

Most Unusual Story.

There comes from New York a very entertaining story relating to the settlement of the affairs of a concern that had gone into bankruptcy several years ago. Two lawyers took charge of the company's affairs and on Thursday they made a report to the judge of the United States district court. They reported that the creditors would get 100 cents on the dollar and that there was yet remaining an unexpended balance, and this, too, after the lawyers had been allowed \$1,000 for their labor. This sort of a report was made possible by the pushing of claims made by the alleged bankrupts and the recovery of money due by the processes of the courts. And very properly, the judge to whom the accounting was made complimented the two lawyers for their fine work. The average returns from the settlement of bankrupt accounts is about 25 per centum but upon one occasion now recalled a return of 92 per centum was made. One hundred per centum is so very unusual that no wonder there is surprise. And it can be set down as a fact that the bankruptcy case was treated fairly and squarely, and that both the company and its counsel were honest men. Decidedly refreshing it is, remarks the Wilmington (Del.) News, to hear of such an instance in these days of heavy failures and no returns for the creditors. Honest failures always create sympathy for the unfortunates, but dishonest failures ought to result in sending somebody to prison.

Proving His Stories.

De Rougemont, the adventurer who some years ago deceived the Royal Geographical society and the public in London by Munchausen tales of his extraordinary experiences among the natives of Australia, until the Daily Chronicle exposed him, has turned up again. One of his early yarns was that, when shipwrecked on one occasion, he saved himself by striding a great turtle which carried him to the shore. Even this was swallowed until the final expose. But now De Rougemont has actually taken such a ride in the tank of a London playhouse. It is said that he had never seen the tortoise, or turtle, until he was introduced to it in the water. After making some passes, he successfully crossed the tank on its back, incessantly calling out: "Jah-tallah!" a word which we cannot translate owing to the absence of our turtle and tortoise dictionary. De Rougemont now claims that he has proved the truth of his original story and says that he will take a trip from Margate towards France on turtle-back to silence all doubters.

The record-breaking balloon ascension of two Philadelphia doctors for the purpose of studying the physiological effects of great altitudes, is a natural incident of ballooning's present popularity. There is sure to be discovered—probably it has been in Paris already—some aerial equivalent of the "automobile face," the "bicycle heart," the "croquet stoop," the "ping pong wrist," and the like ailments. When the subway was opened, says the New York Post, even, there was predicted a great epidemic of "subway eye," a peculiar overstrain caused by rushing by white painted pillars. It may not be true that these peculiar dangers are themselves attractions in new sports. Yet, there is undeniably a certain grisly satisfaction in thinking of the perils which beset innocent and domestic amusements. We may not fall off mountain peaks like the Alpine club member, or be spared by savages like those who indulge in the expensive sport of exploration; but at an outlay of a few thousand dollars and without abstention from business, there are still to be acquired permanent squints and other marks of the enthusiast.

