

I met a gentleman who seemed As nice as he could be; While I could do him any good He was a friend to me.

That is the way too oft, alas! With some fair weather friends; They hang around us like a cloak When we can serve their ends.

TOUGH ON O'BRIEN.

By A. QUITTER.

A braver young man than William McCormath there is scarce to be passed on the road betwixt Castledare and Port Stewart in the county of 'Derry.

waves reflected up against the stone arch! Sure, it was the little king out of the book, big as life, which was not big a bit, for he was of the Good People!

other shore of it is Bridget McCormath's cabin. Willie had said, "Thank ye kindly," and kept in mind the woman's name who lived in the cabin, because it sounded familiar somehow.

By and by, Willie comes to the bridge and the cabin, and nobody in the cabin. So he walks on to the church where people were going in.

Willie went on into the church. He sat near the door and listened with reverence to the mass. When it came to the sermon, Father Muldoon referred touchingly to the loss of William McCormath from drowning in the Dreen, and embellished his highly moral remarks with observations on the industry, filial respect, religious devotion, and marked literary accomplishments of the deceased.

Well, now, in a week or more Willie was sound again, mind and limb, and went back on the freighter to work. And himself told me all about the fairy king with his own mouth when I saw him the other week or two.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

The emperor of Japan has no fewer than thirty residences, each a model of comfort.

Few New Yorkers are aware of the fact that the East river was known as the Sait river 200 years ago.

In 1848, and again in 1903, people walked across Niagara river dryshod. The strange phenomenon was caused by the banking up of the ice on the ledges near the head of Goat island.

Old Foggy means an old military pensioner. The term comes from the old pensioners of Edinburgh Castle, whose chief business was to fire the guns or assist in quelling street riots.

The "pons asinorum" refers to Euclid's fifth proposition—that of the isosceles triangle—the first difficult theorem, which dunces rarely get over for the first time without stumbling.

It costs nearly as much to pay the salaries of the municipal servants of New York city as it does to support the entire army of the United States. The salaries amount close to \$70,000,000 annually.

The present aeronautical activity recalls the kite craze of 55 years ago when kite carriages were being extensively built and experimented with.

North and east bound commuters from New York city are well satisfied at having the Grand Central station in Forty-second street, but there is considerable complaint that they have to walk to Forty-sixth and Forty-eighth streets to board the trains.

In the Cottonian library in England is an old manuscript copy of a part of the Bible in Latin. This was used at the coronations of English sovereigns 300 years before the "stone of destiny" was brought from Soome to Westminster by Edward I.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE NEWS

HOUSES WRECKED

Miner Throws Cigaret Into Can of Powder, With Usual Result.

Johnstown.—Mike Shuncik, a miner of Loganstown, threw the butt of a cigarette into a can of powder and an explosion resulted, in which the man his clothing afire, was hurled from the second floor of the house to the ground. He cannot live.

The house was practically demolished. Other boarders put out a fire which began to consume the bed on which the victim was reclining before the flames reached the two other cans of powder under the bed. Neighboring houses were damaged by the explosion.

At Twin Rocks, a powder explosion caused the probably fatal injury of two men. A spark from a lighted lamp dropped into a can of powder with the result that two men were terribly burned. The house was wrecked.

COMES TO CLAIM ESTATE

Case of Enoch Arden Type at Lancaster, Pa.—Enoch Gets \$12,000.

Lancaster.—Although officially declared dead several years ago and for many years believed by his wife and friends here to have died, George M. Gable appeared in the local court to claim \$12,000 from the estate of his uncle, Jacob Gable.

Seventeen years ago, Gable disappeared, leaving his wife and several small children. All efforts to trace him failed and his wife, believing him dead, remarried.

When Jacob Gable died in 1904, Gable, one of the heirs, was declared dead by the court. The executors, however, refused to pay over the inheritance to his widow and instituted a search, which resulted in the long missing man being found in Sacramento, Cal.

Gable came east and was identified in court today by his wife he left 17 years ago as the rightful heir. The woman's second husband has begun proceedings for a divorce.

STATE TO AID PROSECUTION

Examiner Says California Bank Shortage Is Nearly \$83,000.

Bank Examiner Berkeley informed the district attorney at Washington that the latter, in the prosecution of the People's Bank cases, would have the assistance of one of the attorneys of the state banking department. The bank examiner states the amount of defalcations in the California Bank is between \$75,000 and \$83,000. Of this amount Cashier O. F. Piper and W. L. Lehart of Brownsville are held responsible for \$65,000 while Piper and Max Ayner, a California merchant, are charged with conspiring to defraud the institution out of between \$7,000 and \$8,000.

Over \$24,000 is said to have been obtained on cashier's checks to which the signature of Miss Mary Bird is alleged to have been forged.

TO ESTABLISH LIBRARIES

Will Be Located in Township High Schools, but Accessible to All Residents.

Scottdale.—The East Huntingdon, Mt. Pleasant and Allegheny township schools are to have circulating libraries, the gift of M. A. L. Keister, president of the First National Bank, of Scottdale.

