TRIAL OF A SLOT MACHINE WHICH MAKES THIS POSSIBLE.

Three of Them Now Ready for Business-A Mechanism Which Reject Light Coins -Letters Transferred to the Postman'r Bag Without His Touching Them.

The latest development of the slot machine is an invention designed to make every person his own registeredletter clerk and to facilitate the forwarding of registered mail. The use of three machines has been sanctioned by the Postmaster-General, and under his orders they are to have a sixweeks' trial in New York. What may sappen after that is conjecture merely, but the assumption of the inventor of the machine is that if its work is satefactory, it will be adopted as a reguar adjunct to the Post Office system.

While the machines are being put their special test an agent of the Post Office is to be in constant attendance at each. He will explain the working of the machine to the public and see that no one tampers with the

The charge for registering a letter is a cents in addition to the regular letpostage. The machine makes the mme charge, assuming that a single 2-cent stamp is sufficient for the regular postage. Under the law a letter prepaid by one 2-cent stamp must beforwarded and any extra postage collected at the other end.

To work the machine you drop a affver United States dime into a spout at the upper right hand side. A square bon cover flies up automatically and reveals a roll of white paper. Opposite certain lines you write the name and address of the person to whom your letter is to be sent and your own name and address. At the right hand upper and of the machine is a small lever. You press this back and the letter slot in front opens and into this you drop your letter. Then you seize the handle of a big crank at the right and force it back until a bell rings. As you do this the iron cover closes and locks over the writing tablet. Now you draw forward the big lever until a bell rings. As you do this a duplicate of your writing, on a separate slip of paper, is slipped out of the machine at the left hand side and upon this paper is imminted also the Post Office date marks. the serial number of the letter and the signature of the Postmaster. This is your receipt. Your original writing remains in the box until the letters are semoved, and then it goes with them. At the same time that your receipt is printed the letter is dated.

The next thing is to get the letter to the Post Office without giving the letthe carrier a chance to tamper with either the letters or the originals of the receipts. The box has a hopper bottom so constructed that it can be epened only when the mail bag is atmehed to it. The mail bag can't be opened, either, except in conjunction with the hopper or at the Post Office. The strip on which are written the names and addresses drops into the beg with the letters.

The dimes fall into a brass cylinder in the order in which they are dropped he finds a bad one, can tell at once, letter it belongs to. Such a letter will be held and its sender notified to pay the postage in good coin and get his had coin back.

Aside from this, the machine is constructed to throw out bad coins, if they are under weight. When the coin first drops into the slot it goes into a delicate balance where it is weighed. If it is too much worn to be current the scale rejects it, and instead of passing into the machine and starting the posting operations, the coin drops out of a hole in the front of the machine and alls on the floor.

The inventor says he has spent three years in perfecting the machine.- New

FOODS PRESERVED IN TIN.

Exhorbitant Prices Demanded When First Introduced in France.

The process of preserving foods in tin is of older origin than may be supposed. It was in 1841 that John Colin of Nancy, France, began the business which is now of magnitude. In 1841 a quart of turtle soup in tin put up by Colin cost \$3.75; a small box of sardines, \$1.25; an entire truffled salmon, \$15; a beef tongue, \$2; a Toulouse duck truffled, \$9. Vegetables were proportionately dear. Colin carried his system much farther than is attempted at the present day. He sold in tin an entire sucking pig, for which he charged \$12.50; an entire turkey for \$7.50, six pounds of roast lamb for \$4.25, an entive pheasant for \$12.50. He had also preserved butter in tin, for which he asked 75 cents a pound.-New York

NEWS FROM KLONDIKE.



Editor to Reporter-Well, I haven't seen anything of those thirty-two carrier pigeons you took with yuo. No, I eat can.

LINCOLN'S TOMB.

ITS PRESENT CONDITION A DISGRACE TO ILLINOIS.

