

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

LEVYING UNCLE SAM'S REVENUE ON COAST AND FRONTIER.

An Intricate System of Invoices and Official Papers—The Speedy Revenue Cutters—Smuggling on the Canadian Frontier.

A FOREIGN merchant desiring to ship goods to the United States must first go before the American Consul residing at the port from which he intends to ship the merchandise and make oath to the kind, quality and quantity of the articles he wishes to ship to the United States. This affidavit is called a "consular certificate," and is attached to the invoice of goods the merchant is going to export. Three of these invoices, properly certified, are made out, one of which is kept by the Consul, one sent to the Collector of the Port to which the goods are to be shipped, and one given to the exporting merchant, who sends it to his customer in the United States. The invoice which goes to the Collector of the Port in this country is sent by the captain of the vessel which carries the freight listed in the invoice.

After the vessel crosses the ocean and is within fifteen leagues of the main shore it is possible that it may run across one of Uncle Sam's revenue cutters. It may be well to explain here that the revenue cutters are an important factor in the protection and collection of the customs duties. The revenue marine was established by Congress in 1790 for the purpose of preventing smuggling. Ten of these cutters were built at that time and ordered placed in commission. Since then the revenue marine has grown in importance, until now the service numbers about forty vessels. A modern revenue cutter is a small vessel, steel armored, and equipped with several fine guns of long range. The vessels are built for speed, and besides being propelled by powerful engines, are also supplied with a large spread of canvas.

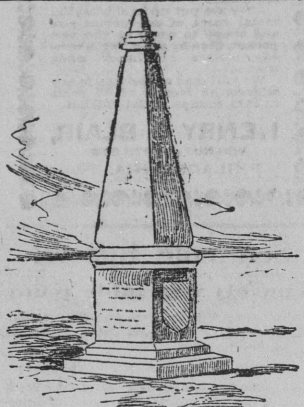
But to return to our incoming vessel. If the ship is in the regular channel and making directly for port the revenue cutter will not molest it. But if the vessel is out of the beaten track, or has no colors flying, or if there is anything rakish or suspicious looking about it, the revenue cutter will signal it to "bring to," as coming to a halt is called in sailor parlance. To make this signal the revenue cutter runs up the revenue jack or fires a gun across the bows of the incoming vessel. When the vessel comes to a halt a boat is lowered from the cutter and two officers are sent aboard the ship to make an examination. If the captain can show his clearance and other ship papers, and they are found to be regular, he is permitted to go on, otherwise the vessel is placed under arrest and taken to the nearest port.

After the vessel and the captain must within twenty-four hours thereafter "enter" his vessel—that is, he must report to the Collector of the Port, delivering to him copies of the manifest and clearance papers. To do this he first deposits his clearance papers with the Consul of the Nation from which the ship sailed. The Consul examines the papers and if they are regular he gives the captain this certificate, which is official evidence that the vessel is from the country that it claims to be. Besides delivering his clearance papers to the collector the captain also delivers to him the manifest of the ship, containing a list of the passengers on board the vessel and the invoice of goods sent to the merchant in this country, which it will be remembered was indorsed by an American Consul in a foreign port before the goods were shipped to this country. The captain must make oath that his manifest is in every way correct to the best of his knowledge and belief. When these regulations have been complied with the collector issues an order for the delivery of the cargo.

But before the importing merchant or consignee can secure his goods he must go before the collector and secure a permit allowing him to unload his freight. To do this he goes to the custom house and produces his invoice and bill of lading. The invoice is compared with the invoice in possession of the collector and which was sent to him by the Consul residing in the country from which the goods were shipped. The bill of entry which is presented by the importing merchant is also compared with the bill of entry which the captain gives to the Collector at the same time that he does his manifest and clearance papers. These papers are then taken to the naval office, where the work is veri-

amount of duties that should be paid. He also names a certain number of packages that must be sent to the public stores for appraisement in order that the rate of duty may be accurately ascertained.

After these formalities are through with the importer pays the estimated duty on the goods he wishes to transfer immediately to his store or ship to other merchants in the interior of the country. He may, if he wishes, get two permits, one allowing him to have immediate possession of the goods upon which he has paid a duty and the other to allow him to remove the goods on which the duty is not paid to a bonded warehouse.



