

The yearly evictions for non-payment of rent in the one city of New York exceed the entire number in Ireland.

Hall Caine, the novelist, tells his English friends that the women of America have become "intellectually stronger than the men themselves."

A machine for picking berries is asked for. "If there is anything better than bright boys and girls, we haven't found it," remarks the New England Homestead.

It is said that one-tenth of the population of England suffer from gout. Dr. Fehlaue, a Berlin physician, attributes this to the excessive consumption of meat, and recommends a more restricted or vegetarian diet.

President Thwing has been investigating the number of graduates of American colleges from the beginning. The number seems to him to be about 300,000, a number somewhat larger than is usually represented, of whom about 150,000 are supposed to be now living.

Russia's death rate is believed to be greatly increased by the practice of the peasants in plunging into the rivers after the blessing of the water at the feast of the Epiphany, in the belief that it has then the power to wash away their sins. The practice has long been forbidden at St. Petersburg.

Field-Marshal Lord Wolsley, commander-in-chief of the British army, at a dinner given by the Press club in London, made a speech in the course of which he said he did not believe in universal peace. The man who believed the time was coming when there would be no wars was a dangerous dreamer, especially dangerous if he happened to hold a public position. He hoped that no such man would ever be in the foremost place in public life in Great Britain.

The Presbyterian ministers of China have recently celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their work in that country. During the last five years the Presbyterian board of missions has distributed in China 201,581,749 pages of religious literature, in the native language, of which 123,098,900 were pages of the Scriptures, 43,897,295 books, 18,472,160 magazines, 1,615,740 tracts and 14,497,654 pages of medical works, dictionaries, vocabularies and other aids to study.

There are over a thousand men in New York and Brooklyn, according to the latest returns, who are worth between \$1,000,000 and \$1,500,000 each, and the most of them are entirely unknown to the general public. Only two citizens of New York—John D. Rockefeller and W. W. Astor—are supposed to be worth more than \$100,000,000 apiece, but there are nine others who are each worth \$50,000,000 and over, as well as two estates of like amount. The total number of millionaires in these two cities is greater than in all the rest of the country.

It is a poor law, as well as a poor rule, that does not work both ways. In a suit brought by a woman in Columbus, Ohio, to recover \$800 lost by her husband in a gambling place, the proprietors of the resort offered in defence to prove that the husband of the plaintiff had on previous occasions won \$1,100 in the gambling den. The court ruled that such evidence was admissible, and that if the fact of the winning could be established, the amount won would be a counter-claim against any amount that had been lost, and must be deducted in awarding damages.

It will doubtless be news to many readers, remarks the New York Tribune, that there are within the limits of the United States spots over which our government has no authority or jurisdiction, and which are to all intents and purposes foreign territory, and, theoretically, subject to alien rulers. They are situated right within the very precincts of our National Capital, and belong to one or the other of the great powers of Europe, which have acquired them by purchase for the purpose of erecting their embassies thereon. To such an extent is this diplomatic fiction of extra-territoriality carried that when the crown princess of Brazil, prior to the overthrow of Dom Pedro's empire, was on the eve of her confinement at Paris she had herself conveyed to the Brazilian embassy, in order that the terms of the Imperial Brazilian constitution might be fulfilled, which required that every prince in the line of succession to the throne should be born on Brazilian territory.

## HISTORIC SITE.

### REMAINS OF AMERICAN'S OLDEST SETTLEMENT IN PERIL.

Jamestown Island Rapidly Washing Away—Tower of the Ancient Church Still Standing—History of the Historic Spot.

