

found to possess many possibilities of happiness, which the markings spoiled for passing on.

Inspired with this idea of sending out remembrances that might be multiplied four-fold a new set of cards was given to Mrs. Alden by the Recorder's staff and these cards were at once sent out. The thanks received for them were so pretty that an item was made of them in the New York Recorder. This caused further correspondence and resulted in a club for the exchange of friendly greetings.

The name of "Chat" was at first chosen for the column, but in time the membership grew so large that the name "Good Cheer" was adopted and in 1896 the name of the society was changed to the "Sunshine" Society, and its active members were to include all who were desirous of brightening life by word, thought or deed.

The growth of the Society has been almost phenomenal. From the parent society branches have sprung up until every State in the Union is represented with regularly enrolled presidents and organizers.

When a State has ten branches, each one consisting of at least ten members, it becomes entitled to a State president. Besides the thousands of members in the United States, there are flourishing branches in England, Japan, India, France and Germany.

The Society Motto.  
The competition to furnish the Society's motto ran for three months and



PRESIDENT-GENERAL ALDEN.

among the many thousands of verses received the following poem sent in by Mrs. W. H. Chase of Brooklyn was selected:

Good Cheer.

Have you had a kindness shown?  
Pass it on.  
Twas not given for you alone—  
Pass it on.  
Let it travel down the years,  
Let it wipe another's tears,  
Till in heaven the deed appears—  
Pass it on.  
At the time the verse was selected no one knew the author and it was not for several years after the Society had adopted the motto that the writer was discovered to be Rev. Henry Burton, D. D., of Lytham, England. Mr. Burton wrote the poem twenty-five years ago and had almost forgotten it until the Sunshine Society brought it into prominence. Mr. Burton is rector of the Lytham Episcopal Church and has become so interested in the Society that now everybody in his church and Sunday school has become a Sunshiner.

Mr. Burton's parishioners are building a beautiful new church and Sunshiners the world over are planning to raise funds for a handsome memorial window bearing the poem which has inspired so many to acts of kindness and thoughtfulness.

The Dues.

One of the unique features of the Society is the payment of membership fees which consists merely of some kind of act which will bring "sunshine" to some one. It may be only an exchange of books, pictures or flowers, or it may bring more material benefit. In one State a well known woman has paid her dues by educating some boy as long as she lives instead of placing a costly monument over her son's grave. In nearly every State in the Union the Society owns a wheel chair given in memory of some dear one. These are passed around to crippled and helpless ones and are constantly in use.

Though the Society has never solicited funds it is estimated that \$100,000 has been given to carry on its work. From the International headquarters, 96 Fifth Avenue, New York City, nearly \$60,000 has been expended in the past five years to make others happy.

Newspaper Aid.

The newspapers must be given credit in a large degree for the growth of the Society. Originating in a newspaper office it has everywhere received the endorsement of the press until today over 200 papers are regularly carrying Sunshine departments.

The Society has a publication of its own called the Sunshine Bulletin, of which Mrs. Alden, the founder and president-general, is editor.

Features of Sunshine Work.

Each State division of the Sunshine Society endeavors to have some established feature besides the individual sunshine each member strives to scatter. This work takes the form of day nurseries, homes for crippled children and aged ones, maintaining beds in hospital wards, fresh air and outing cottages, Sunshine libraries, lunch rooms for working girls, etc., etc.

The greatest evil the Society has to contend with is the fake sunshine societies grafters organize to defraud the public. The popularity of the Society and the ready response that every appeal of Sunshine receives has made it possible for these grafters to reap a rich harvest. Readers should remember that the only authentic Sunshine Society has Mrs. Cynthia Westover Alden as its president-general and is called the International Sunshine Society.

THE BEGGAR TRUST.

REGULARLY ORGANIZED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MULCTING THE PUBLIC.

Ingenious Make-Ups and Cruel Devices Practiced—Arrest Made and the Principals Sent to Prison—Famous Orient Beggar.

As old as is civilization, so old is the history of the beggar kingdom, for wherever have been found any collection of men, the beggars there played their business despite indifference and the scorn of the majority, yet always reaping their harvest from the philanthropic. The nearer one draws to the warmer countries more and more numerous one finds the professional beggar. Egypt, India and Italy are the worst examples. In countries which boast of their higher civilization beggary flourishes not through want or privation, but through a class of people who make beggary their profession and who have made a fine art of the methods of reaching the soft-hearted. And beggars of this class do not seem to stop at criminality.

