

Head of Canal-Digging Force.



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Chief Engineer Stevens and Chairman Shonts on the Canal commission are regarded as the two biggest men in the great enterprise of digging the Panama waterway. On Mr. Stevens devolved the work of overcoming the engineering difficulties connected with the undertaking.

FAMOUS RESORT TO BE REMOVED

PLACE MADE FAMOUS BY LITERARY MEN BEING RAZED.

Longfellow, Holmes, Lowell, Booth and Many Others Once Guests—Will Become a Modern Apartment House.

Lynn, Mass.—A famous old house which breathes of Longfellow, and Holmes and Lowell, and Edwin Booth, and other famous persons is to fall by the ax of the utilitarian.

For 60 years the one-time home of Jeanne Margaret Davenport, the famous English actress, at No. 16 Graystone Park, Lynn, was where literary and dramatic folk gathered; now it is being torn to pieces to be remodeled into the modern, though distinctly vebelian, apartment house.

When Jeanne Margaret Davenport lived there, way back in 1861, it was a stately pile of gray stone, fashioned after the French style of architecture. There was a French balcony and quaint French windows, and there was the long line of sea outside, and the acres of rolling land and shrubs and trees.

And there were seven fireplaces—"The House of the Seven Fires" it has been called—and once as Longfellow sat by the huge cavernous one in the long library, with his hostess just across and friends all about him, he quietly repeated an allegorical little poem about the "House of the Seven Fires"—a poem which has been lost track of, even by the friends who heard it.

Jeanne Davenport married Gen. Lander, of Lynn, and there were gatherings of note in the graystone house, which looked out at King's Beach and the sea.

Mrs. Lander entertained Edwin Booth, James Russell Lowell, Wendell Holmes, Henry W. Longfellow and many other notable literary and dramatic personages at her home. She was fond of Washington social life, but she was still more fond of the little gathering of the chosen few which congregated at her summer home. This was proved by the fact that after she had sold the place and spent many years abroad she came back to the Lynn shore to die within sight of the "House of Seven Fires," and the

vista of sea which she had long looked upon. That was after being away for over 20 years.

In that house T. B. Aldrich has lived for an entire summer; he took the place of Mrs. Lander. Frances Hodgson Burnett had it another summer, and Fletcher Webster, son of Daniel Webster, lived there also.

Mr. Moses Thompson and Mrs. Thompson, to whom Mrs. Lander sold the place when she went to Europe, lived there for 20 years, and to them came the first social circles of Lynn, and the huge fireplaces in the quaint, old-fashioned rooms were lighted often for the younger of the literary and dramatic folk who wanted to visit the place where the American salon of the English Davenport was 60 years ago.

And now the Thompsons have moved to Boston and the famous old place, hallowed by so many memories, is to be an apartment house.

RUNS SEVEN MILES ON TIES.

Train Jumps the Track Without Attracting Attention of Crew.

Bakersfield, Cal.—The Southern Pacific has made a new record for rapid transit. A light engine coming down the Tehachapi mountain ran seven miles on the ties before the engineer and fireman awoke to the fact that they were not traveling according to schedule.

Trainmen are loyal to each other. They tell no tales and one man's mistake never forms food for gossip, but enough has leaked out to warrant the statement that this engine traveled seven miles on the ties before the crew awoke to the fact.

A wrecking crew was called out and it took a good many hours to drive the spikes and replace the ties which the flying wheels had torn loose.

The accident happened between Rowan and Bealville about daylight, and fortunately but one train was delayed. The owl had already passed, but No. 7 was caught and held up nearly 12 hours. It was due to arrive at Kern at 7:45 o'clock in the morning, but did not pull in until 6:30 o'clock in the evening. Santa Fe train 107 was also delayed by the accident.

TRAFFIC OF CHICAGO

IS HEAVIEST ON EARTH ACCORDING TO AN AUTHORITY.

City Leads World in Extent of Teaming Interests and in Investment—Fortune Paid Out Daily for Wages.

Chicago.—This city is the greatest teaming city in the world. No other area anywhere on the face of the globe bears the burden of so great a traffic as is daily carried in the streets bounded by Chicago avenue, Halsted and Eighteenth streets.

Exclusive of the stock yards teaming, almost 100,000 trucks rattle every day over the streets of the business district, according to T. J. Cavanaugh, editor of the American Team Owner. At the rate of a driver, and two men for unloading each wagon, 300,000 men are directly employed in transporting freight through the city streets. An additional army of at least 25,000 men find work in the care of the teams.

The amount of freight carried across town by teams has tripled in 15 years. Over 150,000 tons of freight are hauled through the downtown streets daily, in addition to the volume of freight traffic now handled by the tunnels and the 17,000 tons of freight handled through South Water street.