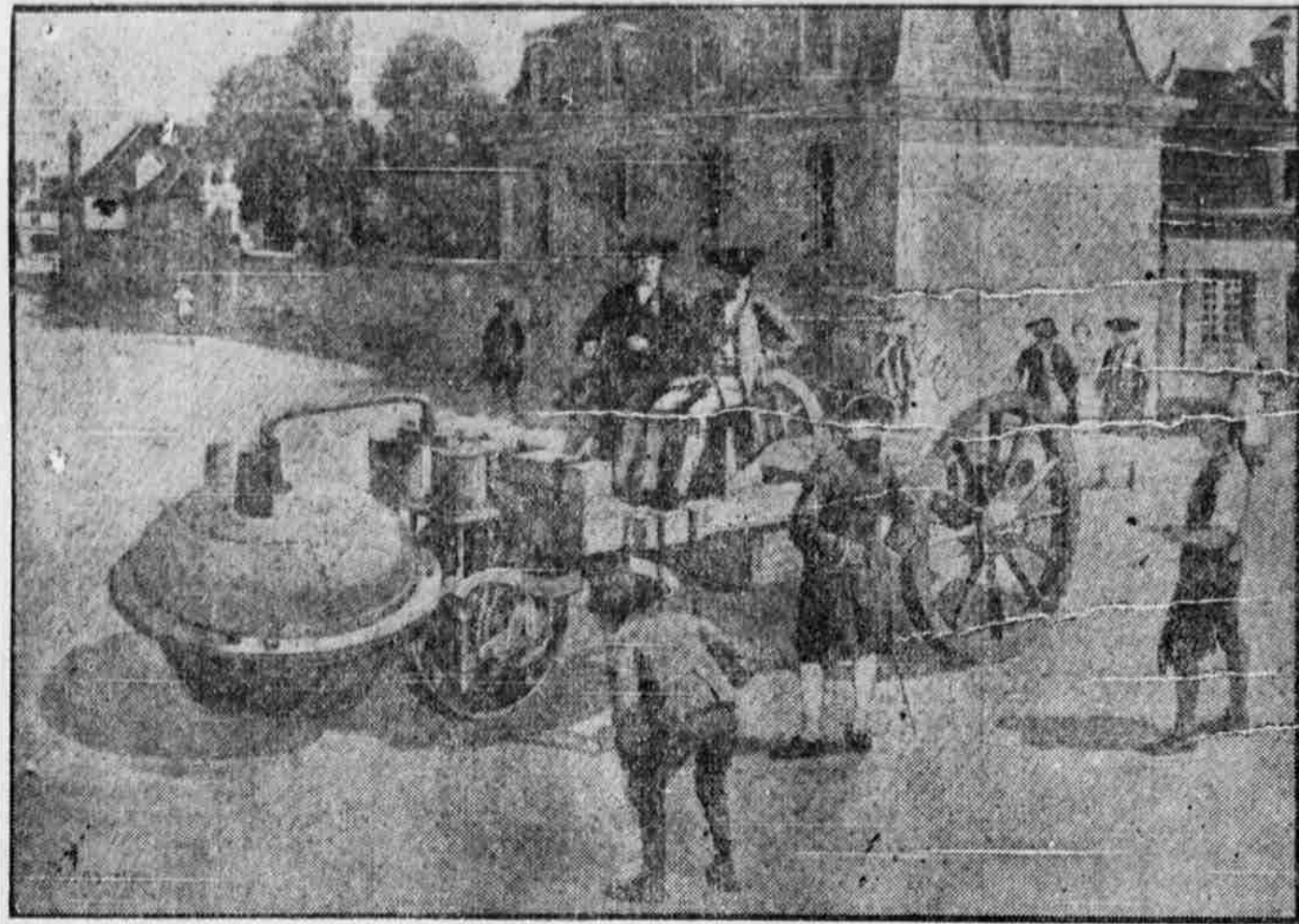
The Commercial club of Birmingham, Ala., is convinced that there is a profitable field in that district for the manufacture of cotton-mill machinery, steel and wooden railway cars, wagons, iron beds, spring beds, wire furniture, brickmaking machinery, window glass, bottle glass, shovels, office fixtures and furniture, paper boxes, radiators, galvanized metal, horseshoes, wrapping paper and paper bags. Few industrial centers of the south or southwest can duplicate this list of opportunities, but most of them can pick something from it that they can make with advantage.

When Wellman does find the pole, it is easy to see he will have to revert to the obsolete vertical apparatus for wireless telegraphy, unless the pole is inserted horizontally.

Denmark advertises for a reliable, sturdy executioner. In the business of decapitation one who is not afraid to work seems to have the chief qualification.

It costs the czar \$185,000,000 a year to keep his army, not to mention the sleepless nights.