A recent case was noted in press dispatches of unusual brutality practiced by a beggar upon three children in Austria who had been kidnapped from their parents. The children told a terrible tale of suffering at the hands of the beggar who had broken their legs in two places and then twisted the limbs out of shape, so that in knitting together the bones would not set straight. The man sent the children out to beg for him and their pitiful condition made compassionate people give large sums because of their apparent misery.

Fake Deformities.

While a number of the beggars found in large cities are really deformed—blind, lame, maimed, crippled, or deaf and dumb, yet it is a known fact to the police authorities that there are establishments where idle, worthless and lazy persons are readily manufactured into objects of charity. The theme of one of the best of the Sherlock Holmes stories is a wonderfully "made-up" beggar who fools the police



THE KING OF BEGGARS.

and the regular detectives and in fact everybody but the astute Sherlock. The old hands in the detective force state that this principal situation is in no way overdrawn as applied to actual conditions.

A Close Corporation Suit.

Following the example of large corporations which form combines for mutual protection and profit, there was recently established in New York a "beggar trust" through the efforts of a one-legged youth who had left a comfortable home to engage deliberately in begging. His remarkable insight into business methods would probably have reaped him a greater reward than was derived through beggary. Organizing a community of interest among the mendicants of Park Row, he picked out favorable points throughout the city to which were assigned certain men. A lame youth would be placed at one point, a blind one there and a badly-scaled mendicant at another. That these beggars might not be molested in their work,

lookouts were appointed for each, and at the same time made hourly collections of the money passed out by a



PROSPERO SPANISH BEGGAR.

generous public. These earnings were placed in a large pool, part of which was used in payment for legal representation when one of the "trust" might be arrested. At one time there were thirty men in the corporation, but the police of New York gradually got one by one of the members into the toils of the law and the "trust" was broken up.

By Telephone.

"This is the residence of J. Pierpont Morgan. The house is on fire. Send an engine at once. This is Herbert L. Satterlee, Mr. Morgan's son-in-law, talking."

There was unusual excitement at fire headquarters recently when the telephone rang and the foregoing words came over the wire.

The engine was sent, and no team ever made a quicker run. When the firemen arrived at 219 Madison avenue, the home of the multi-millionaire, they found Mr. Satterlee in the doorway. The only sign of fire was a slender sheet of flame shooting out of the chimney.

"For heaven's sake, do not use any water," Mr. Satterlee begged. "You will ruin irreplaceable paintings if you do. The fire is in the chimney. But please be quick."

The firemen yielded to Mr. Satterlee's request, and used hand grenades instead of the hose. They found Fellowman Daniel Kelleher on the roof. He had almost extinguished the fire by throwing salt down the chimney. The fire caused no damage.

Quickly Disposed Of.

A certain colonel is an authority on all military matters, and he is often besieged by cranks with pneumatic rapid firing guns, rifles, dirigible war balloons, and other martial inventions.

On one occasion he was sitting in his private room at the barracks with a friend when a servant brought in a card.

"Oh, send him in," said M. "His business won't take more than a minute or two."

There was shown in a wild-eyed, long-haired man, twisting his soft hat nervously in both hands.

"Colonel," he said, "I have here—a bullet-proof army coat. If the government would adopt this—"

"Put it on. Put it on," said the soldier, and he rang the bell. The servant appeared as the inventor was getting into the coat.

"Jones," said his master, "tell Sergeant Brown to order one of his men to load his rifle with ball and cartridge and—"

"Excuse me, sir, I forgot something," interrupted the inventor, and with a hunted look he disappeared.

Arrangements are being made for the construction of a great military rifle factory in China.

The proper distance between the eyes is the width of one eye.



BULL RUN BRIDGE.

One of the Historic Landmarks of the Civil War.

About this bridge clings some of the heroic history of the United States—the old Bull Run bridge, and Bull Run, the little stream flowing under its arches. In the South a creek is called a run, and this stream in the North would be called Bull Creek. The bridge marks where the Warrenton turnpike, the war-worn road across Northern Virginia between the Potomac and the Rappahannock crosses the stream. It was here that the sanguinary battle of 1861 began—Tyler's division of the Union army on the east side or the right of the picture, and the Evans' brigade of the Confederate army on the west or left hand side of the picture. There was fighting in the neighborhood of the bridge in 1862, and a man standing on this old bridge could have heard the guns of a score of fights in the Civil War.

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