Data gathered in connection with the wide-tire ordinance shows that \$60,000,000 is a conservative figure for the investment represented in the trucks, teams and equipments. This figure is based upon an estimated cost of \$1,150 for a two-horse truck, team and harness, and includes no minor equipment.

Few big manufacturers in Chicago own their own teams. The teaming business is considered as much of a specialty as lighting or heating, and is subject to men who do nothing else. Probably 75 per cent. of all teaming is done through big teaming companies.

For team drivers and helpers Chicago pays \$250,000 in wages every day. If the wages of the men who load and unload the wagons be included then \$500,000 every night goes to pay for the maintenance of Chicago's street traffic. These figures, according to expert opinion, are moderate.

Elaborate systems, extending down to the salt fed to the horses, are credited with the economies of the present system. Some barns in Chicago can, if required, turn out a six-ton truck every two weeks without going beyond their doors for supplies.

Blacksmiths for repairs, horseshoers, painters, even, are regularly employed by the management of the great barns. In many instances no horse is ever shod except by the horseshoers of the company. All accidents or needed repairs are noted by teamsters as they return at night to the barn, and a tag conveniently attached to the horse's stall indicates that the animal is to be shod.

Feed for the horses is ground in electric machines and automatically measured, a special spread being provided in some barns on Saturday night. Occasionally a lump of rock salt is hung above the horse's head, within easy reach, it being believed that all the salt the animal can lick off before tiring out will not do him any injury.

The most elaborate precautions in ventilation, feeding and stabling the horses are declared to be in the end economical. Despite the rapid increase of motor trucks, draft horses are relatively scarcer and cost more than ever before. A good team will bring at least \$500, and if one horse dies the other is hard to match.

Prominent dealers declare that the outlook, in view of the tremendous increase in volume of freight now carried on the streets, is puzzling. While the streets could stand twice the traffic they now carry, according to good authority, such a condition would exclude all other interests, including street cars and pedestrians. Motor trucks, tunnels and an extension of the business district are the solutions most frequently offered.

Family Lives Upon Yolks of Eggs.

Kansas City.—A negro family in this city lives mostly upon the yolks of eggs which cost it nothing. The head of this family is a porter in a saloon where a great many gin fizzes are sold. In making a gin fizz only the white of the egg is used and the yolk is thrown away. This porter saw all these egg yolks going to waste. With the consent of the saloonkeeper he provided a small tin bucket and now the bartenders put the discarded egg yolks into it. When the porter goes home each night he carries the egg yolks with him. Often he has from four to eight dozen of them. "We eat 'em fried, boiled, poached, scrambled and in custards," he said. "Don't never have to buy no meat in my house."

Smoke Bill of Americans.

Washington.—The American people spend \$377,575,544.65 a year for cigars and \$158,268,637.06 for cigarettes. The total for the two articles is \$535,844,181.72. These figures are based on the annual report of John W. Yerkes, commissioner of internal revenue. According to this report the total number of cigars manufactured during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1906, was 7,551,519,893, and the total number of cigarettes was 31,673,727,411. The cost is obtained by estimating the average retail price of cigars at five cents and of cigarettes at one-half cent.

GIANT TURTLES FOR NEW YORK.

Aquarium Obtains Five Large Alligator Snappers.

New York.—The aquarium has lately received from New Orleans five big snapping turtles of the species commonly known as giant snappers, or alligator snappers (*Macrolemmys temminckii*), biggest of all fresh water turtles. The giant snapper is peculiar to the region of the lower Mississippi river.

These five big snappers average about 75 pounds in weight. The largest of them weighs 82 pounds and measures four feet two inches in length from tip to tip.

The giant snapper has a long tail and a disproportionately big head. It is an ugly looking creature, and as dangerous, in fact, as it is ugly in appearance, for it has extremely powerful jaws. A big snapper of this kind could break a man's leg or bite a broom handle in two; such a snapper has been known to bite a piece out of an inch plank.

The giant snapper subsists largely on fish and young ducks. It is itself edible.

There is in the aquarium a mounted specimen of this species that weighed 106 pounds and measures four feet seven inches in length. In the National museum at Washington there is a mounted specimen of the giant snapper which weighed 155 pounds, its length being five feet four inches.

Recently added to the aquarium's exhibits are 14 sea horses, taken off Atlantic City, the two largest of them being each nearly six inches in length, which is pretty large for the sea horse of these waters.

Small as it is, and often as it may be seen, the sea horse is still likely to appear as one of the most remarkable of living things. There are always people looking in at the aquarium's sea horse tank.

ANCIENT INDIAN WRITINGS.

Discovery of Parchments Containing Historic and Tribal Facts.

Kansas City.—A local newspaper man at Otonga, Okla., made a very lucky find the other day by accidentally learning about an old Indian history. The details are written out on old parchment paper and proved to be an accurate history of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians. It gives an account of their religious rites and beliefs along with the traditions of the tribes. It deals freely with the tribal government for over 100 years and is very extensive in covering the relations with the United States government.