INITIAL MONUMENT MARKING MEXICAN BOUNDARY ON PACIFIC COAST.

When a merchant imports a cargo of goods which he does not wish to place immediately upon the market he can store his merchandise in a bonded warehouse by getting a permit to do so, and by giving a bond to secure the payment of the duties. The bond is to the effect that if the merchandise be withdrawn within three years from the date of importation and the duties paid then the bond is to be void. If merchandise is removed within a year after being placed in bond then only the regular duties are imposed, but if it remains in bond longer than one year an extra charge of ten per cent. upon the regular duty is added. All merchandise placed in a bonded warehouse must be withdrawn within three years or the goods will be sold to pay the duties.

At ports other than seaports the methods employed in collecting duties are the same as those just described, except, of course, that there are no revenue cutters or tugs. The manner of collecting the customs at some of the frontier custom houses is quite informal. This is especially true of the customs offices on the Mexican frontier and on the boundary line between the States and the British provinces.

There is a peculiarity about the Mexican frontier that is entirely its own. It consists in what is known as the "free zone," and is situated in Old Mexico. Several years ago the Mexican Government passed a law setting apart a narrow strip of territory on the boundary line between that country and the United States to be a "zona libre," or free zone, into which goods and merchandise could be shipped from any part of the world



FRONTIER CUSTOM HOUSE AT LOCHIEL, ARIZONA.

duty free. The object of this legislation was to build up a narrow strip of Mexican territory at the expense of the United States frontier. This piece of strategy by the Mexican Government is accomplishing its purpose, because the United States is debarred from retaliating with a similar law, for the reason that it would be contrary to the provision of the Constitution, which declares that "all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States."

The free zone is a strip of territory twenty miles wide on the Mexican side of the line, and extends from Matamoros to Tijuana. The United States frontier adjoining Old Mexico is poorly guarded. There are custom houses at Brownsville, Laredo, Eagle Pass and El Paso, Texas, and at Nogales, New Mexico. Mounted inspectors patrol this part of the frontier, but they are not as numerous, and there are not enough of them to guard properly the boundary line between this country and the "free zone" in Mexico. It is doubtful if any ordinary number of men could guard the Mexican frontier. The barren plains in the northern part of Texas and in the southern part of New Mexico and Arizona afford great protection to the smugglers. Usually natural impediments make smuggling unprofitable. But it is the reverse in this instance. To the professional smuggler this sterile and wild tract of country is a bridge between Mexico and the inhabited part of the United States, which, if he can but safely cross, he feels that he is secure from pursuit and capture.

The frontier between Canada and the United States is not patrolled in any manner. The only guards are the iron posts which stand like sentinels on the boundary line at a dis-

distance of one mile apart. These posts mark the line between the United States and Canada as settled by the Ashburton treaty in 1842.

The custom houses are at the railroad stations on or near the line. The collectors at these ports do not exert themselves very much in the way of guarding the frontier. In some instances they lend a helping hand to the smuggler. A collector of a small post on the New York frontier told the writer of a scheme he had devised to help the "boys" bring horses from Canada to the United States. He talked freely about the matter, and seemed to think that he owed these courtesies to the "boys" for having indorsed him for the office of collector.

Along the New York and Vermont frontier every few miles can be found what is known as the "line store." These stores are built on the boundary line, part of the store being in Canada, and part in the United States. The chief object of these stores is to avoid the payment of the Government license required of retail dealers in liquor. Another object is to avoid the customs duties on such articles as are generally sold in country stores. They are closely watched, however, and not much is done in the way of evading customs duties. But as respects the avoidance of the Government license tax, the scheme is almost perfection itself. When the American customer comes to buy whisky he must go to the Canadian side of the store, but when a Canadian wants his jug filled he must go over to the counter on the American side. Saturday afternoons and rainy days it is a common sight to see the lines of customers going and coming, one from Canada and the other from the United States. The proprietor escapes paying a tax in the United States for the reason that he does not sell liquor to a citizen of this country on American soil and the Government cannot bring a foreigner into this country as a witness.—New York Advertiser.

