

The contract for postal cards for four years to come calls for 2,000,000 postal cards, which will be manufactured at a cost of \$800,000 and sell for \$20,000,000.

London has completed its list of international temples by a Mohammedan mosque—the first ever built in Great Britain. Still the total number of the London Turks is not believed to be over 300, while every other great nation of Europe is represented by tens of thousands. With all her misrule grievances, remarks the *Voice*, the nations of Islam are, indeed, less disposed to show discontent by emigration than any other race on earth.

Our Consul at Victoria furnishes the cheerful information that the Chinese in British Columbia are diminishing in number. Of course, says the *San Francisco Chronicle*, this means that they are leaving the province to inflict themselves on us, and yet there are people who profess to regard the presence of the Mongolian undesirable who strenuously oppose every proposition to introduce a system of identification which will prevent moonlight immigration.

Much interest is felt in the success of the new invention of Mr. Allen, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., which, it is claimed, will spin cotton from the seed, without going through the process of ginning, arranging the fibre, etc. It is apparent that if this invention proves successful, it will not only be an important and valuable one in reducing the expense of manufacturing cotton, but it will hasten the transfer of the cotton-mills of the country to the cotton-producing region.

The Viceroy of Chih-li Province, Li Hung Chang, is a leading statesman in China. His official residence is in Tientsin. Not long since, as the veteran missionary, the Rev. Dr. Edkins, was passing through this city, he was favored with an interview with the Viceroy, in which there was much conversation regarding Christian missions. In reply to inquiries of the Viceroy, Dr. Edkins stated that there were 540,000 Roman Catholic converts and 35,000 Protestants in China.

The Russian nobles are rushing to bankruptcy in great numbers. The credit bank for lending money to them on mortgage on their land, established by the Government two or three years ago, has now no less than two thousand estates which will have to be sold by public auction at the end of this year for non-payment of interest on loans. The question is: Who will buy this enormous amount of property? If neither the bank nor the Government buy it, there will be 2000 noble landowners ruined by an institution which was established by the Government for their special help.

Interesting experiments in silk culture have been made by Superintendent Ellen C. Jackson in the Woman's Reformatory at Sherborn, Mass. The worms were fed upon mulberry leaves and the cocoon was placed in a large room. At the end of six weeks the worms stopped feeding and began throwing silken lines from their mouths over twigs placed in the cocoonery. It took on an average four days to finish a cocoon and three days longer to pass into the chrysalis state. The hours in which the moths burst the cocoons in greatest number are the first three or four after sunrise. The moths mate at once and the best female moth will lay from four hundred to seven hundred eggs. The thread of a fine cocoon will measure about one thousand three hundred and fifty yards. The larvae resemble small black worms and, if properly fed, will not travel more than three feet during growth from egg to cocoon, a period of six weeks.

The disclosures made in the course of a suit by Edward Morgan against the estate of Joseph W. Drexel, for a \$20,000 picture, which the plaintiff claims was bought by Mr. Drexel, but never paid for, affect the genuineness of a large number of paintings by "old masters" and noted artists that hang on the walls of New York residences. In a letter by Mr. Drexel, which is introduced as evidence, he tells about a ring of picture dealers in Paris through whom spurious paintings are turned out to be sold on the American market. In the opinion of the New York *Graphic*, "there is no doubt that such a ring does exist. Not a few oil paintings bearing the signatures of noted artists have been bought by wealthy Americans, sometimes at fancy prices, who have afterward discovered that they had been imposed upon. There is an intimation in the suit that men like Mr. Drexel purchased these pictures at low prices, held them for a considerable period, and then sold them as genuine, which it was possible to do with the added weight of their names. This is incorrect as to Mr. Drexel, because he was not a picture seller. He kept what he bought. But it may be the method by which so many bogus paintings get into American homes."

MODERN TORTURE.

THE SWEAT-BOX AS AN AID TO THE DETECTIVE.

Steam Turned Upon "Crooks" Until They Wilt and "Squel" on Other Thieves—A Most Refined Torment.

"Detectives have many devices for inducing suspected criminals to confess," remarked a well-known member of the local force, says the *Cincinnati Enquirer*. "Probably you have noticed in the papers during the excitement over the Cronin mystery that such and such a suspect was in the 'sweat-box.' You don't know what that means, eh?"

The reporter signified that he was ignorant on the subject and would like to be enlightened.

"Well, you've taken a Turkish bath?" continued the detective. "It's a very pleasant thing when you go in for an hour or so, and can lie on smooth marble slabs and receive the attention of skilled operators. But just imagine if you had to take the bath in a dirty iron box, dark as the blackest night, and instead of a marble couch, extend yourself on a rough board. And then, instead of only an hour, you had to remain in the place three, four and even ten days, with nobody to rub you down and wrap you in soft blankets. You know how weak one of those baths makes you even when you stay only a short time in a place with such luxurious appointments. Probably you can realize how several days in an iron 'sweat-box' would make you wilt."