The Money to Build the Monument Contributed by the People, and the Trust Given In Charge of the City of Springfield-A Sorry Spectacle.;

Lincoln's tomb is a monument of disgrace to Illinois. A spirit of tasteful pride is fast making Springfield one of the most beautiful of State capitals The magnificent building which houses the government was in the days of approaching completion described as a palace in a cornfield. Since then the city surrounding has been improved to worthiness of the setting. With paved streets, well shaded, a look of general thrift in the business center and long vistas of pretty homes in well-kept grounds, it now corresponds to a noble Capitol which has no superior in massive symmetry and in convenient adaptation to its purposes, and is exceeded in liberal expenditure by only one other building of the kind, that at Albany. Springfield is an honor to the State. But in strange contrast to all else that commands admiration is the condition of the tomb. Illinois assumed a sacred trust when the question of the disposition of the remains of the martyred President was settled. That trust has not been kept. A correspondent of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, writing from Springfield, says that the friends of Lincoln feel the neglect keenly. They are anxious to see public sentiment aroused and the Legislature reminded of its duty. There is neither defense nor explanation of the neglect. When the custodian opens the grated doors and takes the visitors into first the crypt and then the memorial chamber, his introductory words are regretful. In the crypt the plaster has fallen from the arched roof, and, more than that, gaping crevices have opened in the brick masonry A little more of this inattention and the roof will cave down upon the floor under which, covered by concrete, are the caskets of President and Mrs. Lin-

On the other side of the burial crypt the memorial room is in scarcely better condition. With every rain the water comes through the vaulted roof. It has blackened and stained ceiling and walls. It has made a great blotch of the once bright colors of the coat of arms. Prevailing dampness has mildewed and rusted the none too numerous relics. In this chamber are kept the surveying instruments Lincoln as a young man used, the gun which failed to save the life of his grandfather in Kenutcky when an Indian crept upon him at work on his farm, the great book in which every child in the public schools of Philadelphia wrote his or her name attached to the expression of serrow at the time of death. The stone tablet which the Romans sent from the walls of the Eternal City to commemorate emancipation, likening the act of Lincoln to that of one of the early Emperors who freed the slaves, is in the chamber. The bronze bust of William the Silent, who also died by asinto the machine, and the postman, if sassination, has a place. The walls are covered with the memorials forwarded preme Bench in 1863 by President Linby running the mover in order, which from all parts of the country. For such coln. On the first day of December a collection of historical value the State is not manifesting sufficient care to keep the rain out.

The tomb cost \$270,000. This money the most of it, was raised by voluntary contributions. Large sums came from the troops in the field, single companies contributing several hundred dollars. It is little enough that Illinois should maintain the granite pile in a state of tolerable repair. On the outside the cement has dropped from between the courses, and many of the blocks are out of line. Even the approaching walk is cracked and broken and uneven.

One might suppose that with such a number of visitors to the tomb there would bet no difficulty in reaching it. Yet the car line by which the mile and more of distance from the business center is made does not run to the place. but stops in a park where refreshments stands, a dancing pavilion and the usual inducements to local patronage are conspicuous. From the end of the track a cinder path winds down the hal. There a dusty road is crossed. A gate admits to the cemetery. By a walk up the valley past the stone vault where the body was at first deposited, the way is over the slope where more people stood on that day when the nation mourned than have ever been gathered in the Illinois capital city since. The tomb, square and squat, a hollow stone tower rising from 'the center, is on the crest of a gentle slope with a reservation of nine or ten acres of sward and trees about it. On one side stands a neat stone house, the abode of the custodian. The grounds are well kept. The site is beautiful. Only the condition of the tomb prompts the feeling of regret. Lincoln belonged to the nation. His resting place should have been the nation's care, if his State can be se forgetful.

Five Arab Maxima.

Never tell all you know; for he who tells everything he knows often tells more than he knows.

Never attempt all you can do; for he who attempts everything he can do often attempts more than he can do. Never believe all you hear; for he who believes all that he hears often

believes more than he hears. Never lay out all you can afford; for he who lays out everything he can afford lays out more than he can af-

Never decide upon all you may see; for he who decides upon all that he ure away; she was forever using the sees often decides on more than he kitchen utensiis to rest her books on. sees.-Christian Work.

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE FIELD.

His Family a Notable One in the History of the Country.

