THE CITIZEN

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FRIDAY, JAN. 21, 1910.

It is mighty mean to patronize a merchant who will trust you until you get so far in debt to him that you are ashamed to see him, and then go and spend your cash somewhere else where you could not get credit; but there are people who do it. The honorable way would be to spend your cash with the merchant who trusted you, even if you never expected to square up the old account.

When all the world is tops-a-turvy, jerky and panicky, we hear of but mighty few farmers making assignments. And while they often feel they are the oppressed of the nation, yet, after all, how little they know of the sudden reverses of fortune, from wealth to pauperism, and a struggle for life in the uncertain speculative world. They are the "reserves" which the army of the nation can drop back to and start anew to victory.

When you hear a man running down his home town or any local industry, take a good look at him. Ten to one he will have a chin as long as a rail, an eye as restless as a horse thief; and he will hitch around in his chair as though he had a touch of St. Anthony's dance. Talk to him awhile and you will discover that he has made a failure of everything he ever tried (except being disagreeable), and nine times out of ten he is dependent on the public for favors or support; you will find him of a meddlesome, peevish, jealous, hateful and unreliable nature; a man who is always complaining, and although he has but little, if anything of his own, one would imagine to hear him talk, that he had a quit claim deed to the earth and a first mortgage on heaven. He knows everybody's business and why shouldn't he? He has none of his own to take up his time. Such people, like mosquitoes, were not created in vain, perhaps, but one fact remains staple, they do not add materially to the pleasures of conducting legitimate business.

STAND BY YOUR TOWN.

No town can be permanently prosperous in which the citizens and tradesmen, dependent on each other, do not patronize each other. The merchant wants a harness, for instance, and although his neighbor is a good harness maker, and trades with him, he imagines he can save fifty cents by sending to another city or state for his harness. The harnessmaker, in turn, sends away for his groceries, boots, shoes and clothing. The shoemaker sends away for his coat, and the tailor sends away for his boots, and so it goes. As a result, the farmers coming in to trade, see all the tradesmen, sending to other places for goods, because, they say, they can save money by doing so, and come to the conclusion that they, too, can do better elsewhere; and then everybody is growling about hard times and no business. No wonder; the business men themselves turn the tide of trade elsewhere, for if they can supply themselves to better advantage by depriving their neighbor of their trade, others learn to try the same experiment. It is a dangerous one to inaugurate. Ten dollars is lost where one is saved, because the entire business of the place is dwarfed and hampered thereby.

The fact is, but little is ever made in going away to trade, and oftener, counting all expenses, there is a loss. Show us a town in which the people make it a rule not to send away for anything they can get at home, and we will show you a town in which business is lively, and everybody buys, and trade is centering from abroad. Prices are low and the tradesmen patronize each other, having no suspicions that confidence will be abused. Let it once be understood that the business men of any town are in the habit of sending abroad for purchases, and the business will languish. Having no confidence in each other, how can they expect others to have confidence in them? No, that's not the way to build up a town. Patronize each other, and keep all your business at home.

Do not attempt to frighten your children into obedience. Faith and not fear should be the ruling principle with them.

The "Knox" on the Manchurian door does not receive that opening response from Japan and the European nations that was expected.

A few days ago one of our citizens cut into a pound of butter which he had purchased at a grocery whose proprietor does not advertise, and found therein a small tin box, which contained a small piece of paper bearing the following, written in a neat, feminine hand: "I am a girl of eighteen years, good looking, and an excellent housekeeper. Should this be found by some unmarried Christian gentleman, will he please write to the following address," etc. The finder being a bachelor, decided to unravel the affair, and succeeded, only to destroy the romance. The girl who had written the note had died many years ago, leaving an aged husband and a grownup family.

The girl that gives away to the desire to gad about the street and cultivate the acquaintance of young men; the simpering simpleton, is laying the foundation of a useless life. Ten to one, when she is married she will develop into a slatternly gossip, if no greater misfortune befalls her. It is the girl of good, sound hard sense, the girl who loves home and helps her mother who wins the model man and becomes an ornament to womanhood. The girl that does this and devotes part of her time in reading and strives for the grace of mental culture, commands the respect and esteem of every body while gadding street ornaments only win the admiration of those whose attention is not worth having.