ONE of the oldest and most interesting relics of the settlement of North America, says the Globe-Democrat, is threatened with utter destruction by the action of wind and tide. Jamestown Island, than which no place on the continent is more full of historical associations, lies in the James River, about seventy miles below Richmond, and thirty above Newport News. It is two and a half miles long and a half mile in width. A re-

viewer for such control as would preserve whatever was left of the ancient settlement. Mrs. Barney, a lady of rare refinement, who fully appreciated the historic value of the spot, made a gift to the association of twenty-two acres containing the tower and the foundations of the old brick church behind it. Subsequently, through the efforts of Mrs. Curry, the wife of the Hon. J. L. M. Curry, ex-Minister to Spain, an appropriation of \$10,000 was made by Congress to protect the island against further encroachment of the river; and last year the northern and eastern ends were sloped and rip-rapped with stone for a distance of 2000 feet. The ladies of the association also undertook extensive improvements of their reservation.

But alas! The relentless river has resumed its insidious attack, and already two-thirds of the wall is a ruin. The appropriation was insufficient to back the wall with a clay founda-

church of 1633 was constructed was undoubtedly home manufacture taken from the clay of James Island, where Alexander Stomar, brickmaker, patented an acre of land near the brick kiln there mentioned.

There can be no doubt that the church at Jamestown was repaired after the fire in 1676, but this may still leave the old steeple that is standing, the relic of the first brick church in Virginia, the church of 1633, the legitimate successor of the old sail first put up as an awning.

In October, 1850, Bishop Meade visited the place, accompanied by Dr. Silas Totten, Rev. George H. Wilmer and others, and accurately measured the foundation of the church, and found it exactly 56x28 feet. The tower was conjectured to be thirty feet high, and by actual measurement proved to be eighteen feet square.

After Bishop Meade's visit the causeway from Neck of Land was built by Major William Allen, the proprietor. In 1857 a celebration attended by 8000 people was held at Jamestown under the auspices of the old Jamestown Society, at which John Tyler was the orator and James Barrod Hope was the poet. The Governor, Henry A. Wise, was present and delivered an eloquent address.

During the war in 1861 the island was fortified by the Confederate forces, but after their abandonment of the Peninsula it was held by the Federal forces.

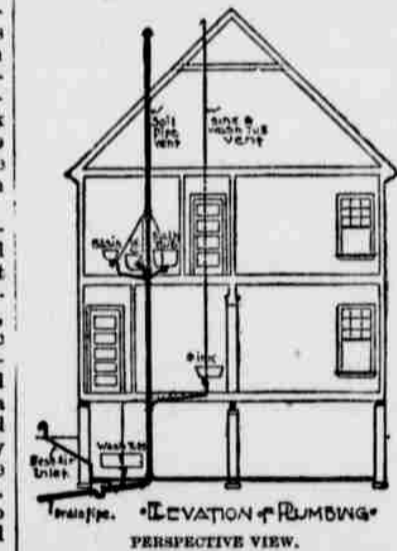
On May 13, 1895, the old custom of celebrating the settlement of Jamestown was revived by the ladies of the Antiquity Association and the faculty of William and Mary College. An immense crowd was present and what will hereafter be known as Virginia Day was inaugurated. President Tyler, of William and Mary, then made an address, from which some of the facts herein are taken. All lovers of antiquity will wish these Virginia women good luck in preserving for the eyes of future generations a spot so rich in historic memories.

## SANITARY PLUMBING.

### An Important Feature of All Well-Built Residences.

In the "Modern Houses" no feature receives more attention from architects and house builders than the sanitary arrangement. So now, among the many practical and utilitarian details of interior construction tending to increase the comfort and convenient arrangement of houses none occupies a more important position than those relating to the fixtures, traps and pipes which introduce and distribute into our buildings a supply of pure water for household use, and afterwards remove from them the semi-fluid foul wastes, designated sewage.