Oldest Dentist in America. Dr. Robert B. Baynes, the oldest dentist in America, supposed to be the oldest Freemason in the New England States, and among the oldest people in the State of Maine, celebrated his



DR. ROBERT B. BAYNES.

ninety-eighth birthday on September 28 at his residence, Rockland. He was born of wealthy parents in London, England, but through the dishonesty of a clerk his father was ruined when young Baynes was sixteen years old. Ten years later the young man sailed for America, learned the watchmaker's trade in New York, and then went to Boston, where he studied dentistry for five years. After practicing in Boston for years he moved to Rockland, where he has been for thirty-five years. For half a century he has not tasted meat, his principal diet being graham bread and cocoa. Liquor and tobacco are his pet aversions, and his most noticeable peculiarity is that he never speaks until spoken to. He was married in early life, but his wife died many years ago, and since then Baynes has lived alone, making a good part of his own clothing, including his shirts and collars. Dr. Baynes has no living relatives that he knows of, and his taciturnity is so marked that he may be said to be without even an intimate friend.—Chicago Herald.

Those Big Sleeves.



"I wonder what that queer-looking creature can be?"



"Good gracious! If it isn't Miss De Rigueur tying her shoe!"—Flic-gende Blaetter.

HOUSEHOLD MATTERS.

MENDING KITCHEN UTENSILS.

Mending the kitchen utensils, or having them mended, rather, is a small matter when one lives in the city and can have them sent for and returned by the tinsmith, who lives on the avenue just around the corner, but when one happens to live in village, with the nearest tinsmith a mile away and is compelled to carry a mountain of invalid ware to that Mahomet, it is quite another thing. Of such a necessity the following invention was born: Scrape the tin thoroughly clean under the leak, take a bit of fresh, soft putty and press it over the aperture hard enough to force some of it through the opposite side; press both sides smoothly and set away for a day or two to harden. In a porcelain or iron kettle, holes located above the stove can be closed by pulling a bit of cotton cloth loosely through, then drive a soft wooden peg in the center, projecting a trifle on each side and hammer the wood flat.—New York Recorder.

WASHING WINDOWS.

There is method in everything, and that there is method even in the washing of windows shows simply that there is nothing too small but that method has a place in it. Probably eleven out of every dozen housemaids never care or consider whether it is better to wash a window on the outside or inside first, or whether there is the slightest reason for considering whether the sunshine falls on it during the washing or not.

Yet these are two very important matters to consider in the washing of windows. If the window is washed when the sun is shining on it, it is sure to show cloudy and streaky places from drying more rapidly in these places than in others, and if it is not washed on the inside first the dirt and dust which belong on the outside cannot be so readily distinguished. These are simple little facts which do not need a philosopher or a scientist to confirm, and simple as they are they will always save trouble if they are considered in the work of washing windows.

The correct method to clean a window glass is to first dust the sash and glass on the inside and wash the panes, with a little ammonia in the water, using a cloth to wipe it off with and soft paper to polish it after it is dry. Take a small brush or pointed stick and cover it with a piece of cloth for the purpose of reaching the corners. Be sure that the cloth is free from lint. The corners should always be thoroughly brushed with a brush of this sort, as in them are sometimes concealed some very disagreeable germs, as indeed germs, of some kind or other, seem nowadays to find an abiding place in every possible corner.

When the inside is entirely finished, then begin on the outside, and you will see at once the advantage spoken of, for all the dirt and imperfections that would otherwise have been concealed from you will stand revealed in contrast with the clean surface of the inside. Wash the outside as you do the inside, but in rinsing it, it is preferable to dash the water on rather than use a cloth, or a good-sized sponge will be equally as good. The outer panes should be wiped as soon as possible after rinsing, and they should be polished thoroughly with a chamois or with soft paper.—New York Tribune.

THANKSGIVING Dainties.

Thanksgiving Cake—Cream a pound of butter and a pound of sugar together; beat six eggs and stir in alternately with a pound of sifted flour; beat well and add a pint of sour milk; flavor with nutmeg and ground cinnamon; dissolve a small teaspoon of soda in a tablespoonful of hot water, and pour in; pour the batter in a greased pan, and bake in a hot oven.