The 1,000 books for each library were selected by County Superintendent R. C. Shaw and Professor Edgar Reed of the Scottdale schools. About 200 of the books in each library are devoted to farm life.

While the libraries will be located in the township high schools, they will be accessible to all residents of the township.

Loss of Savings causes Insanity.

John Omilian, a miner, loaned \$150 to another worker in the mines at Ellsworth several weeks ago, and when the debtor disappeared recently Omilian became despondent. He was taken to the county home at Arden, a raving maniac. The money loaned represented the savings of nearly a year. The missing man has not been located.

Drops Dead From Excitement.

Fire destroyed the four-story building at Cadwalader and Berks streets, Philadelphia, occupied by Kerr, Saylor & Co., manufacturers of carpets, and the Pennsylvania Gas Fixture Company. The loss is estimated at \$150,000. Milton Hoagland, aged 59, owner of a stable adjoining the building, dropped dead from excitement while removing horses from his place.

To Work for Local Option.

The Ministerial Association of Charleroi has taken up local option work in that town. A committee will endeavor to have Governor J. Frank Harby of Indiana and other temperance lecturers deliver addresses. To secure the election of members of the Legislature who will vote for a local option is the object of the movement.

Fire Destroys Landmark.

A relic of stage coach days was destroyed at Greensburg when an old log house which served as an inn and relay station on the old Pittsburg pike was burned. The house was 125 years old and was a familiar landmark, half a mile beyond the borough limits.

Robbers Demolish Store.

Robbers broke into the East Side drug store of Charles L. Hay, at Dunbols, in which a branch of the post-office is located, early this morning and almost completely demolished it. All of the furnishings of the store were wrecked, and show cases were smashed and strewn about the room, the cash register was broken open and a considerable amount of money taken. The loss of stock will amount to about \$1,000. In the postoffice several mail pouches were broken open and a quantity of stamps taken.

FROM PEN TO JAIL

Rocco Racco, Alleged King of the Black Hand in Lawrence County, Faces Two Charges.

Rocco Racco, alleged founder of the Black Hand society in Lawrence county and believed to be the real local "king" of the order, is now behind the bars of the county jail. He has just been brought from the Riverside penitentiary in Pittsburgh, where he served a year for defrauding an Italian school teacher in Hillsville out of a considerable sum of money.

Racco will be tried in March upon two charges of Black Hand robbery. When arrested at New Castle during 1906, \$2,000 bail was demanded and Italians furnished the cash and deposited it in bank, the officials of which then gave bail for Racco. He left hurriedly, but was captured in New York, just as he was about to leave for Italy.

CONFESSES AN OLD MURDER

Italian Admits Killing in Florida Seventeen Years Ago.

Gabriella Colossa is confined in the Brookville jail on the self-confessed charge of murdering a fellow-countryman in St. Augustine, Fla., 17 years ago.

Colossa recently appeared before Squire Barratt and declared his guilt, claiming that a man was shadowing him constantly and he was afraid of his life. The magistrate communicated with the sheriff in St. Augustine and was informed that Joe Landia, a rich Italian, had been murdered in 1890 and the murderer escaped. A deputy sheriff, who is familiar with the crime also knew the alleged murderer, is on his way north.

TRY TO ASSASSINATE PRIEST

Partially Wreck Parish House and Adjoining Residence. Plan to Kill Several.

The third attempt at assassination of Rev. Father John Chenelik, of Export, was made when the parish house was partially wrecked by dynamite and an adjoining two-story frame residence occupied by two foreigners' families was destroyed.

The attempts to kill the priest were made, it is said, because he exerted his influence to break a strike. The latest attempt was evidently planned to exterminate also several of the first workmen to re-enter the mine when the strike was declared off.

THREE YOUNG SKATERS DROWN

Weight of Large Crowd Too Much for Thin Ice.

Three Italian boys were drowned in a pond near Bangor. The lads had been skating when the ice, under the weight of a large crowd of merry-makers, gave way.

The drowned boys were: Philip Biglioni, aged 14; Angelo Talmieri, aged 16; and Peter Falconi, aged 17. The bodies were recovered.

Railroad Conductor Killed.

Charles Stanley, a Lehigh Valley Railroad conductor residing at Jersey City, was killed at Easton, and his body was found on top of a freight car. There was a hole in his head. Railroad men who knew Stanley do not believe he was struck by a bridge. They contend that he was too careful and that if he had been hit by an overhead obstruction his head would have been crushed.

Board of Pardons to Meet.

The regular meeting of the board of pardons will be held January 15, when the cases scheduled for the December meeting will be heard. Gov. Stuart granted a further respite to Saverio Curcio, the Lackawanna county murderer, from January 17 to January 23. Curcio's case will come before the board of pardons on the fifteenth.

Historic Mine Fire Extinguished.

After 18 months of incessant fighting officials of the Reading Iron & Coal Company, announced that the fire in Old Pine Knot colliery at Heckscherville has been extinguished. The fire has been burning in the mine for 23 years. The old and new workings will now be joined and operated together.

Over 4,000 Will Go to Work.

Announcement was made that on the 1st of January, practically every department of the Cambria Steel Company's plant at Johnstown would resume operations and that fully 75 per cent of the men laid off during the recent financial stringency would return to work. Over 4,000 men are affected.

