

## BIG FORTUNE IN REFUSE.

THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS THROWN AWAY IN NEW YORK WASTE.

Facts Gleaned From an Experiment Made by the City Authorities in Caring for Paper, Rags and Junk—Old Shoes Make a Very Prominent Showing.

There is a fortune thrown away annually in the waste of New York city, writes a correspondent of the Philadelphia Record. The poor of Paris could be well housed, fed and clothed with the proceeds from the waste of this city. This statement is not based on mere supposition, but upon facts gleaned from an experiment which was tried by the city authorities last year in caring for a certain portion of the city's waste.

For a period of 12 months the refuse and waste gathered from street cleaning districts Nos. 12, 14 and 16 was delivered at a special station, where it was carefully separated into its constituent parts and such as could be utilized for any good purpose was sold for what it would bring and the balance was destroyed. The area covered included a population, according to the census returns, of 116,525. Every class of house, shop, store and a few factories are to be found within the districts, so that the results of the year's work would form a fair basis for estimating the value of the waste of the whole city.

During the year 12,947 loads of separated refuse from carts holding four cubic yards, weighing 900 per load, or, in the aggregate 5325 tons, was burned as useless, and from 5 to 8 percent was worthless, while about 37 percent was marketable. The matter reserved for sale contains 3,058,616 pounds of paper, which was classified as follows: Manila paper, 471,385 pounds; news, 803,301; mixed, 442,866; strawboard, 587,208; mixed wrapping, 635,136; books, 18,620.

There was a total of 576,812 pounds of rags, classified as follows: Woolen, 18,617; white, 41,450; mixed, 116,550; black, 195,825; bagging, 48,055; twine, 21,070; softback carpet, 18,795; hardback carpet, 79,820; wool carpet, 3915; linsey carpet, 7189; old coats, 20,945; stockings, 4590.

Among other articles there were found 80,840 pounds of old iron; 494 pounds of copper, 2090 pounds of zinc, 1607 pounds of brass, 303 pounds of lead, 9769 pounds of old rubber, 36,160 pounds of old shoes, 400 pounds of hair cloth, 765 pounds of curled hair, 2100 old hats, 12 loads of tin cans, 40 mattresses, 2390 barrels and 29,205 proprietary bottles. Beside all this, it must be remembered there was an immense amount of matter of all classes gathered by the countless number of rag and garbage collectors who do a business independent of the city department.

Taking these figures as a basis for estimating the amount of refuse collected from the boroughs of Manhattan and Bronx for this year, at the same time allowing for the natural increase, it would amount to 112,000 tons for 12 months. About 32 percent, or 35,840 tons, represents the paper and rags.

It is interesting to note that the daily newspapers in New York consume 350 tons of paper per day, of which, it is estimated, one-half remains in the city and is no sent into circulation through the mails. This one-half will amount to 63,870 tons during the year. To this vast paper heap must be added the immense stack of printed matter, such as circulars, posters, advertising letters, etc., and the refuse from the weekly and monthly publications.

About one-half of this vast total of waste paper finds its way back to the manufacturer through private channels while much of it is consumed in the furnaces of office buildings, institutions, and the like, with most unsatisfactory results. For example, the federal authorities in their building down town undertake to destroy large quantities of paper, and owing to the fierce draft due to the tall chimneys and the poor combustion, half-burnt paper is distributed impartially over the neighborhood. For weeks together last summer the atmosphere of a section, including parts of Broad, Wall and Exchange street was, at certain hours, loaded with floating ashes and half-burned scraps of paper, and on several days in particular the walks and pavements in the vicinity of the custom house were literally carpeted with charred fragments of burned government records.

These crude methods of disposing of this particular kind of waste are bound to become a thing of the past very soon, for steps are now under way whereby a modernized destructor, one which is patterned after an English destructor, will be installed before the year is out. But it is not the intention of the authorities to burn all the waste paper. It will be utilized in two ways: First, by the sorting and saving of that which is marketable.

While the worth of clean paper and rags depends upon the demand and the price upon the market quotations, yet the records of the past few years show the average would be about \$8 per ton the season through for a good quality of stock, and the poorest quality about \$6.

Assuming the above figures to be correct and taking into consideration the fact that the waste would be disposed of at a much less cost per ton than by the present system, more than \$300,000 would be saved to the city in this item alone.

But after disposing of the salable part of the rags and paper there remains the combustible part to get rid of, which, by following the practice of foreign cities, can be disposed of at a profit by converting the heat obtained from the combustion into horse power.