"Such is the 'sweater' which the Chicago detectives use to force a confession from suspects. It is 'way down in the basement under Police Headquarters, and in a large, close room. In the center of this apartment is what might be termed a cage, except that it has no bars. There are eight cells or divisions in this cage. In the opening corridors or space surrounding it are four gaslights, simply sufficient to dimly light the place. Each cell has a small wicket through which bread and water can be thrust once a day. Sometimes the prisoner is given only the liquid, especially if he is a very stubborn subject."

"The walls of the cells are thick sheets of iron, through which not the slightest sound can pass. Of course the darkness is intense, and broken only by a few rays when the wicket is unfastened from the outside and opened. Talk about dungeons, there never was one that could furnish the refined torture one of those 'sweaters' is capable of. All around the walls of the big room are pipes communicating with the steam boiler. The temperature can be increased to any desired degree, and moderated so as to prevent any serious results. I can tell you, though, it is kept pretty high all the time. The subject, of course, has to peel off all his clothes, but when he gets tired of standing there is only the rough bench to lie upon, and just think of placing your tender, bare flesh on a bed of that kind."

"It is not the old toughs that are treated to these involuntary baths, but well-known thieves or men used to the comforts of the best hotels. The expert crook, while at times not overly provided with funds, always has the best the land affords. It is necessary in his business that he should put up at prominent hotels, and the life itself gives him a liking for the luxuries. Crooks and gamblers are among the best dressers and highest livers that walk the streets. Take a man used to such comforts and place him in the 'sweater' I've described, and how long do you suppose he will hold out?"

"For instance, a noted crook or confidence man drops into the city. You generally find such people about the leading hotels and public resorts. The detective watches for two or three days, and then some evening, as he stands picking his teeth in front of the hotel, he is quietly tapped on the shoulder and informed that the chief wants to see him. He is walked away to headquarters and has a very pleasant interview with the chief. Of course, the crook knows nothing and is merely passing through the city, or else paying it a harmless visit. 'Well, we'll hold you a little while, anyhow,' remarks the chief, who expected no information at that time; 'take him down.' The crook is placed in the 'sweater.' Probably there are others undergoing the torture. If not the steam is turned on at intervals."

"Next day, if the chief thinks of it, the crook is again called up into the office. If he is not ready to talk he is soon sent back. He can't talk with anybody, and is in constant darkness and perspiration. Maybe the chief forgets all about him for a few days, or perhaps the crook informs the turnkey that he would like to talk to the chief. If he is very stubborn he is firmly told that the police know he has some useful information, and that he will be held until he spits it out. Very probably the police are working simply on general principles. Anyhow a few days experience in the 'sweater' will bring the crook to a very complacent mood."

"He knows he's got to purchase his freedom, and the only way is to betray some other crook. When he reaches this state of feeling he is taken before the chief. If he hasn't been doing something himself he probably knows somebody who has. The result is that he gives the chief information which will throw light on some known crime. Frequently in this way the police get onto robberies that they knew nothing about. If the information proves correct the crook is turned up or released, and given the advice to gently slip out of town."

"These subjects for the 'sweater' are almost invariably professional thieves, and the detectives run no risk in holding them. They merely take the chance that the crook knows something, and nine times out of ten the result shows they are right. Such men, whatever the romance thrown around them, are no better than the commonest thieves, and deserve no more consideration. New York has a place somewhat like Chicago's 'sweater,' and to this system is due most of Inspector Byrnes's success as a thief catcher."

The Regimental Seamstress.

A Washington letter to the *Cleveland Leader* contains a veritable anecdote of the late Mrs. Hayes. Her husband was Colonel of the Twenty-third Ohio Regiment, and she was accustomed to make occasional visits to the front, where she was always received with the greatest enthusiasm, all the men looking upon her as an angel of mercy. While the Twenty-third was lying in camp in Western Virginia, a squad of recruits joined the regiment. One of them could not be satisfied till he had another pocket in his blouse, in which to carry the gimcracks which every veteran despised, but which he had not yet learned to do without. The first day in camp he inquired of the boys where he could get such a job done, and one of the ways of the company saw a good chance of a joke.

"Certainly," said he to the fledgling. "We have a regimental seamstress for doing just such jobs as that. There she is," and he pointed to Mrs. Hayes, who was sitting on a camp-chair in front of the Colonel's tent. "Take your blouse to her, and she'll do it up brown."