THE FIRST AUTOMOBILE, NOW ON EXHIBITION IN PARIS



Paris.—What is undoubtedly the first automobile, constructed in 1770, was recently placed on exhibition in a museum here and has attracted a great deal of attention. It was planned and built by C. J. Cugnot, who was evidently more than a century in advance of his time, and had it not been for a French revolution, it may be that Cugnot's name would occupy the place in history that is held by George Stephenson, inventor of the locomotive. The original automobile consisted of a wooden chassis, or body, on three wheels. The boiler, a kettle-like contrivance, was in front and the single fore wheel was driven by two cylinders. The steering apparatus was much like that of the present day and the machine was undoubtedly equipped with non-skidding tires.

LOG HOTEL WHICH IS FAMOUS.

REMARKABLE RANCH HOUSE IN WILDS OF WYOMING.

Has Finer Cut Glass, China and Silver Than Any Other House in State—Hostess is Refined and Educated.

Lander, Wyo.—A little one-story, six-room log ranch house in Wyoming, with sage brush land stretching away from it in all directions and with only a lumbering mountain stage coach drawn by four horses connecting it with the outside world, has in it more and finer cut glass, china and silver than any other house, public or private, in this state.

Arapahoe boasts not near fifty souls all told. But the traveler going by stage from Lander to Shoshone will find its ranch house an uncommonly good one at which to stay overnight, for Mrs. Becker, its gracious hostess, does not spend all her money on ornaments for her table. She always makes enough to pay the salaries of two first-class Chinese cooks and to supply her table with delicacies.

Many ranch houses look neither more nor less inviting from the outside than does this one. Dirt, poor food, cracked dishes, wretched service and insufferably bad beds compose the accommodations. The traveler is agreeably surprised, then, when he finds the wealth of cut glass, china and silverware which graces Mrs. Becker's table, excellent service, every delicacy that a city market affords, cleanliness everywhere, easy chairs and couches, beds fresh and comfortable and an atmosphere of refinement.

Mrs. Becker's cut glass, china and silverware are the pride and the delight of Arapahoe and all of the countryside round about it. Even the Indians who have got a glimpse of them regard them with a sort of proprietary

interest. Not long ago Mrs. Becker sent an order to New York for \$1,000 worth of cut glass and that \$1,000 worth is not all she has. Besides her valuable collection of cut glass, china and silverware Mrs. Becker has many hundred dollars' worth of Navajo blankets and Indian curios. She made an army officer's wife a gift of five or six hundred dollars' worth of blankets and curios recently and thought nothing of it. She is a western woman and does things in a western way.

Not long ago Mrs. Becker gave a party at her ranch house to which she invited some of the best and best known folk in Lander and army officers and their wives from Fort Wa-

DESERT CORN FOR MELONS.

More Money Made from Juicy Fruit, Say Oklahoma Farmers.

Lawton, Ok.—The greatest watermelon shipping station of the southwest is Cement, Ok., a small town on the Frisco railroad, 30 miles east of Lawton. The shipping of this season's crop began two weeks ago and to date 120 cars have been shipped to Kansas City, St. Louis and Denver. Before the season closes more than 500 cars will have been shipped. In a radius of a few miles of Cement there are 700 acres planted in melons this year. The average production to the acre is 500 melons, or about half a car load.

The melons placed on the track at Cement bring the producers an average of \$50 per acre. At this rate there will be shipped from that point this year 350,000 melons that will place in the pockets of the producers \$35,000.

Recently there was a scarcity of cars and during the few days intervening between the last shipment and the arrival of more cars 20,000 melons, or 20 car loads, were piled along the

shakle. It was a unique society function. Each of the numerous guests went home from it with a costly gift from the hostess. One young lady was given a saddle, another a beautiful and costly souvenir spoon with an elk's tooth set in the handle and the others received gifts equally valuable.

This remarkable woman, who has made a snug fortune out of a little ranch house in the wilds of Wyoming, is educated, refined and accomplished and there is not a more gracious hostess in the state than she. This keeper of a ranch house has gowns that would attract attention in any large city.

