

BAGGAGE WAGON HER CAB

Anti-Fat Medicine Made Her a Subject for the Hospital.

WEIGHS 450 POUNDS.

Mary Shadow Belies Her Name inasmuch as She is Not Only Gigantic But is Daily Growing Larger. Began to Gain in Flesh Very Early in Life.

Tipping the scales at 450 pounds, Mary Shadow, a 19-year-old girl, was discharged from the Harrisburg Hospital and was sent to the railroad station in a transfer wagon.

She was sent to the institution after having taken a patent anti-fat preparation that increased her weight, it being believed that medical treatment might make her less corpulent. While she did not lose her weight during her stay in Harrisburg, her general condition was greatly improved.

The girl early in her life began to take on adipose tissue, but it was not until a year ago that her condition assumed serious proportions. Then she passed beyond the 300-pound mark, and began taking judicious training and patent medicine to reduce her weight. From 300 pounds she increased in weight to 450 pounds under the medicine. While this fat was forming she became unable to move and was compelled to lie on her back.

It was in this condition that she was brought to the Harrisburg Hospital. For a time after she was admitted to the institution she lost many pounds, but her health was unimproved. She experienced some trouble with her heart action and her respiration. Gradually, however, it was noticed that the girl grew fatter, and a few months after being admitted to the medical ward she again weighed 450 pounds.

Realizing that it was useless to try to decrease her weight at the expense of her physical condition, her attending physicians centered their energies in restoring the girl to vigorous health. Some days ago she was able to leave her bed and walk about her ward, and she expressed a desire to go home. As there was little ailing her except her ponderous weight, she was allowed to leave the hospital.

It was impossible for the young woman to enter a cab, and in order to get her to Union Station a baggage transfer wagon was summoned from a Market street hotel.

Origin of Ice Cream.

How many times a day does the average man dutifully pause to reflect on what a miracle it is that he has his air to breathe and a faithful sun overhead to keep us all going? And how many barrels of ice cream has such same average man swallowed, with never a grateful thought of that benefactor of mankind who invented the stuff in the first place! Now, the great philosopher Bacon knew that by melting snow with salt congelation would occur in any circumjacent liquid. But to him it was no more than an inedible, an extra-ray scientific fact. Further than that this noble seer never saw. It was a Frenchman who, in all his humble namelessness, preparing for the Duc de Chartres in 1774 a snow-like dish, was the originator of ice cream. A century and a half before the like was known in England, epicures in France were partaking of ices and aerated drinks. And their start is not laid even in France, for the French are said to have caught the trick from travelers returning from the sherbets of the Turks and Persians.—Boston Transcript.

Defoe and the Marsh Dwellers.

Defoe, the author of "Robinson Crusoe," traveled through the great eastern marshes of England in 1722. He records in that "damp part of the world" it was common to meet with a man who had from five to fifteen wives; indeed, he says, that some had more. Defoe adds that a merry fellow, who had himself had about a score of wives, told him that the men of the marshes, being seasoned to the damp climate took little harm from it, but that they went into the "billy country" for their wives. "When they took the young lasses out of the wholesome and fresh air they were healthy, fresh and clear and well; but when they came out of their native air into the marshes among the fogs and damp there they present changed their complexions, got an ague or two and seldom held it above half a year or a year at most." One wife was sacrificed, another was procured; and so the process went on. Defoe is careful to state that his merry informant "fibbed a little"—at least concerning his own wives; but he declares that the general statement is perfectly true.

Lived Under Five Sovereigns.

There resides at Folkestone, Eng., a man named George Keel, who in December next will reach the age of 104 years. He was born at Mantou, a village near Marlboro, in Wiltshire, and up to a few years ago followed the calling of a shepherd. He still earns a trifle by tending gardens in Folkestone. Mr. Keel is a good walker, he reads without glasses, but is very deaf. As a non-smoker, he declares that those who use tobacco are not meant for the kingdom of heaven. He uses alcoholic stimulants very sparingly. He has lived under five sovereigns and well reached George IV.

The Bamboo's Growth.

The bamboo has been known to grow two feet in twenty-four hours.

SUPERSTITION IN AMERICA.

Querc Beliefs of Our People in Different Sections.