Justice Stephen J. Field, came of New England Revolutionary stock on both sides, and was the son of David Dudley Field, a Congregational clergyman. His brothers included Cyrus W. Field, the promoter of the submarine cable; David Dudley Field, the distinguished constitutional lawyer; Henry M. Field, a well-known divine and author; Matthew W. Field, an authority in engineering; Jonathan Field, who was President of the Massachusetts Senate, and Timothy Field, a lieutenant in the United States Navy. Few families anywhere have been so conspicuous for ability. Stephen J. Field was born in Haddam, Conn., November 4, 1816, and is, therefore, 81 years old. When a child he was taken to Asia Minor by his brother-in-law, Rev. Joshua Brewer, and there learned modern Greek, Italian and French. Upon his return he entered Williams College and was graduated in 1837 with the highest honors. He was admitted to the Bar in 1841, having studied law in the office of his brother, David Dud-



JUSTICE FIELD.

After another trip to Europe Stephen caught the gold fever in 1849 and went to San Francisco by way of Panama, arriving at the Golden Gate with \$10 in his pocket. In three months he had made \$25,000 by a deal in real estate options, and in 1850 he was elected to his first office, that of Alcalde, or Mayor, of Marysville. His life was frequently threatened by swaggering politicians and other bullies, and once he narrowly escaped assassination at the hands of Judge Terry. In 1857 Mr. Field was elected Judge of the Supreme Court of California and afterwards became Chief Justice. For his services as a War Democrat and his intimate knowledge of practice and procedure in Western cases, Judge Field was appointed to the Federal Suhe served as Associate Justice thirtyfour years, six months and ten days. He has achieved the distinction of serving longer on the Supreme Bench than any of his predecessors, the next in point of service being Chief Justice Marshall, who died in office in 1835, after a service of thirty-four years, five months and six days. As Justice Field says in his letter to his colleagues, announcing formally his retirement, he has written the decisions in 1042 cases, of which 365 were prepared while he was on the Bench in California and 37 are decisions in the Circuit Court.

Debarred by his position from entering actively in politics, Justice Field was, nevertheless, an attentive spectator. In 1876 he was one of the Democratic representatives on the Electoral Commission. In the Democratic National Convention of 1880 he received 651/2 votes for the Presidential nomination.

Justice Field is noted for his knowledge of the law, his profound scholarship and his absolute fearlessness. He possesses a strong individuality and has the courage of his convictions. He has written a sketch of his experiences in California, which is as interesting as a romance. While his health has suffered from his advanced age his intellect is still keen, and, it is possible, he may while away the tedium of his retirement by writing his recollections of the Supreme Court, particularly with respect to the great issues which it dealt with during the war and reconstruction periods.

A SHOT AT BOSTON CULTURE.



Mrs. Backbay-Tell me, dear, how did it happen that your new cook left

you so soon ? Mrs. Beaconhill-Oh, I sent the creat--Humoristisches Blactter.

OURIOUS FACTS.

the docks of Liverpool pays for lighting that city and most of the public improvements.

sity dismissed all the natural history classes on circus day recently to enable the students to study the ani-

well and Mrs. S. J. Hedges, both residents of Platte county, Mo., a son of the groom acted as best man and a son of the bride stood up with her. An alien is not permitted to ac-

quire a title to land in Bermuda, either by purchase or inheritance I a woman who owns land there marries able for gifts to gentlemen. It includes a foreigner, she forteits her real estate.

The eastern slope of Nicaragua is a wild and unexplored country, covered with a dense and almost impassable Meerchaum Cigar Holders, Briarwood Pipes, Cigars, fine grades, in boxes of 25, 50 and 100. virgin forest and inhabited only by a few scattered bands of wild Indians.

A sunflower plant in Boonville, eighteen feet in height, and with more than that it is the biggest thing of the kind ever grown anywhere.