So wide has become the fame of Mrs. Becker's ranch house and so great its popularity that a handsome addition is being built.

track on the ground. No such a sight was ever before seen in the southwest country. No train of 20 cars, containing watermelons alone, was ever before pulled out of Oklahoma. The Alabama sweet variety has been adopted by the melon farmers. This is a long, striped melon of yellow and lead colors.

The production this year will be double that of last year and the acreage is in the same ratio. The quality of melon is also better and the demand has been greater.

E. C. Lutes, a lessee of some Indian allotments in the Indian pasture south of here, this year has cultivated 200 acres of melons, the seeds from which he is selling to a Kansas City seed house for 12 cents per pound. The juice is being manufactured into a syrup by a new process. His crop is unusually fine and he has found that more money can be realized from the growing of melons than from any other branch of farming.

New South Wales Growing. The population of New South Wales on June 30 was 1,540,240, an increase of 9,540 for the quarter.

A SOCIETY OF BACHELORS.

Weddings Often Result from Reunions—History of the Odd Organization Which is Fourteen Years Old.

Nokomis, Ill.—The famous bachelors' picnic was held the other day at this place, the home of the Illinois Bachelors' association. Nokomis claims no other distinction than that of being the birthplace of such a body and the devotees of the single life were feasted and entertained from sunrise until dark.

The bachelor's state is regarded in this community as the ideal life. Bachelors parade the principles of their cult to the world from the mecca of single blessedness. Hundreds came from all surrounding places within a radius of 50 miles.

Unmarried persons of both sexes attended by companies and battalions to aid in the beatification of bachelorhood. A feature of the entertainment was a wedding ceremony performed before the assembly of skeptical celibates.

The history of the association dates back to Aug. 10, 1892, when a few forlorn and hopeless bachelors of Nokomis invited their fellow unfortunates to unite with them in a grand picnic, at which time new schemes for more successful attacks on the rapidly increasing ranks of unmarried young ladies were given out to the faithful.

Many marriages resulted in this reunion, and even the president of the order fell a victim to the charms of a fair enchantress.

The ranks became so depleted from this meeting that before another could be held it became necessary to reorganize the society, which was done. The reunions, held on Aug. 10, 1904, and on Aug. 16, 1905, were most successful.

Fully 20,000 people were in attendance at each of the gatherings, and unique programmes portraying the existence of a bachelor were successfully carried out.

On these occasions, as on previous ones, every member wore a yellow badge upon which was inscribed the motto of the order, "None that I love more than myself."

At the last reunion the prize of the oldest bachelor girl was awarded to a giddy young woman of 92 summers, who, in spite of her advanced age, failed to exhibit any signs of being afraid that she would lose out in the contest for a bachelor's heart and a happy home.

TOURIST CAR IS HOSPITAL.

Old Coach is Used by Physicians to Shelter Unfortunates.

San Francisco.—An old Pullman tourist car, bearing a sign reading "Emergency Hospital," has stood on a siding in the network of Southern Pacific tracks at Fourth and King streets ever since the earthquake, and is still serving as the company's hospital.

"With the hospitals of the city in ruins, the hospital on wheels would have paid for itself a dozen times

SELECTED RECIPES.

PALATABLE AND NOURISHING DISHES EASILY MADE.

Proper Use of the Hay Box—Additions to the Breakfast Menu—New and Old Ways of Preparing Tomatoes.

Oat meal and corn mush can be easily prepared by aid of the hay box without danger of burning. Take any wooden box three or four inches larger on every side than the kettle to be used. Line it with several thicknesses of newspaper or brown wrapping paper. Put in the bottom three or four inches of hay, set the empty kettle in and pack hay around it to the top of the kettle. This will be permanent, or until the hay needs changing on account of carelessness in spilling anything on it. Remove the kettle, put into it whatever is to be cooked, boil on range or gas until thoroughly heated through. Cover closely, and while boiling remove quickly to the hay box. Have a bag filled with hay to fit the box. Cover with that, close down lid and do not open for several hours.