The innocent recruit stalked boldly up to headquarters, threw off his blouse, and handed it to the future mistress of the White House, asking if she would put in a pocket for him, and remarking, with a patronizing air, that he would pay her well for it.

"Of course I will," said Mrs. Hayes. "Come back in an hour, and I'll have it ready for you."

She set to work with scissors and needle, and when the young patriot called for his blouse, he found it in as nice a pocket as his own mother could have made.

"How much?" he asked, taking out his pocket-book.

"Oh, nothing at all! I was glad to do it for you. You are very welcome."

While the soldier was expressing his thanks, Colonel Hayes came out of the tent.

"Do you know me, my man," he said, pleasantly, extending his hand to the soldier.

The latter, somewhat abashed by the official presence, said he did not.

"Well, my name is Hayes, and I am Colonel of this regiment. Allow me, sir, to introduce you to my wife."

The young man retired in great confusion—but he had the pocket in his blouse.

A Peep at Pasteur.

In a letter to the *Charleston News and Courier*, a Paris correspondent says: Perhaps the most interesting feature of the work to many of the visiting students was the visit to the Pasteur Institute, where we were received by Monsieur Pasteur, and shown through the halls and laboratories of the institution, which has been erected by popular subscription and placed under his control. The great scientist is a modest, unassuming man, a trifle below medium height, with a slight limp in the right leg; whether temporary or not I do not know. His gray hair is short and his beard, also gray, is short-cropped. His face wears a look of intense thought, which does not relax even when a smile comes to light it up. As is but just, Pasteur's popularity is great in Paris, and when he stood at the entrance of the institute that bears his name, and with his favorite grandchild, a tiny little girl standing by his side, welcomed the representatives of the universities of every land come to pay homage to the greatest scientist of his time, there broke forth from the ranks of lusty-throated students cries loud and long of "Long live Pasteur!" Afterward, at the Hotel de Ville reception, when he walked through the rooms leaning on the arm of the President of the City Council, I saw him receive a perfect ovation, cries of "Vive Pasteur!" following him wherever he went.

Arthur McClellan, a brother of the famous General, is engaged in business at Drifton, Penn. He is about fifty years old, of medium height and was a Major in the late war.

CURIOUS FACTS.

A Californian has a quartz mine that has paid him \$30,000 in two years. He does his own work, and his only mill is a hand mortar.

A well recently found near Pittsburg, Penn., delivers fresh water, salt water and gas at the same time. There are two castings, one within the other.

A projected canal across the upper part of Italy, connecting from the Adriatic to the Mediterranean, would take six years to build and cost \$125,000,000.

A silver bell has been hung in a tower in the village where the railroad accident to the Emperor of Russia's train happened, and it will be tolled every day at the hour of the accident.

A curious foreign bird has appeared in several districts of Austria among the partridges and quails. It is about the size of a small pigeon, and has glossy black plumage and a long beak.

The purifying department of the Erie (Penn.) gas works is an efficient whooping cough hospital. The fumes of the spent lime give immediate relief. The Superintendent says: "Erie doctors now send whooping-cough patients down here every day. Last Saturday we had nineteen callers. They all returned home well."

In Dublin, a small town in Laurens County, Ga., there lives a blue man. He is a Caucasian, but instead of being white is a greenish blue, and is known as "Blue Billy." His whole skin is blue, his tongue and the roof of his mouth are blue, and where his eyes should be white is seen the same ghastly greenish-blue color.

A Painted Diamond.

There is one pawnbroker in Washington who has lost all faith in human honesty. Several months ago a nicely dressed man entered his shop and displayed a pair of diamond earrings, upon which he desired to secure a loan. The stones had that peculiar bluish white color so highly prized among lovers of diamonds, and the pawnbroker readily advanced him \$250 on them.

The stranger departed, and in due course of time the pawnbroker tried to dispose of them. He exhibited the diamonds to a well-known dealer, who said if they would stand the test they were easily worth \$1500. The stones were removed from their settings and placed in a bottle of alcohol. Then they were shaken for about five minutes, taken out and carefully cleaned. From the beautiful bluish white they had become as yellow as the Chinese flag, and not worth over \$75.

The expert said afterward: "These stones are painted. The process is a simple one. A small piece of indelible pencil is dissolved in a teacup of water. The yellow diamond is then painted with a fine camel's hair brush dipped in the preparation, and the stone is allowed to dry. The paint will wear off in time, but nothing will remove it quickly but alcohol. No reputable dealer will have anything to do with such stones, but we have to keep a pretty sharp lookout for just such tricks as that one I exposed a few moments ago."—*Boston Traveller*.

The "Naphtha Habit."