Henry Russell, the composer, was once singing in public his song, "There's a Good Time Coming," when he was staggered by a gentleman arising in the audience and gravely asking, "Won't you oblige us with the date?"

werp are drawn by dogs. There are, as a rule, three dogs to each vehicle, one between the shafts and one on each side. The driver is usually a woman in wooden shoes, who walks beside the wagon.

uttered by them. STORES AND

ed a blotting paper towel for the bath. It consists of a full sheet of blotting paper, and the bather, stepping out of his morning tub, has only to array himself in one of these suits and in a

recently that one of his cows was not giving as much milk as formerly, and he set out to watch her. After she had laid down in her stall he discovered four pigs out of a litter of six sitting under her enjoying an evening

Pillory and Lash in School.

Pupil.

A case of alleged brutality in the public schools was heard before Alderman Batzle Friday evening. Elevenyear-old Lehman Gray, a pupil at the Franklin Building, testified that because he failed in his arithmetic Friday, Principal W. T. Furst directed Miss Kate E. Walker, his teacher, to whip him. He further alleges that while Teachers Ida Boush and Jennie Page held his arms around an iron post, Miss Walker inflicted punishment that resulted in bruises on his

The four teachers were the defendants before Alderman Batzle and each was held for trial at Court.

Beware of the Piano Swindler.

A man representing himself as a piano agent approaches the farmer and asks to place a piano in the house, agreeing to give the daughter of the farmer lessons for the privilege of being allowed to take other pupils there. As he gets better acquainted with the farmer he agrees that if the farmer sells three pianos he may keep the one in his house as his own. The agreement is, of course, drawn up in writing and the piano agent departs. In a few days another man appears with a note signed by the farmer. As might be expected among musical people, the piano has made a false note, and there's discord all around.

Heart Spasms

DR. AGREW'S Oure for the Heart a Wonderful Life-Saver.

No organ in the human austomy to-day whose diseases can be more readily detected than those of the heart—and medical discovery has made them amenable to proper treatment. If you have palpitation or fluttering, shortness of breath, weak or irregular pulse, swelling of feet or ankies, pain in the left side, fainting spells, dropsical tendency, any of these indicate heart disease. No matter of how long standing. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart will cure—it a a heart specific—acts quickly—acts surely—acts safely.

"I was given up to die by physicians and fidends. One dose of Dr. Aguew's Cure for the Heart gave me ease, and six bettles emmd my case of fifteen years' standing."

—MRS. J. L. Mill.LER, Watthwood, N.W.T.

Guarantees relief in 30 minutes. Sold by C. A. Kleim.

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SHORT FICTION

In addition to the three long serial stories, the publication of which will continue during the entire year, there will be short stories of every kind, of which it is only possible to mention a few titles here.

Hunt, the Owier

The Blockaders

By STANLEY J. WEYMAN

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Be sure that you get the genuine article made by WALTER BAKER & CO. Ltd., Dorchester, Mass. Established 1780.

The revenue derived from renting

Salmon have been seen to ascend the falls of the Mingan River, Quebec, by leaping as high as fifteen feet from break to break in the falls.

Authorities of the Karsas Univer-

At the marriage of G. L. Bright-

one hundred blossoms, is that on which Missourians are basing their claims

Some of the milk wagons in Ant-

Charity is to profit from profanity in Owingsville, Ky., where a society has been formed whose members, with the intention of checking their profane tendencies, covenant to pay into the treasury five cents for every oath

Some ingenious person has inventsecond he is dry.

An Alabama farmer discovered

Teachers Held for Court for Whipping a

Piano swindlers are on the road.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE

will enter the coming year prepared to give to the reading public that which has made it famous for the past quarter of a century—contributions from the pens of the great literary men and women of the world, illustrated by leading artists. A brief glance over its prospectus announces such reading as

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THE COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE OF AN ISTHMIAN CANAS

By WORTHINGTON C. FORD

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By CHARLES FALUMMIS





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the Heart were used .- 49. Sold by C. A. Kleim.

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Allow a cough to run until it gets heyond the reach of medicine. They often say, "oh, it will wear away," but in most cases it will wear them away. Could they be induced to try the successful medicine called Kemp's Balsam which is sold on a positive guarantee to cure, they would immediately see the excelent effect after taking the first dose. Price 25 and 50c. TRIAL SIZE FREE. At all druggists.