OAT MEAL.—One and a half cups rolled oats, five cups boiling water, two scant teaspoons salt. Boil on range, stirring constantly about ten minutes, or until it begins to thicken. Put in hay box over night.

CORN MEAL.—One cup corn meal, four and a half cups boiling water, one level teaspoonful salt. Pour boiling water into the meal, stirring constantly to prevent lumps. Let it boil up hard, remove to hay box for four or five hours. Pour into bread tin, and slice and fry for breakfast next morning.

PUFFED RICE BRITTLE.—Use recipe for butterscotch, and when done stir in three cups of puffed rice and spread on buttered dish to cool.

PURE OF CORN.—Save one pint of water in which corn has been boiled the day before, also one ear of corn. Cut the corn from the cob into the water, scrape thoroughly, add a pint of milk, also a rounded tablespoon of flour and butter blended. Let it come to a boil and season with saltspoon of salt.

TOMATOES AND CORN.— Pare ripe tomatoes and cut into small pieces. Stew until nearly soft, then add one-third as much raw corn shaved from the cob, and cook ten minutes, more or less, if the corn is very young or tender. To one quart of tomato and one and one-third cups of corn add a rounded teaspoon of sugar, a level teaspoon of salt, a saltspoon of pepper and a level tablespoon of butter and serve hot.

TOMATO FIGS.—The figs should be made from the small yellow pear tomatoes because their shape and texture are much like real figs. Pour boiling water over them and let stand a few minutes, drain and peel. Weigh and put them in a deep bowl with an equal weight of sugar. Let stand two days, pour off the sirup which must be boiled and skimmed until perfectly clear. Pour over the tomatoes and let stand two days as before. Boil and skim the sirup again. After this has been repeated the third time the figs are fit to dry if the weather is good. But if it is damp or rainy, let them stand in the sirup until drying weather. Spread on large earthen plates, put in the sun to dry, which will take about a week. Pack in small wooden boxes with fine sugar scattered between the layers, and tissue paper laid on the top. These figs will keep for years.

FRIED TOMATOES WITH CREAM.—Cut half a dozen good sized ripe tomatoes in halves, and put with cut side down, in a pan. Pour in a tablespoon of melted butter and cook slowly until tender. Set the tomatoes on a hot dish and after the butter has browned a little stir in a rounded tablespoon of flour and when well mixed turn in a cup of hot milk. Cook three minutes, and add half a level teaspoon or more of salt, and a little pepper. Pour over the tomatoes and serve.

Best Dressing for Lettuce. The very common way of eating lettuce and very likely the worst is to dress it with sugar and vinegar. This reprehensible method seems to be especially common at farmers' tables, where the best of vegetables ought always to be served, but where sometimes nothing but the worst can be found. On the farm, where plenty of cream should always be available, the home-made mayonnaise dressing ought to be the standard. There are so many ways of making this delicacy wrong that no particular recipe can insure success. Doubtless the best dressing of all for lettuce is made of oil, vinegar, salt and red pepper—what is commonly called French dressing. Persons who are not familiar with this are apt to use too much vinegar and too little oil and to apply too much of the dressing altogether.

Soiled Ribbons. Rub neck ribbons, etc., with French chalk or magnesia, then hold or lay them near the fire. This will be found to absorb the grease, which can then be rubbed off.

Care of the Piano. A piano when new should be tuned once a month; the longer an instrument remains untuned, the lower its pitch becomes; it is a common error to think a piano should remain in tune at least a year.

For the Invalid. A fan sprinkled with toilet ammonia will give a wonderfully refreshing breeze to the hot weather sufferer.

There is something wrong with the religion of a woman who never has a kindly thought of her rival.