Many important fights with troops and a description of the burying grounds where some officers were interred are among the things. It was originally written in Indian language and has been translated by George Bent, an old-time Indian scout and plainsman.

The affairs of several other Indian tribes who have been affiliated with the Cheyennes and Arapahoes are dealt with in the history.

Among other things dealt with is the history of the sacred arrows that were stolen by the Pawnee Indians and secured only recently by the Cheyennes by exchanging several hundred ponies.

The translation will be put into shape and published in some newspaper or magazine.

CITY OF SPARKLING WINES.

Facts Regarding Rheims and Its Annual Champagne Output.

Washington.—There are 247 manufacturers of champagne in Rheims and vicinity. There are 52 firms exporting champagne to the United States, but nine of them do nine-tenths of the business. Of the \$24,680,996 worth of grapes produced in this district \$20,000,000 worth were champagne grapes, grown in the vicinity of Rheims and Epernay on 45,000 acres of land.

The exports of champagne during the fiscal year ended March 31, 1906, amounted to 41,332,825 quart bottles, or 6,122,780 more than in 1905. The United States took 4,523,598 bottles. Deducting 10,000,000 bottles of the lower grades (the last pressings), which are consumed in France and which can not be exported to countries with a high tariff, the United States consumed approximately one-seventh of the high-grade champagne sold to all the world.

The United States paid for champagne \$5,507,255, or about \$122 to the acre for the 40,300 acres in grapes. The total export trade in champagne was valued at \$40,000,000, or \$14 for each inhabitant of the consular district, or one dollar per capita for the entire population of France.

Hunters Stop Train to Chase Deer.

New Martinsville, W. Va.—A party of hunters were returning from a trip in Pocahontas county, when, as the train was nearing Toberlick, the sudden approach of a deer caused the engineer to bring his train to an abrupt stop. From the windows the fleet-footed animal was seen to bound down the mountain side and jump the track just in front of the engine. By the time a number of the hunters on the train had got their guns the deer had plunged across the Greenbrier river. A volley of bullets was fired, and the deer fell dead about 150 yards from the train. Fifty men each claimed his shot had killed the deer. The hunters plunged into the river and swam across. A hunter from Marlinton was the first across the river, and he got possession of the deer. The train was delayed over an hour.

M. Camille Saint-Saens.



Eminent French composer and virtuoso who is making his first visit to America. At the age of seventy-one he is a composer, a writer on musical subjects, a conductor, a pianist and an organist.

TO SHOW CRIME RELICS.

KANSAS SUPREME COURT WANTS STATE CHAMBER OF HORRORS.

Would Exhibit Ghastly Mementoes of Famous Tragedies as Warning to the Wicked—Now Stored in Vault.

Topeka, Kan.—Along with the state historical collection, the exhibit of farm products in the suite of offices of the state board of agriculture, the display of orchard products in the horticultural rooms, the Goss collection of stuffed birds, the minerals in the academy of science room in the capitol building at Topeka, Kan., may have another collection for state house visitors to view—the greswome relics of famous murder cases and other tragedies which have been before the supreme court.

When a case is appealed to the court and there are submitted in evidence guns, revolvers or weapons of any sort, they remain forever a part of the record in the case and can not be removed from the court chambers. As many cases have been appealed to the supreme court in which weapons have been presented as evidence, the court chambers are crowded with such relics, as there is no suitable place in which to keep them.

A vault, unused for other purposes, is filled with guns, revolvers, clothing, miniature freight cars and locomotives to represent the trains which caused the death of men, women and children, razors, bridges in miniature. This vault is now filled and the nooks and corners of the courtroom proper are being used.

To preserve these ghastly mementoes as required by law, the court is planning to ask for a special appropriation for the construction of a chamber of horrors where all these silent witnesses of tragedies may be filed and tagged and kept in order behind glass doors.

The apartment in which would be displayed relics of the tragedies of Kansas, beginning with some of the early days of the state when "Wild

Bill" and other desperadoes were active with their trigger fingers, would be unique.

Here one would find the revolver with which Emmet Dalton fought his way into and out of the bank at Coffeyville on that memorable day 15 years ago when the Dalton gang made its last raid. There is another collection of arms, sufficient to constitute a small arsenal. And they did, in fact, form the supply of weapons of the Dewey ranch in Rawlins county when Chauncey Dewey, now of Chicago, and talked of as the negroes' candidate for mayor, with his ranchmen, armed themselves to ride over to the Barry ranch on that fateful day when the "battle of the ranges" was fought. The Dewey men left the field after the loss of one horse, while the Barrys left three dead.