A missionary was discussing the superstitions of a cannibal tribe from which he had just returned. "Oh, it is a very superstitious tribe, I admit," he said. "For every silly belief it has, though, a belief of ours could be produced of equal silliness."

"Take for instance, the Arkansean. He believes that a coal oil poultice is good for sore throat. He binds about his throat a poultice of coal oil, and it feels the skin off his neck. Nevertheless his faith in its virtue remains strong."

"Take the Mississippian. He doses himself for impure blood with teas made of hemlock leaves, of plantain, and of all manner of nauseous weeds. These teas only give him a stomach ache, but nevertheless he considers them as valuable to mankind as quinine or opium."

"Take the Pennsylvanian of Pike County. He believes, for rattlesnake bite, the thing to do is to cut a live chicken in half and to lay the half containing the heart upon the wound. The lump of chicken will, he holds, adhere to the bite and suck out all the poison, turning, as the venom enters it, a horrible green hue. There is no truth in this claim, of course, but if a visitation of rattlesnakes should come upon Pike County, every chicken there would be cut in half."

"So I might go on indefinitely. Superstition, except among the highly educated, is rampant in America. And even the highly educated are apt to carry pocket pieces—coins they have found, or horse chestnuts—in order that they may have good luck."

Life in Spain.

One meets with queer opposites in Spain. In the Basque Provinces the people are alert, up-to-date, thrifty and industrious. In Barcelona I was agreeably surprised at the evidences of modern progress, and its principal street, the Rambia, is undeniably finer than any boulevard in Paris. In some other sections the natives are about the limit of sloth and even a don't care a d— spirit in everything that concerns their temporal welfare. They tell a story of a Spanish shoemaker who was approached by a customer with worn-out shoes with a request that they be repaired immediately. The cobbler called to his wife to know how much money there was in the house. She answered enough to supply the family wants for another day, whereupon the customer was told that if it was in such a great hurry he had better try some other shop. This is the spirit that prevails in some parts of the kingdom, but must not be taken as a national characteristic.—Washington Post.

Advice to Consumptives.

Ninety-eight per cent of those who have tuberculosis of the lungs, if they get well at all, will have to so at home. But not "by the fireside." Even in tenement houses people have made good recoveries, but it has been by lying under a wide open window all day long and all night long, by extra feeding, by rest, and by good courage. There are wonderful possibilities on back porches and in sheltered nooks. It isn't the coldness of the air, nor yet the sweetening heat of the sun, that heals. It is the fresh, pure air in comfort. The patient must not be annoyed by cold or heat, but must be dressed so as to be comfortable. Sleep out-of-doors, shielded from the storm, and dress indoors where it is warm.

To Be Prepared.

"Yes, there is hypocrisy among the clergy as well as among other classes of people," said the Rev. Paul P. Chewoweth, of Grand Rapids, Mich. "A parson that I know of had a call from a little country parish in Michigan to a large and wealthy one in Grand Rapids. But he asked time for prayer and consideration—he didn't feel sure of his light. A month passed. Finally I met his youngest son one day. "How is it Josiah?" I asked. "Is your father going to Grand Rapids?" "Well," answered the youngster judiciously, "paw is still prayin' for light, but most of his things is done packed."—Louisville Herald.

Awake for 25 Years.

There is a man in London who has not slept a wink for a quarter of a century, and during that time has become completely weaned from the desire.

When about 45 years old this patient had an attack of malaria chills and took a dose of 52 grains of quinine. Since that day he has never slept, for the quinine produced such a ringing in his ears that sleep has been out of the question.

Sometimes it is like the roar of a cataract, again it is like the sound of sawing and at another time it resembles the hissing of steam from the exhaust of an engine. Doctors have made futile efforts to aid him.—New York Herald.

The Python's Bite.

The inside of a python's mouth is not exactly reassuring to the live object before which the powerful jaws open. There are no fangs, such as we see in the rattler, but rows of beautiful white spikes, a quarter of an inch apart and from a half to three-quarters of an inch in length, every one pointing back toward the throat, like fishhooks. If this pair of jaws should close upon your hand, do not attempt to withdraw the member, but remain motionless. After an eternity the mouth will open for a second hold. Then get away. You will carry about fifty punctures, but no rips or tears.

