

HARA-KIRI, JAPANESE RITE

Suicide's Sword Becomes Valuable Heirloom.

IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY

Exhorts the Spirits of His Ancestors to Witness How He Upholds the Family Dignity—Means Taken to Avenge Insult—Suicide's Head is Severed From the Body.

To the Japanese suicide is the most noble and honorable of all violent acts. Where revenge is impossible the only means of restoring honor is by committing hara-kiri.

Elaborate preparations are made for the ceremony. The chamber in which the ceremony is to take place is hung with yellow silk or crepe, the sunlight carefully excluded.

A foot high platform about three feet long by two feet broad is placed in preparation in the center of the room, covered in white crepe, and the kahanna (ordinary sword) of the master of the household is laid unscathed upon the platform.

Finally the nobleman enters, dressed in pure white garments, with yellow covered scarf encircling his body, and carrying in his hand a little saucer in which burns a wick lighted previously from the everlasting light which is kept burning in front of the family god.

The sword generally is a heirloom of the family and is considered the most valuable article in its possession. It is the instrument with which hara-kiri is always committed.

The idea that wireless telegraphy has originated and grown up during recent years is a popular fallacy. It was nearly a hundred years ago that the possibilities of aerial telegraphy were seen by scientists.

In those days there seemed to be two ways which seemed to show how this might be accomplished. One was known as "induction," or the property an electric impulse has of transferring itself from one place to another.

The existence of these electromagnetic waves has been known only since 1888, and the discovery forms a fascinating page in the history of scientific romances.

A Mountain of Iron.

A mountain which is said to be the most remarkable in the world is situated in the state of Durango, Mexico. It certainly has a claim to this reputation, for it is two thousand feet high, about three-quarters of a mile in thickness at the base and is almost solid iron.

RUSSIAN BUREAUCRACY.

Genuine Russian Worse Off Than His Fellow Subjects.

That mischievous distinction between various races subject to the czar was, Russian patriots now affirm manifest even to the most obtuse. But what most foreigners failed to perceive was that the genuine Russian was even worse off than his fellow subject of Jewish, Armenian, Polish or Finnish extraction.

They had no voice in governing the country, no right to tax themselves, no claim to control or to criticize the administration, no authority to audit the state accounts, no right to remonstrate against measures fraught with ruin to the masses, nor permission to worship God as their consciences dictated.

And the consequences was that enterprise in trade, originally in thought, imagination in literature, sincerity in religion and self-reliance in everyday life were often atrophied and sometimes wholly destroyed.

But even these laws were made only to be broken. There was hardly a pretense of applying them for the benefit of the people. Violated when invoked against the privileged, social layers, they were stretched, twisted and intensified when employed to scourge the masses.



Major-General Ijichi.

Who, on behalf of the Japanese, arranged with General Stoessel's representative the terms of the surrender of Port Arthur.

Simple Barometers.

Country people have a great contempt for those who cannot tell what the weather is going to be till they have looked at their expensive barometers or seen the weather indications in the morning paper.

No Tips For English Guards.

The guards of the London, Tilbury and Southern Railway have received orders to refuse in future to accept tips from passengers. The position has been thrust upon the guards by the efforts of certain well-meaning philanthropists.

SAILING SHIP CAPTAINS

Nearly All of Them Have Dislikes for Land Lubbers.

ARE UNWELCOME GUESTS

Difficult for Them to Secure Passages. One Must Furnish Certificate of Good Character and Be Willing to Pay Handsomely For the Privilege—Rules to Observe.

Nearly every one has at some time or other been seized with the desire to go to sea on a sailing ship. The wish comes oftenest in the summer vacation, when the so-called "sea birds" flit by the beaches and stretches of country shore.

It might be well here to restate a fact known to many that passengers are taken solely at the pleasure of the captain. The sailing agents, or the mate, or others, might recommend, but they would go no further, and there have been frequent cases in which captains have turned down would-be sailors bringing letters from the owners of the vessels in which the trip would have been made.

Get your trunk packed a month ahead and put on board before all the cargo is extracted. Then, by getting on the craft yourself two or three days before she can possibly start, the chances are that you will not be left behind should a little favorable weather come leading around between snow storms.

Never observe that the cabin stove would scorch an iceberg brown in ten minutes, or that the fire has gone out altogether. As for bed clothes, be thankful you have got any. Observe occasionally that the tobacco smoked aboard is not rank enough to please you. And above all, don't draw the color line on the veranda. If you will carry out these suggestions on a few trips, you may some time live to have a pleasant voyage.