Savory Cake—Take twelve eggs and their weight in sugar, with half as much flour; beat the yolks and whites separately; add first the sugar, then the flour, with half a grated lemon; pour in a greased mold and bake.

Old-fashioned Raisin Cake—Take three pounds of flour, one and a half pounds of sugar, a teaspoon each of ground cloves, cinnamon, ginger and mace; mix in four tablespoonfuls of yeast; beat twelve eggs and add; work all together and set to rise; when light, add a pound of butter; have ready two pounds of stoned raisins, and mix in the batter; pour in a mold; set in a slow oven to bake; when done let stand in the pan until cold.

New England Doughnuts—Sift a pound and a half of flour, divide it into two parts. Make a hole in the centre of one part, pour in a wine glass of hop yeast; mix the flour in gradually, adding warm milk to make soft dough. Cover and set by the fire for two hours. With the remaining flour put five ounces of butter cut in bits, half a pound of powdered sugar, a teaspoonful of powdered cinnamon, one grated nutmeg, a tablespoonful of rose water and half a pint of milk. Beat three eggs very light, and stir in the mixture. Set by the fire until light. Then turn out on a pastry board and cut in fancy shapes. Have a shallow kettle of boiling lard, drop the doughnuts in and fry them brown. When cool roll in sugar.

Grandmother's Pound Cake—Wash the salt from a pound of butter and rub it with a spoon until it is creamy; have ready a pound of sifted flour, a pound of powdered sugar and twelve eggs, well beaten; add alternately to the butter, the sugar, flour, yolks and whites of the eggs; continue to beat until the mixture is very light. Flavor with nutmeg and grated lemon peel. Grease a cake pan, pour in the batter and bake.—Courier-Journal.

A lobster "farm" near Southport, Me., produces 1,000,000 lobsters a year

KEYSTONE STATE COLLINGS.

CHOKED BY MASKED MEN.

THREE ROBBERS BRUTALLY TREAT A 76-YEAR-OLD MAN.

ERIC.—Bartholemew Crowley, a farmer, 70 years old, living four miles east of Erie, was choked to insensibility by three masked men, because he refused to reveal the hiding place of money supposed to be in his possession. His daughter, Mrs. Carey, was first brutally treated, but the robbers left her in a barred room while they poured oil on Crowley, threatening to burn him alive and continued to search the house.

Mrs. Carey jumped from a second story window to the ground, sustaining serious spinal injuries, but reached the house of neighbors to give the alarm. The house of Mrs. John Crowley, nearby, was ransacked and no one being there, the furniture ruined with an ax, but the thieves secured only \$2.50 in cash. Three suspects arrested by the Erie police have been released.

BIG FIRE AT PARKER.

SEVERAL BUSINESS HOUSES DESTROYED AND \$30,000 DAMAGE DONE.

PARKER.—Fire started in Clint Elder's billiard hall and before it was subdued it had destroyed T. J. Blair's stationery store, Mrs. Wilkin's millinery store, Durbin Mobley's gent's furnishing store, Knight's barber shop, the postoffice and Mrs. White's restaurant. The property owners sustaining losses are: Henry Bohem, Mrs. Wilkins, Mrs. Featherston, Mrs. Elder, Henry Surk, Mrs. Wallrobinstein and Mrs. E.M. Parker. The loss is about \$30,000, with \$12,000 insurance.

PHILADELPHIA BANKS.

PHILADELPHIA.—The weekly statement of the banks in this city for the past week show an increase in the reserve of \$42,000; due from other banks an increase of \$407,000; due to other banks a decrease of \$232,900. The deposits increase \$314,000; the circulation increase, \$28,000 and the loans and discounts show a decrease of \$97,000.

AWARDED \$2,250 DAMAGES.

BEAVER.—The case of Lawrence Dilworth et al. vs. the Pittsburg & Lake Erie Railroad Company resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff for \$2,250. When the company changed its roadbed it shut off the water supply of the plaintiffs, who were operating the paper mill factory at Beaver Falls.

DOGS DESTROYING SHEEP.

HOLLIDAYSBURG.—Blair county farmers are troubled by the onslaughts made upon their stock by roaming dogs. Farmer R. I. Walker, of Duncansville lost 23 sheep—slaughtered by a pack of dogs.