GREAT FIRE IN LONDON

A Midnight Blaze Brings Out the Reporter's Best Work.

STILL A CONFLAGRATION

The Space Writers' Delight Is to Fittingly Portray for the Masses the Dramatic and Scenic Wonders of a Lurid Blaze.—Better Than the Real Fire.

In London the midnight fire is still a conflagration, and the fine writer attends properly to its poetry and romance. Here are some of the results as gathered from a full page of appreciative rhetoric in the Spectator: "To a looker-on crowd and fire were curiously correlated. Human force seemed so inept before the relentless flame; and here was this human force standing idle, yet convincing one, nevertheless, of its possession of some great reserved power like that of the fire. The mob, too, in the scarlet light, appeared strangely impersonal, self-contained, inhuman."

"There was little or no noise, except for an occasional jest or exclamation of wonder, and once an involuntary murmur of awe at a violent sheet of flame rising apparently from some oily matter which had been touched."

"The hoarse noise of the burning, the agitated puffing of the steam pumps and a continuous shuffle of feet were the only sounds; the living persons most interested, for all the emotion shown, might have been in a trance. Even the incursions of the police seemed foreign and out of place, ill in keeping with the composed picture."

We learn that "five or six stories the hoses had to be hoisted up to reach the fire." The firemen on nearby roofs "stood out like ombres chinoises against the red glow. Flames floated and flowed beyond them like the banners yellow, glorious, golden," in Poe's enchanted palace.

"The tiny figures ran to and fro meaninglessly, and one wondered dimly why their efforts should be made at all. The contrast in color between the firelight and the places in darkness exercised a kind of hypnotic power, and whatever appeared in the radius of light took on a look of most grotesque naturalness."

"The moon, when not utterly obscured, flickered doubtfully through a halo which was now bronze-colored, now pale yellow, now a bright blue."

"The glow fell impartially on hovel and factory, on the advertisement of the latest musical comedy or lurid melodrama, and on posters in strange Hebrew characters."

The blaze did a good deal of damage to the London & Northwestern railway company, but it is worth some loss to see a real fire through the ideal eyes of the Spectator man.—New York World.

A Seven Wife Religion.

A Doukhobor named Vazoff, who was disappointed with the doings of his fanatical sect in Canada, and returned to Russia, has just been arrested and sent to prison, wires the Moscow correspondent of the London Express. Vazoff aspired to be the Joseph Smith of Russian Mormonism. Having quarrelled with the Canadian Doukhobors, he returned surreptitiously to his native country, boasting that he would found a sect ten times as numerous as theirs. Arriving at Odessa he tramped inland, announcing to the peasants a new revelation, according to which all true Christians were in future to have seven wives, "as was the case with good Canadians." The villagers of Ilovo passed a resolution accepting Vazoff's doctrines, but when the mayor, his two sons, and seven of the eight rich peasants put the tenets of the new religion into practice there was a loud outcry, and the young men of the district raided the mayor's house and nearly killed his sons. Vazoff fled, but was pursued to a neighboring village, where he was captured while haranguing the moujiks on the virtues of polygamy.—Exchange.

Making up a Horse's Toilet.

A beauty hospital for horses has been established on the continent. Here horses have their coats electrically massaged, their hoofs manicured, and their teeth filled and whitened; and here they learn to stand properly and to move in all the fashionable gait. Probably the most interesting and novel operation to witness is the electrical massaging of a horse's coat. This has the same effect on the coat of a horse as on the scalp of a man; it makes the hair thick and fine and glossy, and, where the skin has been rubbed bare, it brings on a new growth.—Exchange.

Wedding Anniversaries.

Wedding anniversaries are as follows: First, cotton; second, paper; third, leather; fifth, wooden; seventh, woolen; tenth, tin; twelfth, silk and fine linen; fifteenth, crystal; twentieth, china; twenty-fifth, silver; thirtieth, pearl; fortieth, ruby, fiftieth, golden; seventy-fifth, diamond.

Turtle Marked 60 Years Ago. George S. Gillette, of Milford, Conn., and his son captured a turtle and, making a close examination, found on its shell D. N. C. 1844. These are the initials of David N. Clark of the same town, an energetic old gentleman now in his 83d year.