In this same chamber of horrors the razor with which Jessie Morrison killed Mrs. Olin Castle at Eldorado would be placed. This was one of the most extraordinary cases ever heard, and there were three trials before Jessie Morrison was finally sent to the penitentiary to serve a life sentence for murder.

In one particular railroad case appealed to the court a train of freight cars was necessary to the evidence of the railroad, the Missouri Pacific, and as a train could not be taken into court a string of miniature cars, 14 inches high and 12 feet long, were used. The case was that arising from the death of Henry Brinkmeier, whose relatives sued the railroad for damages.

In Linn county a man was killed by a train and his coat, covered with blood and cut by the wheels, is hanging on a peg as part of the evidence in the suit.

Another exhibit is a bottle of whiskey. It was filed in the department proceedings against a lawyer. His attorneys asserted that he had been given a drink of whiskey which had been drugged and that this accounted for his peculiar conduct in court. The bottle of whiskey was introduced to prove the assertion, but each judge refused to see whether it was drugged or not.

HAS BURNS' MANUSCRIPTS.

Original Writings of Scotch Poet Brought to America.

New York.—J. Pierpont Morgan has imported what is said to be the most complete set in existence of the original manuscripts and private letters of Robert Burns, the Scotch poet. Mr. Morgan's agents have been scouring Great Britain for the last 15 years in order to secure the documents. An expense of no less than \$200,000, it is estimated, has been so incurred. The manuscripts are in two books of some 400 pages apiece. They were nominally appraised by the United States customs examiners at \$25,000 each, and subject to a duty of 20 per cent. ad valorem, so that the Morgan customs brokers paid \$10,000 duty.

Under the Dingley tariff law works of art and literature are admitted free of duty when brought in for public, educational, or religious purposes, but when imported by private citizens the full duty is imposed. It is believed to be the intention of Mr. Morgan to bequeath the Burns manuscripts and letters to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and that their importation is the forerunner of the arrival of numberless other European treasures of literature and art, which Mr. Morgan is reported to have accumulated on the other side. The value of his collec-

tions is said to be nearly \$15,000,000, but the heavy tariff has deterred him from bringing them over.

MUSKRATS A DANGEROUS PEST.

Lake City, Ia., Offering Bounty for Every One Caught.

Lake City, Ia.—Muskrats are burrowing under the town, allowing the waters of Lake creek to flow into cellars, and so threatening the stability of many houses.

Lake City is two miles from Lake creek, and the invasion of the rodents cannot be explained by ordinary theories. The muskrats have honey-combed the earth under the Northwestern shops, and have come out in the pits where the engines are cleaned.

Following the undermining of the railroad shops, a systematic effort will be made at extermination. The Northwestern Railroad company has offered a bounty of five cents for every rat caught and Calhoun county will pay ten cents more. A Sioux City hide buyer will pay 25 cents a pound for the pelts. Boys have been supplied with hundreds of steel traps and the war has started. It is this or sink, as the high water in the spring might prove fatal to many buildings.

PRIZES FOR AIDS IN MINES.

Competitive Tests for Skill in Caring for Injured Coal Diggers.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—In the efforts to still further improve the first aid to the injured service in the mines of the Erie company, competitive contests were held at Valley View park, near here, by eight teams of five men each. These teams are composed of the five most able first aid men from each of the eight groups of mines owned by the company, and the contests were under the direction of General Manager W. A. May and other officials of the company.

The first aid service was established in the mines two years ago, following the enactment of a law compelling coal companies to have a small hospital inside each colliery at which first aid service could be given. Each mine then had a number of its men trained by physicians in the work of rendering first aid for all the many different kind of accidents which can occur in a coal mine, and the result of this has been the saving of many lives. As some 600 were killed and about three times that many injured in the mines last year, the need for such a service was apparent.

The contestants competed in the following classification:

First—One man carrying a man overcome by gas.
Second—Two men carrying a helpless man.

Third—Three men carrying a helpless man on an improvised stretcher.

Fourth—One man dressing an injured man with first aid packet.

Fifth—A team of five men performing artificial respiration, stopping hemorrhage from a bleeding wound, applying temporary splints to fractured leg, placing on stretcher, carrying over fall of rock, a fence and placing in ambulance.

In each of these contests the supposedly injured man had to be carried a certain distance, and his wounds marked and dressed in accordance with previous instructions.

The contests were judged by a committee of physicians. The winning team received a silver cup, each member of the winning team received a silver badge and the member of each team showing the best individual work was given a certificate of merit.

Wine and Soup Eschewed.

Paris.—Wine has been falling into partial disuse at many a fashionable table in France and now soup is following suit. Doctors denounce soup as a delusion as far as nourishment is concerned and tell fair patients that figures will be none the worse if they let it alone. So women are refusing to eat it. Wine and champagne, and their male companions are looking more and more asquance at a dish which for centuries has held the post of honor of the great majority of French tables in the homes of nobles and peasants alike.