Where Prunes Come From.

In the United States 100,000,000 pounds of prunes are eaten yearly. Prior to 1886 the supply came wholly from France and the Danubian provinces and sold under the designation of "French" or "Turkish" prunes. In the year referred to prunes of American growth appeared on the market and with each succeeding year the supply has increased until the importation of foreign fruit has been reduced to extremely small proportions.

After the planting, which is usually done in the rainy season, the shoots are cut down to a uniform height of about two feet. In the second year the trees are pruned, from three to five branches being left, and are again pruned in the third and fourth years. Twice during the spring and summer the soil is cultivated. In September the fruit ripens and is gathered by spreading sheets under the trees and shaking the branches. The green fruit is taken to the warehouse, where it is graded in size and passed through a boiling hot liquid, in which process it is cleaned and the outer skin softened. It is then spread out in trays eight feet in size and exposed to the heat of the sun for three to eight days, depending upon weather conditions.

Ten thousand trays of fruit spread out in one unbroken tract may be seen in Santa Clara in the drying season. When sufficiently cured the prunes are stored in separate bins and there are allowed to "sweat" this process taking from ten to twenty days, when they are ready for marketing.

The bridegroom at a wedding always has the appearance of being a rank outsider.

The emergencies that we are always prepared for never seem to turn up.

HISTORY OF A FAMOUS BELL

Cast in a Spanish Foundry, It Had Many Adventures.

The famous old bell of the Roman Catholic church in St. Joseph, Tazewell county, again "tolls the knell of parting day" after being temporarily silent, following the transfer from the old edifice to the new one recently dedicated. The bell has a remarkable history and has had many owners. For forty years it has been the property of St. Joseph parish, ringing out the hour of weddings, of masses and of funerals without distinction.

According to an inscription upon the bell, it was cast in a foundry at Valladolid, Spain, early in the sixteenth century. The bell was conveyed to Vera Cruz, Old Mexico, by monks, where it hung in the cathedral until the Mexican war in 1847. When Vera Cruz was captured by the United States army, three young men of Company G, 4th Illinois Infantry, which was recruited in central Illinois captured the bell and sent it home.

After reaching Pekin the bell was sold to the owner of the Prairie State, an Illinois River steamboat, and was carried between Peoria and St. Louis for five years, until, on April 15, 1852, the Prairie State, while racing with the steamer Avalanche, blew up opposite Peoria and went to the bottom with heavy loss of life. The bell lay at the bottom of the river for two years, when it was fished out, and the finders sold it to the Methodist congregation, who were about to dedicate a new church. From 1854 the bell hung in the tower of that church until 1867, when the Catholic people of St. Joseph decided that the historic and Catholic associations of the bell were sufficiently important to warrant its restoration to that faith. They asked the Methodists to get a price, and the latter denomination willingly gave up the bell for the price of another, which was of less value from a historical standpoint.—Chicago Record-Herald.



John L. Sullivan.

The former champion pugilist of the world, as he appears on the lecture platform.

Curious Freaks of Lightning.

One of the fantastic tricks which lightning plays upon its unfortunate victims is a kind of flashlight photography. There are numerous instances of this which are more or less "authenticated," but they seem almost too wonderful to be believed. One of these is a young man in New Jersey who was struck by lightning and was taken in an ambulance to the hospital at once. There seemed to be no wound except a small mark on the back, but while the doctors and nurses were examining him a picture began to develop on the skin. Soon before the wondering eyes of the watchers appeared a perfect picture of the figure of Christ nailed to the cross. The explanation is that on the wall opposite the bed on which the young man lay was the picture which was reproduced on his skin.

Another instance is of a man who was struck by lightning, and on his chest were red marks resembling a tree with all its branches under which the man was standing when he was killed. From France comes the story of a peasant girl who was driving a cow from the pasture when she was overtaken by a storm, and she and the cow took refuge under the tree. A bolt killed the cow and stunned the girl. When she recovered consciousness she found on her chest a picture of the cow she had been driving.

The chateleine of the castle of Benatoune was sitting in a chair in her salon when the chateau was struck by lightning. She was quite uninjured, but on the back of her dress was found a perfect copy of the chair on which she had been sitting, down to its minutest ornament. These are a few of the many strange pranks which lightning plays upon us.