When a man makes up his mind to build, almost his first temptation to cheapen his estimates comes when he gives out his plumbing contracts. It

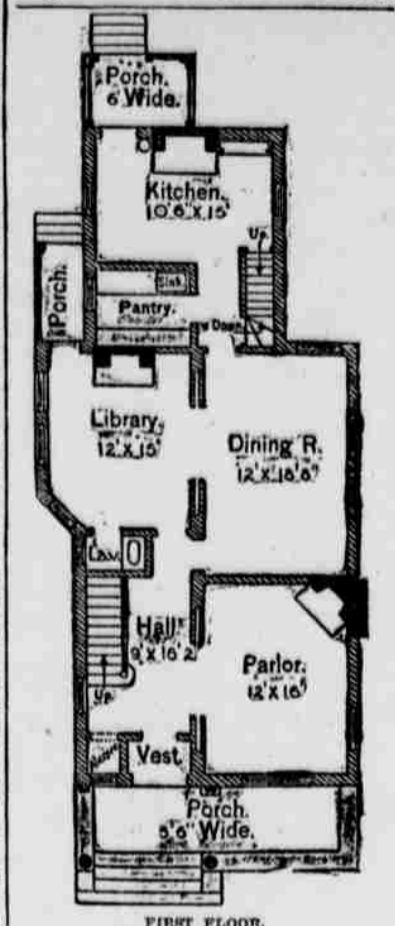


is one of the main items of expense, and he reasons that much of it will be out of sight and evidence, and he is strongly tempted to put the money on aesthetic adornment, rather than on a matter of pure utility. But if this reasoning prevails, the builder will never cease to reproach himself. It is to be taken for granted that no one would so lower the plumbing estimates as to provide a menace to health. But if light-weight and cheap materials are used troubles are never ending—cheap closets, hoppers and faucets are a constant abomination. Laymen do not seem to understand that lead pipe which is subject to constant changes of temperature will decay so that it may be broken almost like decayed leather. The thinner it is the quicker it goes out of all proportion. For this reason, to say nothing of bursting from sudden pressure, cheap lead pipe is the most expensive of all economies. The general adoption of iron instead of lead pipe is a most important improvement only excelled by what it naturally led to—exposed plumbing.

On the ground of sanitary safety, cleanliness, attractiveness and economy, in the long run there is no comparison between exposed plumbing and the old system, where everything was boxed in with wainscoting. It is true that the first cost is rather more, but this should deter no one from adopting it. Closets, washstands and bath tubs that are boxed in form a lurking place for filth and vermin that defy the most thorough housekeeper. The inner surface of the wood, which is always damp and never exposed to fresh air, rots and decays slowly. Although no careful experiments have yet been made, and no statistics have been compiled, medical observers have recently determined that decaying wood is a prolific source of disease. Where the plumbing is exposed there is absolutely no chance for lurking disease germs. The initial cost is a small price to pay for this immunity. Boxed-in plumbing calls for constant renewal, but that that is exposed has

practically as long life as the house that shelters it.

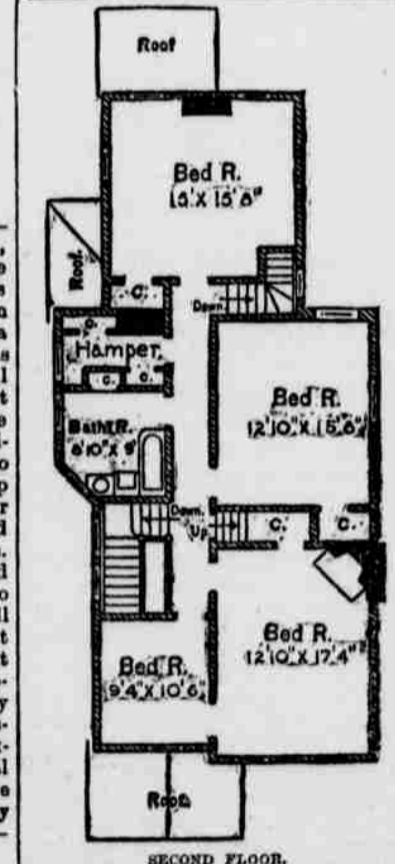
To secure a house immunity at all times from sewer gas, and to prevent any subsequent annoyances, have the system of fixtures, traps supply and waste pipes well planned and arranged in accordance with the best



FIRST FLOOR.

rules. The constant grouping and concentrating of fixtures will materially reduce the cost of the work. Avoid a useless multiplication of plumbing fixtures, also locating fixtures in sleeping rooms. Plumbing fixtures, especially water-closets, must always be located in well lighted and well ventilated apartments. In small cottages plan the bath-room as nearly as possible over the kitchen, in order to reduce the amount of piping. Numerous and elaborate plumbing appliances are useless and expensive. The above design is an example of economical and concentrated sanitary plumbing.