This forms the second method of utilizing the waste paper, rags and other combustible waste. Of the grand total of rubbish collected about 50 percent is good only for combustion, and is, therefore, to be used as fuel. It has been demonstrated that this class of garbage, in the modernized furnace for its combustion and for utilizing the heat units for the creation of steam, has in it one-tenth the value of coal. This means that New York city towed out to sea last year more than 5600 tons of coal, which had a money value of \$35,000. This rubbish was worse than wasted, for after being dumped into the sea it was blown, drifted and tossed about by wind, tide and waves, much of it landing on the shores and beaches of the health resorts, there to become a nuisance and menace to humanity.

### WHEN PERIL COMES.

Sudden and Extreme Danger the Test of True Courage.

It is when the unexpected happens that fatalism proves how fatal a prop it is, after all, for human courage. The soldier or the sailor can say to himself, when he knows that he must take a supreme risk in battle or in a storm: "I am powerless against the fate which was decreed for me from the beginning of the world. If my time has come I cannot help it; if not, all the forces of earth and sky and ocean cannot prevail to harm me." But when, without an instant's warning, a rock crashes through the ship's bottom and the waters rush into the gap; when confusion seizes the entire company aboard; when the fog is too thick for the captain to be seen, or the roar of the sea drowns the sound of his orders, a new test is applied. Then it is that the courage which rests on nothing firmer than a negation gives way, and in his greed to save his own life the stoic becomes a madman.

There have been steamship disasters in which men of humble station, of all colors and faiths, have shown the finest quality of heroism; and there have been those in which the common sailors, all whites and Europeans, have earned eternal disgrace by their cowardice. The point we are making is not that it is possible to draw a hard and fast line between one religion and another, or one race and another, in the matter of bravery; but that the affirmative sense of responsibility for one's own acts, of the difference between right and wrong, between nobility and ignominy, and of the grandeur of duty well done at the sacrifice of self, is a far surer dependence in the presence of sudden peril than all the stoical philosophies ever worked out by the mind of man.—Washington Post.

### QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

An owl was shot 400 miles out at sea by the captain of the British steamship Ethelreda. No other case is on record of a land bird having flown so far from shore.

A wonderful cavern, rivaling in beauty and natural phenomena, if not in size, the famous Mammoth cave of Kentucky, has just been discovered across the Juniata river from Mapleton, Pa.

A manufacturer at Sheffield, Eng., who has had trouble with the postoffice about registering his mail packages is taking his revenge by sending 200 envelopes daily to the postoffice to buy penny stamps. Each envelope is decorated with read tape and is provided with a sovereign's worth of coppers with which he buys one stamp at a time.

During the trial before a French court between two partners of an important corset firm the debate revealed that one of the principal branches of their manufactures was men's corsets. The judge, having demanded an explanation, it was sworn that more than 18,000 corsets were made yearly for Frenchmen and 3000 were shipped to England, principally for army officers. German officers created also quite a demand till a rival Berlin firm offered a cheaper article.

Mrs. Archibald Rankin, aged 65 years, living near Sharon, Pa., was recently paralyzed by a bolt of lightning. So many times has she been injured in this manner that she is known as the "human magnet." Several years ago she was struck by lightning and ever since then her whole system has been charged like a galvanic battery. She is so sensitive to electrical disturbances that she sleeps in a bed upon the legs of which are glass insulators. She also sits in an insulated chair. When the air is heavily charged with electricity her flesh tingles and gives her great distress. Lightning striking within a half mile of the house invariably shocks her.

There are no points in Europe where the cold records of America are eclipsed, but in Asia our lowest records are thrown completely in the shade. Siberia has the coldest weather known anywhere in the world. At Verchajansk, Siberia, 90.4 degrees below zero was observed in January, 1888, which gets away below anything ever known in the world before or since. At that point the average temperature for January is nearly 64 degrees below. This town is situated at an elevation of 330 feet above the level of the sea and during the entire winter the weather is nearly always calm and clear. Perhaps the majority of people suppose that the coldest weather in the world is at the North Pole, but reliable observations made by explorers disprove this theory completely.

No pins were made until 1811—\$1 a paper

## SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

The Caspian sea is literally a great depression in the surface of the earth. It is 84 feet below the regular sea level. Besides this its waters have very little salt in them, being almost fresh.

Dr. Jarre of Paris has announced his discovery of a remedy for the foot and mouth disease to the Acadmie de Medecine. It consists of a 33 percent solution of chemically pure chromic acid applied as a caustic. The cure is rapid and there is no inflammation.

Payta, Peru, about five degrees south of the equator, has the reputation of being the driest spot on the globe. On an average a shower of rain occurs at Payta only once in two years. But the intervals between showers is often much longer. Yet in that arid climate seven species of animal plants manage to exist, and the natives earn a livelihood by growing a species of cotton, whose long roots find moisture in the bed of a dried-up river. This cotton is readily marketed.