Fortunate is he who sees the point of a joke instead of feeling it.

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE

OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE.

By virtue of an order of the Orphans' Court of Columbia county the undersigned, administrator of J. B. n. c. l. a. of Samuel C. Bower, late of Centre township, deceased, will sell at public sale, on the premises in Centre township on

TUESDAY, APRIL 4th, 1905,

at one o'clock p. m., all that certain real estate described as follows:

TRACT NO. 1.—All that certain message and tract of land situate partly in Centre township and partly in Orange township, and county of Columbia; bounded on the north by land of John Thomas, on the east by public road leading from the river to the mountain, on the south by land of K. Schellhammer and on the west by lands of Chancey Whitmore and Daniel Whitmore, containing thirty-two acres and one hundred and seven perches of farm land whereon are erected a

FRAME DWELLING.

bank barn and outbuildings. A good orchard and good well of water on the premises. The land is in a good state of cultivation.

TRACT NO. 2.—Situate in Centre township, county aforesaid, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a stone corner of line of land formerly owned by Simon Hagenbuch, deceased; thence by the same north thirteen degrees west one hundred and eight perches to a gum tree; thence by land of the heirs of George Ketchner, deceased, south seventy-seven degrees west seventy-five perches to a stone; thence south thirteen degrees east one hundred and eight perches to a stone north seventy-seven degrees east seven and five tenths perches to the place of beginning, containing

5 ACRES AND 10 PERCHES WOOD LAND.

TERMS OF SALE.—Ten per cent, of one-fourth of the purchase money to be paid at the striking down of the property; the one-fourth less the ten per cent, at the confirmation of sale; and the remaining three-fourths in one year thereafter, with interest from confirmation day.

S. H. BEISLINE, A. N. Yost, Atty. Admr. d. b. n. c. l. a.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

By virtue of a writ of fieri facias issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Columbia county, Pennsylvania, and to me directed there will be exposed to public sale at the Court House in Bloomsburg, county and state aforesaid, on

SATURDAY, APRIL 1st, 1905,

at two o'clock p. m.

All that certain lot of land situate on the northerly side of Brittain street, in Michael's Addition to West Berwick in the township of Berwick, new borough of West Berwick, Columbia county, Pa., and bounded and described as follows, to wit: Beginning at the north-westerly corner of Brittain and Mercer streets, thence along Brittain street south eighty-seven degrees ten minutes west eighty-seven and one half feet; thence north two degrees and fifty minutes west seventy-five and four tenths feet to an alley; thence south seventy-seven degrees thirty minutes east ninety and six tenths feet to Mercer street; thence along the same south two degrees fifty minutes east fifty one feet to Brittain street, the place of beginning. Being the easterly part of lot No. 222 of Michael's addition to West Berwick, Pa. Whereon is erected a two-story

FRAME DWELLING HOUSE.

Seized, taken in execution at the suit of Security Building and Savings Union vs. Frank A. Shirk, and to be sold as the property of Frank A. Shirk.

H. C. RYNDERS and W. W. BLACK, ALEX. C. JACKSON, Attorneys, Sheriff.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

By virtue of a writ of fieri facias issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Columbia county Pennsylvania and to me directed there will be exposed to public sale at the Court House in Bloomsburg, county and state aforesaid on

SATURDAY, APRIL 1st, 1905,

at two o'clock p. m.

All that certain lot piece or parcel of land lying and being situated in the Borough of Berwick, county of Columbia and state of Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows, to wit: On the east by lot number thirty-six on the south by Front street, on the west by lot number thirty-eight, and on the north by Schley alley, being forty-five feet in width on Front street and extending in depth of the same width a distance of one hundred and seventy-eight feet. Containing eight thousand and ten square feet of land, and being numbered and designated as lot number thirty-seven on the northerly side of Front street of Michael's addition of West Berwick.

PROPOSALS FOR ADDITION TO HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING.

Sealed proposals are invited for the erection of an addition or extension to the Bloomsburg High School Building. A copy of the plans and specifications may be obtained from B. W. Jury, architect after Thursday, the 3rd of March. Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check or bond in the sum of two hundred dollars to show good faith on the part of the bidder. These will be returned after the contract is entered into.

The contractor will be required to give an approved bond not only conditioned for the faithful performance of the contract, but also for the payment of all bills contracted for labor and materials in the erection of the building. Bids close at 6:00 p. m. on Friday, April 14, 1905. J. C. BROWN, Secy. 3-23 4t

Professional Cards.