United States a Hop Country.

The United States now produces more hops than any other country. Of the world's crop of 1,760,000 hundred weight, the United States furnishes 462,000 hundred weight.

FORMS OF SALUTATION.

How Some of the Earth's Population Greet Each Other.

A young man was drinking soda water in a pharmacy when a sailor entered.

"Hello, Bill," said the young man. "Why, hello, Cad," exclaimed the sailor, and, approaching his friend, he patted him on the stomach.

"That's a funny thing to do, Bill," said the young man, and he regarded the strokes of the other's hand, puzzled.

"That is the handshake of the Mariana Islanders," said the sailor. "Where we shake hands they stroke the stomach."

He ordered a strawberry sundae and resumed:

"Old man I've seen the handshake of every nation on the globe. The Zambesi people pat the back of your thumb. The Gonds pulls your ears. In certain very hot countries, like New Guinea, they sprinkle you with a little water. On the Sandwich Island they rub noses with you inflating the chest, compressing the lips and distending the nostrils, they brush noses against yours for a minute or more."

"We, of course, shake hands. What is the origin of the handshake? Some say it arose in a struggle—the struggle that, when two persons met in the past, each made to kiss the other's hand. You and me, for instance, take hold of hands and I try to bring yours up to my lips to kiss it, while you try to do the same with mine. We resist one another, and our hands rise up and down. They shake. And that, according to some, is the handshake's origin."

Pilgrimage of Russian Peasants.

From all parts of north Russia peasants are traveling on a pilgrimage to an extraordinary hermit. Prokhp Selivitsch, who is known as "the hairy man of Archangel." Five years ago in an access of religious mania, he cut off all his fingers on his left hand. When he heard that the Russians had suffered misfortune in the Far East he declared that it was the result of their sins, which could be atoned only by a sacrifice offered to Mother Earth. At first he said he did not know the significance of this declaration. But on John the Baptist's day he represented that he had been commanded to "plant himself in the earth, and there remain until the unbelievers (meaning the Japanese) were beaten, or until birch leaves sprouted from his fingerless hand." He has accordingly planted himself up to the knees in earth in his hut.

The Wonderful Roentgen Rays.

The real nature of the X-Rays is not yet known, the best authorities wavering between a radiation theory and a material one. They are transmitted through various media with varying degrees of facility, and affect silver salts, are applicable to medical diagnosis; and silver negatives of bones, bullets, etc., which do not transmit the rays readily, in the soft tissues of the bodies, may be produced. This is called skotograph or skiagraph. By interposing the substance to be examined between the crooke's tube and a tube with a diaphragm covered with calcium tungstate, called a fluoroscope, the effect is heightened, and the bullets, etc., may be readily observed.

A Very Wise Judge.

A Montgomery County, Penn., judge has rendered an important decision—of especial interest to girls. He has declared that it was not an offense for a girl to sit on her lover's lap, and in charging the jury said: "If every girl in Montgomery County who sits upon her lover's lap were to be judged of ill repute, we should have to blush for our county." That judge is all right.

Victims of Alcohol.

During the last thirty years there died in Europe alone of alcoholism a total of 7,500,000 people. That is more people than were killed in all the wars of the nineteenth century. The authority for these statements is a professor in the University of Denmark, who goes on to show that in Denmark one out of every seven men die between the ages of thirty-five and fifty-two is a victim of alcoholism.—Exchange.

A Reunion of Survivors.

A unique reunion was held in Cohasset, Mass., recently, when Luther Litchfield, aged 81, Joseph B. Bowler, 80, Isalah Lincoln, 78, Francis M. Lincoln, 77, and Alfred Wood, 73, clasped hands for the first time for 58 years. In 1846, the above named were rescued from the wreck of the fishing schooner Maine, which was run down and sunk in the bay by a steamer bound for Liverpool.

Cow Fed on Dynamite.

Judge F. M. Foote, of Middlebury, Vt., has lost a valuable cow, death being caused by her eating a stick and a half of dynamite. The cow was in his lot where they are getting out stone for the stone crusher, and the workmen left several sticks loose, and the cow got hold of one and was poisoned from the same.

Child Life in Maine.