HOW TAMMANY USES THE PEOPLE'S MONEY.

New York, Jan. 18.—Rhinelander Waldo, New York's new fire commissioner, inspected his new domain and incidentally discovered that he had a "private stable" with this equipment:

One brougham worth $2,500; one double seated carriage, $2,000; one buggy, $800; one Concord wagon, $1,000; one big sleigh, $500; one electric runabout, $800; six sets of harness worth $300 each.

A subservient groom informed him that it was customary for the fire commissioner to have such an outfit, with stablemen and flunkies to boot. Mr. Waldo gasped, cut his tour of inspection short and, driving back to headquarters, directed that all the vehicles be sold at public auction and that regular employment be found for the "commissioners' coachman and three grooms."

Nicholas Hayes was formerly fire commissioner, but failed of reappointment at the hands of Mayor Gaynor.

FLOATING SLUM OF CANTON.

Where the Poor of a Great Chinese City Live.

Stand beside the imperial custom house at Canton China, and let the eye range down the river toward Hong Kong. As far as the sight can reach lie boats, boats and again boats. These are no ordinary craft, mere vessels of transport plying hither and thither, but the countless homes of myriad Chinese, in which millions have been born, have lived and died. They are the dwellings of the very poor, who live in them practically free from rent, taxes and the other burdens of the ordinary citizen.

The Tankia (which means boat dwellers), as the denizens of these floating houses are called, form a sort of caste apart from the rest of the Cantonese. The shore dwellers regard them as belonging to a lower social order, and indeed they have many customs peculiar to themselves which mark them as a separate community. How the swarming masses of them contrive to support existence is a mystery, but their chief mode of employment is in carrying merchandise and passengers from place to place. In some cases the daughters of the family go ashore to work in factories; but the year's earnings of a Chinese factory girl would scarce suffice to buy a single hat for her western sister. Of course as against this low rate of pay the standard of living is correspondingly different.

The houses which make up these vast floating slums are of all sizes. Some are but fifteen feet long. From these cramped dimensions, however, they range up to a length of fifty or sixty feet. A boat large enough to accommodate a family of moderate size can be obtained for $20, and since the anchorage is free it is obvious that the Tankia effect many savings impossible to the shore dweller.

Seaweed as a Water Filter.

Seaweed may be planted in the Schuylkill river in Pennsylvania as an experiment to attempt to filter the water which is used for drinking purposes in Philadelphia.

Dangerous to Author.

Perfidy often recoils upon its author.—La Fontaine.

SIGNS AND OMENS.

In all times superstitions have had a powerful hold on men and women high and low. The great Napoleon himself was a believer in omens, it is chronicled.

As time and knowledge have progressed, most superstitious have been relegated to their proper sphere; yet even to-day almost every living being is prone to superstitious influence, whether seriously or more out of habit. For instance, how many men choose 13 as a designing number? Those who do believe the reverse of the old version.

Below is a list of the commoner superstitions, leaving out only such as are in daily prominence. You may find your "hobby" in the list:

Six weeks after you hear the first katydid look out for the frost.

Blow out the candle, and if the wick continues long to smoulder look for bad weather. If it goes out quickly the weather will be fair.

When you hear the first frogs in the spring you may know the frost is out of the ground.

The last Friday of each month is the almanac index for the next month. If the weather be fair the month will be likewise; if foul so will the month be.

If it storms the first Sunday in the month it will storm every Sunday in the month.

When a person kills a snake he does well to consider what kind of weather he would like. If he hangs the snake up, it will rain; if he buries it, the weather will be fair.

Rub a cat's back the wrong way and if you see the sparks it is a sign of cold weather.

The bones of rheumatic persons ache when a storm is brewing.

When you find tea grounds floating in your cup you know that you are going to have company. If the grounds are soft, it is a woman who is coming; if hard, a man. If the grounds are long, the person coming is tall; if short, the visitor will be short.

If you dream of falling and are awakened by the fancied jar of landing, it is a sign that you are going to be ill. If, however, you awake while still in midair you may be assured you will continue in good health.

To dream of a funeral is a sign of a wedding. To dream of a wedding is a sign of a funeral.

If you dream of snakes it is a sign you have an enemy.