At Hazelton while Albert Sponeburg, wife and child were driving across the Pennsylvania track, they were struck by a freight engine. Mrs. Sponeburg was instantly killed and the husband badly injured. The child escaped without a scratch.

THREE hunters discovered a band of counterfeiter in a cave in the Laurel Hill mountains near Greensburg. The counterfeiters got away, but the hunters confiscated their tools. A hunt for the counterfeiters is being made.

SUNDAY evening while Mr. and Mrs. William Seligman were out walking their house was set on fire and destroyed by one of their five little children upsetting a lamp. Neighbors rescued the children.

GEORGE FRANKER, a wealthy farmer living near Pleasant Unity, was swindled out of \$5,000 by the farm buying and tin box game by two unknown buccooners.

A DISEASE that is puzzling the veterinary surgeons has broken out among the horses in the vicinity of Mt. Pleasant and many animals have died.

MICHAEL MILLER, employed in the mines near Avonmore, was instantly killed by a fall of stone. He was about 39 years old and unmarried.

THE \$1,700 raised a year ago by employees to help start the Witherow iron plant at New Castle will be returned with 5 per cent interest.

MACK BAISINGER was fatally crushed by a fall of limestone near Westdown while mining under the face of the stone.

EMMA BLOOM, a domestic employed at the Kromer House, Scottsdale, fell from a second-story window and was fatally injured.

J. M. BECKWITH, a New York jewelry salesman, was robbed of \$4,000 worth of diamonds at Erie Saturday.

SHIPMENTS of anthracite coal through Philadelphia up to date show an increase of 982,133 tons over last year.

BURGERS robbed the hardware store of S. W. Bortz at Greensburg Sunday night of a lot of valuable goods.

At Meadow Lands Sunday night Mrs. John Edwards drove a burglar from the house with a hot poker.

DAVID G. DONOHUE, Associate Judge of Adams county died suddenly Sunday night. He was 45 years old.

RALPH RHODES of Uniontown, aged 13, has died of lockjaw, induced by a blow with a stone on the jaw.

GEORGE SHELTON, aged 16, of Connellsville, was killed by the accidental discharge of his gun.

The soldiers' home at Erie has its full quota of inmates, 400, at present.

At Dunbar 150 coke ovens were fired.

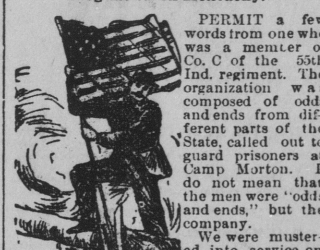
Fortune in the Field.

Recent experiments point to the growth of a new and profitable industry from the prolific scrub growth of the Florida forests and fields. It has been proved that the leaf of the saw palmetto can be ground into a pulp which makes an excellent article of hollow-ware for domestic and other uses, and the present experiments are expected to prove the adaptability of this material to the making of all kinds of paper. For some time past the peculiar cabbage-like substance in the top of the cabbage palmetto has been used with the tender tops as well, as a fiber in the manufacture of parchment. It is now proposed to obtain cheap paper fiber from the ordinary scrub plant. Some of this pulp has been successfully worked up into pails, tubs, basins and other hollow-ware. The supply of saw palmetto is practically inexhaustible in Florida. Millions of acres are covered with it, and when cut down to the ground it grows up again two or three times a year. A crop that grows without cultivation and in such very large quantities bids fair to have "millions in it."

SOLDIERS' COLUMN.

THE OLD 55th.

A Graphic Sketch of One of the Hoosier Regiments in Kentucky.



PERMIT a few words from one who was a member of Co. C of the 55th Ind. Regt. The organization was composed of odds and ends from different parts of the State called out to guard prisoners at Camp Morton. I do not mean that the men were "odds and ends," but the company.

We were mustered into service on May 27, 1862. Early in July Gov. Morton addressed the regiment and stated that there was urgent call for troops in Kentucky, and while we had enlisted to guard prisoners he would be glad if we would consent to go to the front. He gave any who might not desire to go the opportunity of stepping out the rear. Only two of Co. C did. I do not know how many of other companies, but not many.