Out of 200,000 children in Maine there are 70,000 who do not attend school, according to the figures of the factory inspector.

A Magnificent Specimen.

E. P. Kowick, of Fairfield, Me., has a lemon tree on which there are a number of lemons, one of which measures 10 1/4 inches in circumference.

MEXICAN DOLLAR IN CHINA

The Bankers Stamp it to Guarantee its Genuineness.

USED IN PHILIPPINES.

They Also Stamp the Peso and in Case a Stamped Coin is Found Not Genuine the Last Banker Who Stamped It Must Redeem it for Good Money.

As everybody knows, Mexican dollars circulate in large quantities in the far east, especially in China and the Philippines, where bankers send large quantities of Mexican silver dollars every year.

A year ago a reporter saw one of the Mexican pesos that had been in circulation in China for some time, and was surprised to find it covered with small Chinese characters, like as many seals. This dollar was shown recently to Liang Haun, Chinese minister, who explained the presence of the marks as follows:

"The bankers, of whom there are hundreds in China, who receive Mexican dollars, affix to them their seals to guarantee their legitimacy, and as pesos circulate and go from one bank to another they are being marked by all the banks who receive them. In case the peso proves to be illegal, the banker who sealed it last has to change it for good money and withdraw it from circulation."

"When the pesos are completely covered with seals they are sent back to Mexico to be re-coined, the expense being paid by all the bankers whose seals are on the coin. It is in accordance with a recent agreement. But it often happens that dollars, although marked all over their two faces, continue in circulation and are highly esteemed, as the seals are so many guarantees that they are genuine. The decision to seal pesos was taken because illegal coins began to circulate in China."—Mexican Herald.

Standard Time of United States.

Primarily, for the convenience of the railroads, a standard of time was established by mutual agreement in 1883, by which trains are run and local time regulated. According to this system, the United States, extending from 65 degrees to 125 degrees west longitude, is divided into four time sections, each of 15 degrees of longitude, exactly equivalent to one hour, commencing with the 75th meridian. The first (eastern) section includes all territory between the Atlantic Coast and an irregular line drawn from Detroit to Charleston, S. C., the latter being its most southern point. The second (central) section includes all the territory between the last named line and an irregular line from Bismarck, N. D., to the mouth of the Rio Grande. The third (mountain) section includes all territory between the western borders of Idaho, Utah and Arizona. The fourth (Pacific) section covers the rest of the country to the Pacific Coast. Standard time is uniform inside each of these sections, and the time of each section differs from that next to it by exactly one hour. Thus, at 12 noon in Boston (eastern time), the time at Chicago (central time) is 11 o'clock a. m., at Denver (mountain time) 10 o'clock a. m. and at San Francisco (Pacific time) 9 o'clock a. m. Standard time is 16 minutes slower at Boston than true local time, 4 minutes slower at New York, 8 minutes faster at Washington, 19 minutes faster at Charleston, 28 minutes slower at Detroit, 18 minutes faster at Kansas City, 10 minutes slower at Chicago, 1 minute faster at St. Louis, 28 minutes faster at Salt Lake City and 10 minutes faster at San Francisco.

Eastern Funeral Rites.

Some curious details have just reached Paris concerning the funeral ceremonies of Norodom, the late King of Cambodia. Immediately after death the body was placed on a bed of state, while cannon boomed to warn the populace to shave their heads. Next day the body was embalmed, according to ancient custom; the face was covered with a gold mask studded with diamonds and other precious stones; on the head was placed the ancient crown, and even the slippers on the feet glistened with rare jewels. Then the body was placed in a kneeling posture, and encased in an upright sheath of gold, and was sealed up in a massive casket of solid gold; thus it will remain in the throne room, with bronze praying night and day until the completion of the sanctuary in which the body will be cremated. Only after this ceremony will the new king be crowned.—London Globe.

Guinea-Pig Psychology.

"The Psychology of a Guinea Pig" is the name of a paper that represents three years of hard work and has earned the author, a University of Chicago girl, the highest degree offered by Dr. Harper's schools. Miss Jessie Allen, a student of neurology at the university, wrote the thesis about the guinea pig, and as a result of her efforts will receive the degree of doctor of philosophy at the coming university convocation, June 14th.