Captain Hurst Resigns.

Captain Nathaniel J. Hurst of Company E, Tenth Regiment, N. C. P., has resigned because of press of private business. He is a veteran of the Spanish War and the Philippine campaign. His successor will probably be Battalion Adjutant Lieutenant James Harkins.

Robbers Kill Cameron Cool.

Unknown robbers entered the home of Cameron Cool at West Pittston and, after fracturing his skull with a blunt instrument, robbed him of \$300. Cool died tonight. He was a breeder and owner of race horses.

Waynesburg.—Diphtheria is epidemic at Jefferson.

There are three cases in the family of Charles Burnett while children of Dr. Forest Shappack, George Moredock and John Neal are among others ill.

Unlabeled.—Thieves broke into the house of William Yauger near Percy and choked Yauger and his wife to force them to reveal the hiding place of \$2,000, the savings of a lifetime.

Washington.—After striking down Mrs. Mary Vitka, at her home in Canonsburg, a burglar robbed her of \$5 and jewelry.

SINKS AND DRAINS A FREQUENT CAUSE OF TYPHOID

Purify These and You Will Be Safe From Contagion—Disinfecting the Only Preventative—Borax, a Simple, Safe and Sure Method.

How to keep our homes clean, sweet and free from germ influences is a question.

While there is no occasion for alarm, it is always well to be forearmed on the theory that "An Ounce of Prevention is Better Than a Pound of Cure," and no ounce of prevention has yet been discovered that is more simple, more direct and more effective, yet harmless to the human system, than Borax.

Borax has been known and used for generations as a purifier and preventive against epidemic influences originating from uncleanly conditions resulting from unsanitary sinks and drains, and when used as a hot solution in the proportion of two tablespoonfuls to a gallon of hot water flushed through the offending locations, removes every trace of disease germs and renders the pipes clean and wholesome.

Borax in addition to its hygienic qualities, is a household necessity, and can be used for numberless domestic purposes. It softens the water, makes linen dazzling white, will cleanse every article in the kitchen or dining room and make it bright, will prevent moths, soften and whiten the skin, remove dandruff and cleanse the scalp, and for cleansing and sterilizing baby's milk bottle and nipple has no equal.

Borax, unlike every other cleanser and disinfectant, is absolutely harmless to the system, and is safe, simple, economical, and can be purchased at any druggist or grocery. A dainty book in colors, called the "Jingle Book," will be sent free to any Mother sending name and address of her baby and tops from two one-pound cartons of "20-Mule Team" Borax, with 5c. in stamps. Address Pacific Coast Borax Co., New York.

Moral Effect of Athletics.

Aside from its physical effect, the moral effect of athletics, in the case of the soldier, at least, is of no small value. My experience has been that men are less likely to drink in the football or baseball season, even though they may be addicted to the use of intoxicants. And this though no special effort may have been made along these lines by those in charge of the sports. The class of men who go in for athletics and excel in such contests are the most desirable soldiers and the best all-around men. Still another advantage of athletics is that good athletic teams and the reputation for a post of having champion teams draw good recruits and soldiers to enlist there.—Army and Navy Life.

Hippophagy.

Hippophagy being in low water in these later days, somebody has set himself to show what an exceedingly respectable history attaches to the practice. Among the ancients, especially in China, eating horseflesh was general, and it was only killed in Europe by a papal decree of Gregory III, though why horseflesh should have been interdicted does not appear. It was only the famine caused by Napoleon's invasion that revived the practice in Germany, where it has survived ever since.—London Globe.

Watch for the Blind.

A watch for the use of the blind has the hours indicated by movable buttons in relief on the dial. A strong minute hand indicates minutes only. A blind person who passes his hand over the dial finds the button indicating the house depressed.

FOUND A WAY

To Be Clear of the Coffee Troubles.

"Husband and myself both had the coffee habit and finally his stomach and kidneys got in such a bad condition that he was compelled to give up a good position that he had held for years. He was too sick to work. His skin was yellow, and I hardly think there was an organ in his body that was not affected.

"I told him I felt sure his sickness was due to coffee, and after some discussion he decided to give it up.

"It was a struggle, because of the powerful habit. One day we heard about Postum and concluded to try it, and then it was easy to leave off coffee.

"His fearful headaches grew less frequent, his complexion began to clear, kidneys grew better until at last he was a new man altogether, as a result of leaving off coffee and taking up Postum. Then I began to drink it, too.

"Although I was never as bad off as my husband, I was always very nervous and never at any time very strong, only weighing 95 lbs. before I began to use Postum. Now I weigh 115 lbs. and can do as much work as any one my size, I think.

"Many do not use Postum because they have not taken the trouble to make it right. I have successfully fooled a great many persons who have drunk it at my table. They would remark, 'You must buy a high grade of coffee.' One young man who clerked in a grocery store was very enthusiastic about my 'coffee.' When I told him what it was he said, 'Why, I've sold Postum for four years but I had no idea it was like this. Think I'll drink Postum hereafter.'"

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville," in pgs. "There's a Reason."