The pipes are all exposed so as to be easily accessible in case of leakage. The wash bowls are porcelain with marble slabs, back and sides, and are located in lavatory and bath-room; galvanized iron sink and drain board set on iron legs in pantry; copper boiler in kitchen; two soapstone wash trays in laundry in cellar. The bath-room contains, besides the wash bowl before mentioned, an iron porcelain-lined bath-tub with hot and cold water supply through combination bath cocks; also an all porcelain front outlet water-closet with tank, chain-pull, etc., complete. All fixtures are trapped and the exposed pipes in the bath-room, including traps, are nickel-plated. The soil pipe runs up through roof for vent pipe above highest fixtures. There is a three-inch fresh air inlet on this line extending up to grade from the point just back of the trap to a point ten feet from house. Sink and wash tray traps are ventilated separ-



SECOND FLOOR.

ately by two-inch iron pipe extending up above roof. All lead water-service pipes are AA lead pipe.

The above mentioned plumbing will cost about \$350, and could be cheapened about \$30 by omitting the nickel plating of pipes in bath-room.

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### A Curious Kind of Knives.

There is in existence a curious class of knives of the sixteenth century, the blades of which have on one side the musical notes to the benediction of the table, or grace before meat, and on the other side the grace after meat. The set of these knives usually consisted of four. They were kept in an upright case of stamped leather, and were placed before the singer.

The cyclist who tumbles from his wheel realizes that he has the world against him.—Philadelphia Record.

## BEARS RAFT LOGS.

Taught by an Italian to Pilot a Flotilla of Timber.

The Skillful Way in Which They Break Dangerous Jams.

Raftsmen have taken advantage of the high water in the river to float logs to the saw mills. It was on the Loyalsock creek, which has its headquarters in Sullivan county, Penn., and its mouth about four miles below Williamsport, that the remarkable sight of bears guiding rafts to the mills was witnessed, not long ago. Two bears took one log raft down the stream and a man and a bear took another. It remained for Pessi Punte, an Italian, to thus put bears to service.

Pessi Punte came to this country five years ago. Punte decided that to get a dancing bear to earn a living for him was better than working himself. He got a trained bear and began to tour the country. He found so many cities and towns in Pennsylvania where the laws prohibit "acting bears" that he reached Laporte, Sullivan county, with no money in pocket.

Then the Italian was by hunger forced to go into the woods to work. Punte would not part with his bear. Together they lived in a log hut in the lumber camp. Six months passed, when one day the dancing bear was found at home, with two half-grown bear companions. Punte was somewhat afraid at first, but soon managed to "get acquainted" with the new arrivals. He kept the three bears, and with the aid of the first bear he began to teach the new ones how to do tricks.

In the spring Punte had to pilot rafts down the Loyalsock creek to the sawmill at Mountainville. On one of these trips it occurred to him that he might teach the bears how to guide a raft. He no sooner returned to his mountainous home than he started to work.

The bears had been used to holding the balancing poles with their fore-paws, and the next thing to do was to teach them to use it differently. Last season it was not unusual for the people of Forksville to see a raft going down the creek with two men and three bears on it. "Bruin," as he called the first bear, was always kept at the rear end of the raft, and "Johnny" and "Gussio" were on the front part.

On these trips the bears were taught how to keep the rafts from running against the banks of the creek and go acquainted with the bends in the stream. Aided by signs and calls they became, Punte thought, able to run a raft. He did not put them to the test until recently. They ran the raft successfully. The first trip Punte was on the same raft with the bears and they did their work so well that he made up two rafts and started for the West Branch of the Susquehanna River. The rafts were of logs and started from near Hills Grove.