Growth of Electric Traction.

The electric railroads last year carried three times the population of the world. The car ran three times the distance between the earth and the sun. The capital invested is twice as much as the United States bonded debt, and the gross earnings are \$250,000,000. Taxes are paid amounting to \$13,000,000.

SQUIRES IN THE SOUTH.

Title, Once Acquired by a Citizen, Is Carried to the Grave.

"The title of squire, which is rarely heard in the north, is still in vogue in the south. When a man is elected Justice of the peace in Dixie he is squire, and although he may have subsequent titles, his old friends and neighbors always refer to him as squire," said a southern lawyer who is attending the sittings of a New York court for the first time.

He had been introduced to several attorneys as Squire Blank of Alabama, and he was asked by one what the title signified in his case. He said he was elected Justice of the peace in his town in Alabama at the close of the civil war, and although he has been a state senator from his district several times, and is a major in a military organization, he is still squire.

"Our people," he continued, "are given to tacking a title to any citizen who is at all active in politics, but they have a sort of reverence for the old English esquire, which they abbreviate by eliminating the first letter."

"I know a man who refused to be a candidate for the office of Justice of the peace simply because he would have had to give up his professional title if he had been elected. He was a retired physician. He said he preferred to live and die as a doctor."

"In some of the old graveyards in the south one may find the title squire carved on the headstones which mark the resting place of the man who in life was a Justice of the peace."

"It becomes second nature to the man who has the title to introduce himself, where it becomes necessary, as Squire So-and-so. A man with any other title, except that of doctor, would not do so; but to say 'I am Squire Blank is not considered bad form in the best society.'—New York Sun.

No Tramps in Germany.

To-day the lot of the laboring man in Germany is in many respects better than that of ours. The German state recognizes the right of every man to live—we do not. When the German laborer becomes old or feeble the state pensions him honorably. In Germany the laboring man can ride on the electric cars for two cents—we pay five. German cities have public baths, public laundry establishments, big parks, free concerts, and many other features which soften poverty—although they may not remove it.

The corollary to this is that the emperor permits no tramps to terrorize his highways. The police are organized for rural patrol as well as city work, and every loafer is stopped and made to give an account of himself. In England vagrancy has been a public nuisance for generations—with us it has become of late years almost a public danger. Germany has no tramps. The man who is without work in Germany finds no inducement to remain idle. A paternal government sets him to such hard work that the would-be unemployed finds it decidedly to his interest to seek some other employment as soon as possible.—National Magazine.

Bookkeeping.

"The science of bookkeeping and accounting has improved very greatly in the past few years," said Mr. Fisher. "It is getting to be exact and precise through the loose leaf ledgers and card indexes and costing systems and so forth. Years ago the manufacturers of different articles never took the trouble to find out absolutely the cost of producing the different goods. They knew how much the entire cost of running their business was and roughly figured the amount that they would have to receive to make any money, but now, under the costing system, every article manufactured is figured down to a fine point so that manufacturers know just what they can sell it for and make a profit. The science of bookkeeping has practically eliminated all guesswork in business."—Milwaukee Wisconsin.

Watch's Strange Hiding Place.

John Manson, railroad fireman, lost his watch a year ago while working on engine 8803, in Lancaster, O. Since then he has worked on several different engines, but the other day, while on No. 8803 again, the hose connecting the tank and engine became clogged, and, when unjoined, his watch fell out. He wound it up and the watch began to run.

A Royal Hotel Keeper.

The only royal hotel-keeper in Europe is the King of Wurtemberg. When Peter the Great was traveling incognito through Europe he refused to stay anywhere but at an inn. To circumvent this whim the then King of Wurtemberg put a tavern sign outside one of the royal palaces and, dressed as an innkeeper, himself welcomed the Czar.

This monarch's descendants have been in "the trade" ever since, and the present King owns two large hotels, from which he derives about \$50,000 a year.

Tariff on Autos in Paris.

Since 1896 automobile carriages have been allowed to stand in the streets of Paris under the same conditions as cabs and other vehicles plying for hire, but no official tariff has up to the present been fixed. The Prefect of the Seine has now appointed a commission which will undertake the work of arranging a special tariff to be applied to these vehicles.