Lewis' Single Binder—the famous straight 5c cigar, always best quality. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

Woman's Strange Collection. Miss Alice de Rothschild, a sister of the late Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, has a collection of Hindu bulls and zebras and lamas. She is also interested in cattle breeding, and has some fine carriage horses.

By following the directions, which are plainly printed on each package of Deffiance Starch, Men's Collars and Cuffs can be made just as stiff as desired, with either gloss or domestic finish. Try it, 16 oz. for 10c, sold by all good grocers.

The First Striking Clock. According to historians, the first striking clock was imported into Europe by the Persians about 800 A. D. It was brought as a present to Charlemagne, from Abdella, king of Persia, by two monks of Jerusalem.

Important to Mothers. Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it

Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* In Use For Over 30 Years. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Cost Lives of Many Workmen. In constructing the East river tunnels, New York city, according to the statement of the engineer in charge, 14 men have succumbed as the result of working in the high pressure, 34 pounds to the square inch above the normal pressure of the atmosphere.

With a smooth iron and Deffiance Starch you can launder your shirtwaist just as well at home as the steam laundry can; it will have the proper stiffness and finish, there will be less wear and tear of the goods, and it will be a positive pleasure to use a Starch that does not stick to the iron.

How to Put On Gloves. Open and turn back the gloves to the thumb and powder lightly. Put the fingers in their places, not the thumb, and carefully work them on with the first finger and thumb of the other hand until they are quite down; never press between the fingers. Pass the thumb into its place with care and work on as the fingers. Turn back the glove and slide it over the hand and wrist, never pinching the kid, and work the glove into proper place by means of the lightest pressure, always allowing the kid to slide between the fingers. In finishing care should be taken in fastening the first button.

Immense Leaves of Palm. The palm family bears longer leaves than any other known tree. The Inaga palm, growing on the banks of the Amazon, has leaves which reach from 35 to 50 feet in length, and 10 to 12 feet in breadth. Specimens of the talipot palm, a native of Ceylon, has been met with 20 feet long and 18 feet broad. These leaves are used by the natives to make tents, and, thus employed, they make very efficient shelters from rain. The leaves of the double cocoon palm are often 30 feet long and several wide. The leaves of the cannibal tree of Australia resemble broad planks and are frequently 15 feet long, 20 inches broad and 1 1/2 feet thick at the base. These boardlike leaves all shoot out at the top and hang down so as to form a sort of umbrella around the stem. The umbrella tree of Ceylon has leaves of such enormous size that a single one will cover from 15 to 20 men, and often serves as a canopy to a boat, or a tent for soldiers. A specimen leaf taken to England measured 38 feet round.

GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP.

No Medicine so Beneficial to Brain and Nerves.

Lying awake nights makes it hard to keep awake and do things in day time. To take "tonics and stimulants" under such circumstances is like setting the house on fire to see if you can put it out.

The right kind of food promotes refreshing sleep at night and a wide awake individual during the day.

A lady changed from her old way of eating, to Grape-Nuts, and says: "For about three years I had been a great sufferer from indigestion. After trying several kinds of medicine, the doctor would ask me to drop off potatoes, then meat, and so on, but in a few days that craving, gnawing feeling would start up, and I would vomit everything I ate and drank."

"When I started on Grape-Nuts, vomiting stopped, and the bloating feeling which was so distressing disappeared entirely."

"My mother was very much bothered with diarrhea before commencing the Grape-Nuts, because her stomach was so weak she could not digest her food. Since using Grape-Nuts she is well, and says she don't think she could live without it."

"It is a great brain restorer and nerve builder, for I can sleep as sound and undisturbed after a supper of Grape-Nuts as in the old days when I could not realize what they meant by a "bad stomach." There is no medicine so beneficial to nerves and brain as a good night's sleep, such as you can enjoy after eating Grape-Nuts."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. "There's a reason."