We at once made ready to start, and in two days we were being hurried from Louisville to Frankfort, Ky., where it was expected Morgan would make an attack that Sunday p. m. As our train pulled into Bagdad, a few miles from Frankfort, we discovered that great excitement prevailed, and we were hailed with joy by some of our own relatives, citizens of the place.

We reached Frankfort late in the afternoon and were marched to the Statehouse grounds, where the ladies of the city had provided a fine lunch for the whole regiment.

Scouts reported that Morgan was advancing and Lieut.-Col. John R. Mahon, commanding the regiment, led us out and up the long hill on the Louisville turnpike at double-quick.

As we started we were well loaded down with all sorts of "comforts" rolled up in and upon our knapsacks. We had not gone far, however, before the baggage was loosened and the knapsacks were chafing each other down the hill and many of them were never seen by the owners again.

After reaching the top of the hill we marched a short distance and were drawn up in line-of-battle in the woods on the right of the turnpike, expecting every moment to be attacked by twice our number. The elements seemed to conspire to make us fearful, for the sky darkened and thunder and lightning played havoc with our feelings.

After waiting for some time we were ordered to lie down in line-of-battle till morning. News then came that Morgan had crossed the Kentucky River above us, and was hurrying toward Georgetown.

For some time we were kept busy chasing these bold riders, but never overtook them except a rear guard. To Georgetown we marched, but nothing more than a skirmish was the result.

During the latter part of August we were at Nicholasville where we formed of Buell's rear movement and Bragg's advance. Our rations consisted mostly of roasted ears gathered from the fields, when we received orders to march toward Cumberland Gap, where Kirby Smith was entering Kentucky.

We marched all night wading the Kentucky River, and reached Richmond at 5 a. m., exhausted and hungry, but drew rations in plenty, though not of the choicest kind. Here word reached us that Kirby Smith was marching from Big Hill and a fight was expected soon. Our time had expired, but Gen. Mansour urged us not to leave him, as we were the only drilled men he had, except a portion of the 8th Ky. Cav.

We consented to see him through, and on Aug. 29 the picket-firing announced that the fight was on. We were marched out on double quick toward the firing and during the afternoon captured a small field piece, which gave us great satisfaction, as we supposed that was only the beginning of our achievements.

On that night we lay in line-of-battle and a little after sunrise we resumed the march, as we supposed, to victory and glory. We had not proceeded far when battle opened upon us with grape and canister.

The fighting was sharp and the loss heavy. Several regiments just organized in Indiana and Ohio stood by us nobly, but ere the night came our men had been routed and a retreat was on.

One loss in killed, wounded and prisoners was heavy and many poor fellows whose term of enlistment had expired three days before were killed or maimed for life.

Back we went to Lexington, thence to Maysville and by boat and rail to Cincinnati and Indianapolis where we were paid off and sent to our homes. For some reason no discharges were made out and given to the men. So far as I know, not one of time getting all the wrappers off and was almost paralyzed when he found it contained a single cheap cigar.

"What you do mit mine 50 cents," said the Jew.

His friend told him the sutler had no tobacco so he had to buy cigars. "Con a gait long and earnestly at the small return he had got for his half-dollar, and then looking up at his friend said:

"Well, de next time I send a fool 'or tobacco I goes myself."—Somerset (Pa.) Telegraph.

Wise Advice.

In the "Life of Rowland Hill," by Mr. Charlesworth, published in London some years ago, there are many anecdotes of that remarkable man.

At one time when Mr. Hill was preaching for the benefit of a charity, a note was handed to him, the writer of which asked whether it would be right for a bankrupt to contribute to the good cause.

"No," said the preacher, after he had read the note: "But, my friends, I would advise you who are not insolvent not to pass the plate this evening, as people will be sure to say, 'There goes the bankrupt!'"

JOES KNEW HIS WEAKNESS.

Somebody challenged Jones to fight a duel, thinking to scare him.

"Well, it's a go," replied that cheerful lunatic, "but only on one condition. You know how near-sighted I am? Well, to make things equal I insist that I shall be placed ten paces nearer my opponent than he is to me, for the fellow's got an eye like a hawk."