Let a young woman pin a four-leaf clover over the door, and the first unmarried man who comes in the door will be the one she is to marry.

Sleep with a piece of wedding cake under your pillow for three nights in succession and whatever you dream on the third night will come to pass.

Have you white marks on your nails? Put your hands together and say this rhyme while in succession you touch finger tips, beginning with the thumbs:

A friend, a foe, a gift, a beau, a journey you go. Notice on which finger nails the marks are and you will thus gain some inkling of your fortune.

Born on Monday, fair of face.

Born on Tuesday, full of God's grace.

Born on Wednesday, merry and glad.

Born on Thursday, sour and sad.

Born on Friday, godly given.

Born on Saturday, work for a living.

Born on a Sunday, never shall want.

So there's the week and the end on't.

To cut the finger nails on Sunday morning is a sign you will do something you are ashamed of before the week is out.

Pass me salt, pass me sorrow.

It used to be a pretty sure sign that a man was conceited if he went about with his hat brim turned up in front.

If the bottom of your foot itches you may know that you are to step on strange lands.

Put the wrong foot out of bed first when you get up in the morning and you will be cross all day. Always get up with right foot foremost.

Don't make a friend a gift of a knife for according to every authority versed in sign lore if you do it will cut your friendship.

When you have the rheumatism carry a potato in your pocket. The potato will become hard after a time and believers in its virtues affirm that this is because of the rheumatism it has absorbed.

To find a horseshoe in the road is a sign of good luck.

Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.

When you see a shooting star, if you can say "Money before the wee's out" three times before it is lost sight of, you will have some money before the week is out.

It is a sign you are going to be rich if you tumble upstairs.

Sneeze twice when you first get up and you will hear of a death before the night.

In all lands ravens and crows have been considered birds of ill omen.

The natives of India believe that elephants have a religion and form of worship.

A great many country people believe that the screeching of an owl indicates impending calamity.

In Dalmatia it is an exceedingly auspicious omen for a cat to sneeze when a bride enters the house.

In Wales it is believed that if any person kills a wren he will fall down and break a bone before the end of the year.

In almost every country the howling of a dog is regarded as a bad omen, generally predicting death to some person of the household.

In France it is believed that the settling of a white pigeon upon a chimney is a sign of speedy death for some one in the house.

There is a superstition among the negroes of the south that to meet a frog is a lucky incident, indicating that the one thus favored is about to receive money from some unexpected quarter.

It is a favorite superstition in England that the bacon of swine killed in the waning of the moon will waste away in the process of curing or cooking much more than bacon of hogs killed while the moon is growing.

In former times a suspected person was flung into the river. If he floated without any appearance of swimming, he was judged guilty, while if he sank he was acquitted.—Kansas City Star.

ARE HELD RESPONSIBLE.

For the Deadlock Existing in the Bridgeport School Board.

In Norristown the court filed an opinion in which the three Republican school directors of Bridgeport are held responsible for the deadlock existing in the Bridgeport school board over the reading of the Bible in the schools and they were ordered to pay the costs of the case brought by the teachers and janitors to get two months' salary which had not been paid them. The rule forbidding the reading of the Bible in the schools was passed when two of the Republican were absent and when the Democrats refused to take back their action, the Republicans stopped work as directors.

PENROSE UNCOVERS A POSTAL FRAUD.

Washington, Jan. 14.—The efforts of Senator Penrose in defeating the bill to appropriate $4,000,000 to pay postmasters excess salary will result in a big saving to the Government. Senator Penrose had no hesitancy in calling the measure a robbery and a steal which had long been perpetrated on the Postoffice Department.

It is for the alleged purposes of paying postmasters excess salary who served between July 1, 1864, and June 30, 1874.

The claims for this sum have been declared unlawful by the Treasury auditors. Postmasters all over the country have placed their claims in the hands of a man named Spalding and E. G. Rathbone, who was concerned in the Cuban postal frauds. These men are to get 25 per cent. of the appropriations, or $1,000,000, if the bill passes.

Senator Penrose denounced the whole scheme as a robbery and a steal that he would oppose to the end. He declared the postmasters' claims had all been settled, and this was a mere speculation of attorneys to make $4,000,000 out of the Treasury.