Some birds and animals put on extra foot coverings for winter use in walking on snow and ice and boring into it for food. Among these are the ruffed grouse, the ptarmigan and western rabbit. The latter is sometimes known as the "snowshoe rabbit," because of the long and stiff hair which appears on its feet in cold weather. The ptarmigan has broad, stiff feathers on its feet, and the ruffed grouse a sharp-pointed fringe. These drop off in the spring of the year.

Protective coloration is one of the well-known provisions of nature for the safety of animal life, but it is usually seen in the natural habitat of the animal. Here is a case, however, in which the animal deliberately abandoned its old habitat and adopted a new one because its safety would thereby be better assured. The gardens in Hamburg have, within the last ten years, been planted with white-leaf maples, and the white butterfly has chosen them for its settling places. When concealed among the white leaves the butterfly is safe from its enemies.

According to Professor Bigelow, meteorologist of the national weather bureau, the highest of all clouds were discovered to be those delicate, white, fibrous detached masses of frozen vapor seen high against the blue sky. Sometimes they arrange themselves in belts across the heavens. Often they appear to the groups of motionless islands far up in the blue, atmospheric sea. The topmost point of the highest of these measured was ten miles above the earth. These highest clouds—named cirrus—were found to confine themselves to an atmospheric stratum or belt, extending from the ten-mile height to within three and a half miles of our heads.

Captain J. C. Bernier's plan of attempting to reach the North Pole by drifting with the ice, as was tried by the Jeanette expedition, has not yet been decided upon. He has submitted also to the Quebec Geographical society a second plan, namely, to start from Franz Josef Land with a large number of dogs and reindeer, and travel during the summer to the Pole by sleighs, taking with him concentrated provisions, and killing his reindeers day by day for food. Traveling at an average rate of six miles per day he should reach his destination in 150 days. He will, however, allow himself 180 days. Elaborate calculations have been made as to the number of dogs and reindeer required for the purpose.

### A Mammoth Peach Tree.

A giant peach tree in Kent Co., Md., says the American Agriculturist, is about the size of an ordinary kerosene barrel, measuring 78 inches at the base, or nearly 28 inches through. One foot from the ground it is 58 inches, and at two feet is 56 inches. The tree is 56 inches, while the four primary limbs are 32 inches, 29 inches, 28 inches, and 25 inches, respectively. There is also one secondary limb as large as a 10-year-old tree. The tree is a Crawford type and 28 years old. It has never missed a crop, and frequently overbears, breaking badly, as the wood is very brittle. It is on the farm of Allen A. Harris, on Easter's Neck island, Kent Co., Md., at the mouth of the Chester river, along the Chesapeake bay. The big tree is one of the survivors of a large orchard planted at the same time, some trees of which are four or five feet in circumference. This is claimed to be the largest peach tree in the United States, if not in the world.

### Photographs on Silk.

Frenchmen have been making great strides in color photography toward artistic directions and devoting themselves to the invention of new processes. The latest idea is a process of taking colored photographs upon silk. No one can deny their exquisite beauty, the soft mellow tones obtained, and wherever faces or transparent fabrics come into the picture the effect is delicately fine. Beside portraits old and modern paintings are reproduced upon silken stuffs for sofa cushions, screens and for every purpose relative to interior decorations, while copies of engravings, etchings and photographs are equally well rendered. A full length portrait in large cabinet size may be ordered for \$80, while smaller portraits call for a proper diminution of price.

### Graspi's Plan.

"Graspi hopes to become a millionaire." "How?" "By wedding a millionaire."—Ohio State Journal.

Jubilee of a Famous Gold Field. Bendigo, perhaps the most famous of Australian gold fields, is preparing to celebrate its jubilee by holding a mining exhibition. It was in October, 1851, that the first nuggets were found by an old shepherd on the spot where Golden square now stands. Since then Bendigo has contributed 17,169,680 ounces to the gold output of the world. The old shepherd was a pugnacious and quarrelsome person, hence he was christened by his comrades "Bendigo," the name of the most renowned English prize fighter of the period.

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He thinks he lives, but he's a dead one. No person is really alive whose liver is dead. During the winter most people spend nearly all their time in warm, stuffy houses or offices or workshops. Many don't get as much exercise as they ought, and everybody knows that people gain weight in winter. As a rule it is not sound weight, but means a lot of flabby fat and useless, rotting matter staying in the body when it ought to have been driven out. But the liver was overburdened, deadened—stopped work. There you are, with a dead liver, and right now is the time for resurrection. Wake up the dead! Get all the filth out of your system, and get ready for the summer's trials with clean, clear blood, body, brain free from bile. Force is dangerous and destructive unless used in a gentle persuasive way, and the right plan is to give new strength to the muscular walls of the bowels, and stir up the liver to new life and work with **CASCARETS**, the great spring cleaner, disinfectant and bowel tonic. Get a 50c box to-day—a whole month's treatment—and see how quickly you will be

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