On the first raft "Bruin" and "Johnny" were placed. On the second which followed closely, Punte and the bear "Gussio" were the pilots. Punte, by calling "right" and "left" told the bear at the rear which way to push or pull, while at the same time "No. 1 Johnny" and "No. 2 Johnny" told the bear at the front end of the raft on which side to use the pike pole.

At a sharp curve, twenty miles from Williamsport a log jam was observed. Punte hurriedly tied up his raft, and running ahead, succeeded in boarding the one manned by "Bruin" and "Johnny." This he also ran to shore and tied up. The jam was about fifteen feet high and blocked the stream. Punte took "Johnny" with him to break the jam.

The breaking of a jam is a dangerous thing, and many fatal accidents result. "Johnny," with a pike pole was sent to dislodge the anchor log. After many attempts he succeeded.

The Loyalsock creek is about forty miles long, and runs through mountainous country, consequently the bears were not frightened by men.—New York Press.

### Man Who Always Laughs.

Says the Los Angeles (Cal.) Times San Diego has a man who laughs at the time. Although crazy, he is no considered a fit person for a lunatic asylum. Nothing appears to disconcert this laughter. He laughs at good news or bad news. He does not seem to know the meaning of the word worry. When arrested he laughed when discharged from jail he simply laughed. Mortals supposed to be sane and who pine away their day worrying or brooding over fancied troubles might almost envy the insane man who can laugh at everything.



RUINED TOWER—THE ONLY RELIC OF JAMESTOWN NOW STANDING.

cent survey places the area at 1600 acres. The top soil of the island, composed of sandy loam, resting on a bed of clay—the latter lower than the level of the water—has, foot by foot, been washed away, until even of its most historic portion only a part remains. At the time of the arrival of the settlers, May 13, 1607, it lay in the land of the Pasheeh Indians, one of the tribes that acknowledged the supremacy of the celebrated Powhatan.

It was then and for many years after connected with the main shore by a neck of land about thirty feet wide; but more than 100 years ago the ceaseless beating of the tide wore away this passage, as it has destroyed others that have been artificially constructed since.

A long sweep of open river for seven miles above the place gives full play to the wind, and the constant impact of the waves has eaten into the unprotected shore until the obliteration of the entire island is threatened; and on the most exposed part of the shore stand the only remaining residences of the once flourishing city of Jamestown.



FRAGMENTS OF OLD WALLS STILL VISIBLE IN THE WATER.

The stone powder house built by Captain John Smith for the protection of the colony's store of ammunition succumbed several years ago; its foundations were completely sapped, and it tumbled into the waters of the river. The strength of the walls is evidenced, however, by the blocks of stone lying under the water still bound together by the original cement; for the remains of the pile may yet be seen, the smooth black stones glistening in the sunlight at low tide.

The James Island plantation, for centuries famous for its fertility, was utterly neglected and growing up to weeds when about two years ago Mr. E. E. Barney, of Canton, Ohio, bought the entire place and beautifully improved it. But the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, of which Mrs. Joseph Bryan is President, looked with regretful eye upon the passing away of this celebrated cradle of American history, and opened negotiations with

Lee, then the owners of the land, to protect such of the ancient tombstones that remained. The area thus guarded was not more than one-third that of the original church yard. The place is now grown up in trees, and their roots entwine the walls and cover the graves of the former settlers.

It is said that the church was first an old sail hung to the great trees which then densely covered the ground. The pulpit was a bar of wood nailed to a couple of neighboring trees, and the audience sat upon unwhewn logs during service.

A log church was erected later, and Sir Thomas Dale is credited with "repairing the falling church" in May, 1611. The first brick church was built in 1638. In a description of the town in 1676 we are told that it contained, besides a brick church, twelve brick dwellings and a number of frame houses.

The brick of which the Jamestown