N. U. FUNK, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Ent's Building, Court House Square, BLOOMSBURG, PA.

J. H. MAIZE, ATTORNEY AT LAW, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE AGENT, Office in Townsend's Building, BLOOMSBURG, PA.

A. L. FRITZ, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Office—Bloomsburg Nat'l Bank Bldg., 2d floor BLOOMSBURG, PA.

JOHN G. FREEZE, JOHN G. HARMAN, FREEZE & HARMAN, ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW BLOOMSBURG, PA. Office on Centre Street, 1 door below Opera House.

H. A. McKELLP, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Columbia Building, 2nd Floor, BLOOMSBURG, PA.

A. N. YOST, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Ent Building, Court House Square, BLOOMSBURG, PA.

RALPH R. JOHN, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Hattman Building, Market Square, Bloomsburg, Pa.

FRED IKELER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Office Over First National Bank, BLOOMSBURG, PA.

CLYDE CHAS. YELTER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, BLOOMSBURG, PA. Office in Ent's Building.

W. H. RHAWN, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Office, Corner of Third and Main Sts CATAWISSA, PA.

CLINTON HERRING, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Office with Grant Herring, BLOOMSBURG, PA. Will be in Orangeville Wednesday each week.

WILLIAM C. JOHNSTON, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Office in Wells' Building over J. G. Wells' Hardware Store, Bloomsburg, Pa. Will be in Millville on Tuesdays.

H. MONTGOMERY SMITH, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Office 1—Ent building, over Farmers National Bank. 11-16-99

EDWARD FLYNN, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, CENTRALIA, PA. Office Liddfoot building, Locust avenue

HOMOPATHIC PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, OFFICE: Office & Residence, 4th St. 10 a. m. to 2 p. m., 6:30 to 8 p. m. BLOOMSBURG, PA.

J. J. JOHN, M. D., PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, Office and residence, 410 Main St BLOOMSBURG, PA. 7-30-1

J. J. BROWN, M. D. THE EYE A SPECIALTY. Eyes tested and fitted with glasses. No Sunday work. 311 Market St., Bloomsburg, Pa. Hours:—10 to 8 Telephone.

DR. M. J. HESS, DENTISTRY IN ALL ITS BRANCHES, Crown and bridge work SPECIALTY, Corner Main and Centre Streets, BLOOMSBURG, PA. Columbia & Montour Telephone connection.

DR. W. H. HOUSE, SURGEON DENTIST, Office Barton's Building, Main below Mark BLOOMSBURG, PA. All styles of work done in a superior manner all work warranted as represented. TEETH EXTRACTED WITHOUT PAIN, by the use of Gas, and free of charge when artificial teeth are inserted. To be open all hours during the day.

C. WATSON MCKELVY, FIRE INSURANCE AGENT, (Successor to E. F. Hartman) Represents twelve of the strongest Companies in the world, among which are: CASH TOTAL SURPLUS CAPITAL, ASSETS, OTH. RES. Franklin of Phila. \$400,000 \$2,198,529 \$1,000,000 Penn'a. Phila. 400,000 3,825,160 1,421,800 Queen, of N. Y. 500,000 3,538,915 1,021,800 Westchester, N. Y. 300,000 1,733,307 428,000 N. America, Phila. 3,000,000 9,730,689 3,364,000 Office—First Nat'l Bank Bldg., 2d floor. All claims promptly adjusted and paid.

M. P. LUTZ & SON, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE AGENTS AND BROKERS, N. W. Corner Main and Centre, Streets BLOOMSBURG, PA. Represent Seventeen as good Companies as there are in the World and all losses promptly adjusted and paid at their Office.

SADE T. VANNATTA, (Successor to C. F. Knapp) GENERAL INSURANCE Office 238 Iron St., BLOOMSBURG, Oct. 31, 1901. 11\*

CITY HOTEL, W. A. Bartzel, Prop. No. 121 West Main Street Large and convenient sample rooms, bar rooms, hot and cold water, and modern conveniences. Bar stocked with best wine and liquors. First-class livery attached.

EXCHANGE HOTEL, I. A. Snyder, Proprietor, (Opposite the Court House) BLOOMSBURG, PA. Large and convenient sample rooms, bar rooms, hot and cold water, and all modern conveniences.