Gomez, participating in many filibustering expeditions. He was twice captured by the Spaniards, once being confined until he was physically prostrated. His health compelled him to resign and he left the Cuban army with the rank of captain and a brevet major. When the war with Spain broke out Major Fayling raised the first company from Ohio at his own expense and offered it to the government. He was elected captain of his company, but saw no fighting.

At the time of the flood Major Fayling had been the southern agent of a New York corporation with headquarters in Galveston. When Galveston was placed under martial law he became its sole governor for the time being.

Of the forty-three persons whom Major Fayling personally rescued, all were saved by hard swimming or wading out into the water. When the storm broke Major Fayling had gone down to the beach to get a view of the sea. As the hurricane increased in fury he started to return to his office. He found that he had to swim and wade in an average of five feet of water, and was kept busy dodging live wires. It was almost impossible to stand against the wind. Reaching his office he threw off his clothing, and putting on a bathing suit was ready for work.

## THE HOTEL DETECTIVE.

His Chief Duty Is Not Hunting Crime, But Guarding Guests.

The duties of a hotel detective are not arduous, and his greatest value to the guests is as a cicerone. He is supposed to know the city thoroughly, to be an authority on the theaters and to be able to direct men who want to gamble to places where they can find "square games." One hotel detective who was discharged not long ago was said to have made nearly \$10,000 a year in tips from guests and commissions from gambling houses. He was able to do the latter many a good turn, and they showed their appreciation for his work by paying him liberally. Nominally he was engaged by the proprietor of the hotel to preserve order, but in reality he was expected to make himself generally useful to visitors. He must know where to pilot