A peculiarly agreeable intoxication is produced by the inhalation of naphtha fumes, and attention has been drawn to the increase of the "naphtha habit" among the female employees in rubber factories. The habit is said to have been introduced into America from Germany, and to be found chiefly in New England.—*Trenton (N. J.) True American*.

Speaking of London, Cardinal Manning says that one-third of the population could be accommodated in the churches if all were crowded, and argues that at least two-thirds of the population never go where they hear the name of God reverently spoken.

To-Night and To-Morrow Night. And each day and night during this week you can get at all druggists Kemp's Balsam for the Throat and Lungs, acknowledged to be the most successful remedy ever sold for the cure of Coughs, Croup, Bronchitis, Whooping Cough, Asthma and Consumption. Get a bottle to-day and keep it always in the house, so you can check your cold at once. Price 50c. and \$1. Sample bottles free.

The tallest policeman in the United States is Lieutenant Mallin, of Philadelphia, who is six feet five and large in proportion.

No Cure No Pay. It is a pretty severe test of any doctor's skill when the payment of his fee is made conditional upon his curing his patient. Yet after having, for many years, observed the thousands of marvelous cures effected in liver, blood and lung diseases, by Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, its manufacturers feel warranted in setting it, as they are now doing, through all druggists, the world over, under a certificate of positive guarantee that it will either benefit or cure in every case of disease for which they recommend it, if taken in time and given a fair trial, or money paid for it will be promptly refunded. Tergid liver, or "biliousness," impure blood, skin eruptions, scrofulousness and swellings, consumption (which is scrofula of the lungs), all yield to this wonderful medicine. It is both tonic and strengthening, and alterative or blood-cleansing.

Chronie Nasal Catarrh positively cured by Dr. Sage's Remedy. 50 cents, by druggists.

At Waterville, W. T., squirrels are so plentiful that they enter people's houses and eat the crumbs from under the tables.

An article that has outlived 24 years of competition and imitation, and sells more and more each year, *must have merit*. Dobbin's Electric Soap first made in 1861 is just that article. Ask your grocer for it. He has it, or will get it.

The number of wolves in European Russia is estimated to be about 175,000.

Died Like a Dog. Such is the inscription written upon the tombstone of the average workman. If he saves a little from his salary he deposits his money in a bank at three per cent, and enriches local capitalists instead of making judicious investments for his own benefit. He fails to derive any assistance from his capital. If you can spare \$1 a month you may become a rich man. Millions have been made in similar investments and there is no possible risk. Send for full particulars to the PRUDENTIAL TRUST CO., 135 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

A JUDGE in Tennessee has instructed his grand jury "to indict all persons who publicly express infidel sentiments."

America's finest—"Tansill's Punch" Cigar.

Sick Headache

Is a very distressing affection, generally arising from stomach troubles, biliousness and dyspepsia, and frequently finds persons of both sexes subject to periodic headaches for which they can ascribe no direct cause. But the headache is a sure indication that there is something wrong somewhere, and whatever the cause Hood's Sarsaparilla is a reliable remedy for headache, and for all troubles which seem to require a corrective and regulator. It cures dyspepsia, biliousness, malaria, tones the stomach, creates an appetite, and gives strength to the nerves. N. B. Be sure to get

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

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THE GREAT CONQUEROR OF PAIN. Applied externally, instantly relieves Sprains, Bruises, Backache, Pain in the Chest, Sides, Headache, Toothache, or any other external pain, CONGESTION, INFLAMMATIONS, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Lumbago, Sciatica, Pains in the Small of the Back, etc.

CURES ALL SUMMER COMPLAINTS,

Cramps, Spasms, Sour Stomach, Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhoea, DYSENTERY, Cholera Morbus, Fainting Spells, Intermittent Fevers, and all other ailments of the stomach and bowels. 50c. a bottle. All Druggists.

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An excellent and mild Cathartic. Purely Vegetable. The Safest and Best Medicine in the world for the Cure of All Disorders of the

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Taken according to directions they will restore health and renew vitality. Price 25 cts. a Box. Sold by all Druggists.

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FOR CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM Cold in Head, SNUFFLES OR CATARRH. A particle is applied into each nostril and is agreeable. Price 50 cents. At Druggists by mail, registered, 40 cents. ELY BROTHERS, 57 Warren St., New York.

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It is an Ointment, of which a small particle is applied to the nostrils. Price, 50c. Sold by druggists or applied by mail. Address, E. T. HAZELTINE, Warren, Pa.

A WET HEN

The man who has invested from three to five dollars in a Rubber Coat, and at his first half hour's experience in which he has been drenched, and has hardly a better protection than a mosquito netting, not only feels chilled but is badly taken with the cold. Ask for the "WET HEN" Slicker. It not only protects you from the cold, but it is a perfect rain coat. Over 400,000 patents have been granted in the United States.

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