

TREASURES OF PEN AND PRINT

Progress of the Work of Restoring Priceless Books and Manuscripts.

RAVAGES OF TIME AND VERMIN

Books and Writings of Great Value in the New Congressional Library—Scientific System of Preservation Employed.

(Copyright, 1900, by Ruth Kimball Gardner.) If it be true, as certain persons maintain, that the bent of the mind depends on the character of the food taken, the rats and mice and fat brown roaches who live and move and have their being in the capitol at Washington must be of a superior order of intellect, for until a little more than two years ago they fed on some of the richest and rarest educational foods to be found in the whole country.

Heat, cold, damp and darkness had their way with these priceless things. A tradition of the library has it that valuable maps were actually used to stop roaches. Nothing could be done to preserve the papers and many of them were almost forgotten.

Among the manuscripts which had been stored away for a period in most cases of from fifteen to thirty years, scarcely a tenth of the six hundred and more volumes was found fit to be handled without rebinding.

Manuscript Division. The northeast pavilion of the main floor of the new building has been chosen for the manuscript division, because of its greater security. The good luck of the American people prevented any considerable loss of valuable papers by theft during all the years they were neglected in the cubby holes of the capitol, but nothing is left of the old in the new library. A burglar would need all the powers of the alphas of the lamp and the ring to take him within reaching distance of the treasures of the manuscript room.

Remarkable Manuscript. Whether the manuscripts kept in the safe are the most valuable in the collection it would be impossible to say, as the value of a manuscript is an indeterminate something depending wholly on the point of view, but one of the treasures of Dr. Friedenwald's library is the oldest manuscript in the library.

Scientific Restoration. Some of the manuscripts have needed little restoration, but the great majority have required careful treatment. The work of restoration is carried on at the library as a science, and Dr. Friedenwald is constantly studying and experimenting with a view to learning what improvement in his method is possible.

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WILD RIDE ON A BUCKBOARD

Thrilling Experiences of an Indian Agent in Northern Utah.

HOT RACE OF A BOOZY DRIVER

Four Miles of Narrow Mountain Road Traversed at Gait that Checked His Breath and Curled His Hair.

Since the course of empire has taken its way so completely westward, the east is prone to believe that the days of adventure and hairbreadth escapes in the land beyond the Mississippi are passed.

During the last two years, relates the Washington Post, Mr. E. R. Harper, a special agent in the service of the Indian office, and who is now in Washington, has had a number of experiences that for hair-raising, blood-freezing interest rival the happenings that befell the hardy pioneers who pushed the borders of civilization across the trackless prairies and beyond the Rockies.

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The Double Easter Number

OF THE Omaha Illustrated Bee

WILL BE

An Unequaled Artistic Production.

Watch for It April 8

LOOKED LIKE COLETTA DEATH. But there is one story of close proximity to what seemed a certain and wholly unpleasant death that Mr. Harper doesn't like to tell, doesn't even like to think of, and it was only after much persuasion that he related it to a reporter for the Post.

Some time ago Commandant Philip conceived the idea, while mounting the cannon taken from the Spanish naval and military authorities, to place an exhibition of relics from the Arctic regions in all parts of the world.

Not a Pleasant Prospect. The trail is dangerous in the best of weather and with the most careful of driving. In some places, on this occasion, it was choked with snow and in others, where the wind had swept it clean, was a glare of ice sloping toward the edge of the precipice.

THE four wheels were at times all off the ground at once, said Mr. Harper, in telling the story, "and we seemed to be flying through the air. I firmly believed we were going to certain death. I know that my hair literally stood on end. But that kind Providence which is said to care for fools and drunkards men interfered in our behalf, and in some manner, I shall never know how, we reached the bottom of the canyon with no more serious consequences than resulted from our scare."

Check that Gough with BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

WHY USE A WEISBACH LIGHT? IT SAVES GAS. OTHER BURNERS WASTE GAS. TO EARN A PENNY, SAVE A PENNY. IT SAVES DOLLARS. SOLD EVERYWHERE. PRICE 50¢.