The whole subject was recommitted to the Postoffice Committee, of which Mr. Penrose is the head, and he is to report to the Senate by February 1. His speech attracted much attention, because of its bitterness and the open attack on the attorneys.

The discussion arose from a resolution introduced by Senator Bradley, of Kentucky, directing that the claims relating to postmasters in his State be audited for payment. A number of similar resolutions have been introduced recently referring to separate States—one of them by Mr. Lodge, of Massachusetts, having been passed.

Senator Hale, chairman of the Appropriations Committee, opened the two-hour debate. Both he and Senator Penrose declared all the just claims, excepting a few amounting to about $30,000, had been paid.

Supporters of the claims objected to reference of the subject to the committee, whereupon Chairman Penrose attacked the whole scheme. He quoted numerous letters to show that the present effort to obtain legislation was the result of the activity of claim agents, who, he said, had contracts for from 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. of the amounts allowed in all cases. He mentioned as the chief of these agents, Major E. G. Rathbone, who was Fourth Assistant Postmaster General under the McKinley administration and who, as Director of Posts in Cuba, became involved with the department over accounts.

Mr. Penrose and Mr. Hale took the ground that the present claims were the outcome of unwarranted efforts on the part of Mr. Spalding to induce ignorant and honest citizens to give him a retainer or fee for pushing before Congress utterly worthless claims.

TEN DON'TS.

1. Don't open a letter until you have examined the address to make sure it is for you.

2. Don't open a letter by mistake and drop it in the letter box without first endorsing it "opened by mistake" and signing your name also.

3. Don't keep a letter although addressed to you if not intended for you; there are other people by the same name.

4. Don't keep a letter delivered to you by mistake until it is of no use to the proper addressee; return it to the postoffice at once—this is very important.

5. Don't throw away unsealed envelopes of third class matter until you have first examined the contents. It frequently happens that letters or postal cards slide in such envelopes in course of handling.

6. Don't enclose a number of newspapers or magazines in one package and after putting on a one cent stamp drop it in the package drop. The rate is one cent for each 4 ounces or fraction of an ounce and must be fully prepaid. Ordinarily two of our local papers will go for 1 cent.

7. Don't write a few lines on the wrapper of third or fourth class matter or enclose a written message with such matter as the whole package then becomes first class—2 cents for each ounce or fraction.

8. Don't enclose more than two ounces of circular matter in one envelope and expect it to go for one cent, and no writing is permitted other than date, salutation and your signature.

9. Don't expect the postmaster or clerks to lick your stamps, seal or address your packages, etc. This is all work you should do yourself.

10. Don't stand at the General Delivery or stamp window to wrap up your packages. Address your letters, etc., where there is a desk provided, as you are sure to inconvenience some other patron.

THE D. & H. SUMMER-HOTEL AND BOARDING HOUSE DIRECTORY.

The Delaware & Hudson Co. is now collating information for the 1910 edition of "A Summer Paradise," the D. & H. summer-hotel and boarding-house directory that has done so much to advertise and develop the resorts in this section. It offers opportunity for every summer hotel or boarding house proprietor to advertise his place by representation in this book. The information desired is, as follows: Name of house; P. O. Address; Name of Manager; Altitude; Nearest D. & H. R. R. station; Distance from station; how reached from station; Capacity of house; Terms per week and per day; Date of opening and closing house; what modern improvements; Sports and other entertainments. This information should be sent at once to Mr. A. A. Heard, General Passenger Agent, Albany, N. Y. Blanks may be obtained from the nearest ticket agent, if desired. No charge is made for a card notice; a pictorial advertisement will cost $15.00 for a full-page or $7.50 a half-page. Our hotel people should get busy at once and take advantage of this. Don't make the mistake of thinking that your house will be represented because it was in last year, but make sure that you receive the benefit of this offer by forwarding the needed information without delay. Owners of cottages to rent are also given the same rates for pictorial advertisements, but, for a card notice, a minimum charge of $3.00 will be made.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION,
ESTATE OF
JAMES NEVILLE late of Sterling, Pa.

All persons indebted to said estate are notified to make immediate payment to the undersigned; and those having claims against the said estate are notified to present them duly attested, for settlement.

J. E. CROSS, Administrator.
Sterling, Jan. 10, 1910.