

The Lock of the U. S. Treasury.

The Treasurer of the United States, Mr. Gillilan, has completed a collection of keys to the treasury vault and money boxes in use before the introduction of combination locks.

The Colonel was, according to accounts, a true type of the old-time Virginia gentleman, tall, measuring over six feet, erect and wearing a certain air of the cavalier which would have justified some notions of the boasted cavalry of the Old Dominion.

His first act was to haul the immense safe key out of a wallet he carried about his person, and to an admiring audience of accountants, tellers, clerks, messengers and boys would preface the formality of opening the antique strap-iron box by descending on the complicated interior arrangement of the lock and the number of tumblers the awe-inspiring instrument he held in his hands knocked down in a single turn in the intricate wards.

Another key, as large as Colonel Nutt's favorite, and much more worn, has its notches shaped like a letter T. It is said that from this the key represented in the seal of the Treasury Department was designed.

As the improvements in locks began, a noticeable change in the formation of the keys is indicated. Next comes a pair that resemble the handle of a tourniquet, and, following the intermediate stages, are two heavy brass keys, containing in themselves a combination formed by his strips of metal of different lengths and numbered.

As lock-picking grew to an art and the ingenuity of the inventor was brought into competition with the ingenuity of the burglar, the use of the keys was abandoned, and from year to year, as millions of treasure, securities and notes filled the vaults, all the latest and most secure appliances were introduced.

There are ten of these locks on each vault. Every night, under the superintendence of the Treasurer, and by tried and trusted custodians, each chronometer in the lock is wound and set for 8.30 A. M. When once in motion there is no possible way to open it, even by the officers authorized to know the combination until the time set for it to be opened.

Will a Cat Suck Breath?

A correspondent of the New York "Tribune" stoutly combats the old-time notion of the cat's propensity to suck human breath.

"How does she suck the breath?" he asks. "What does she do with it, and what is her object?" He thus explains the probable origin of the superstition: "The cat is generally an affectionate creature which loves human society. More still, even, it loves warmth and comfort. It finds the warmest corner by the fire, the softest pillow of the bed, the easiest seat of cushioned chairs.

Reference is made to a recently reported case of a young lady who woke in a "strangling condition" and had just "sufficient consciousness to throw from her breast a cat whose mouth was thrust far

into hers," and who has since been very sick with ulcerated sore throat with other ills, all of which she accounts for on the theory that "It was the cat." The "Tribune's" correspondent says that the young lady's sensations were merely the preliminary symptoms of a bad cold coming on, with the addition that a cat straying into the room had made its bed upon her chest. He further insists that a cat will not put its head into a small opening where its whiskers touch, as into the human mouth, and would not cause ulceration if it did.

Forgot to Look into the Bed.

The adage above quoted is somewhat antique, but is still full of meaning and wholesome advice. A few weeks ago Miss Chapman, who was visiting Mr. Robert Atkinson's near Oronoko, had a little sores that happily did not prove serious. She was retiring for the night, and, after blowing out her light, she got into bed. Her hand came in contact with something that moved. Miss Chapman sprang out of bed and screamed loud enough to wake up the whole township.

Painful Injury to a Young Lady.

A young man, clerk in a grocery store in Atlanta, Ga., the other day was very much shocked by receiving a visit from his lady love at his place of business. The twin soon were engaged in earnest conversation, and she thoughtless placed her finger beneath the instrument used for cutting tobacco, and known as the guillotine. About this time he desired to give emphasis to a remark he was making, and struck the tobacco cutter a terrific blow, which had the effect of severing the young lady's finger at the first joint.

A Madison, Ind., paper says: Miss Florence Rodgers, aged 18 years, residing in Smyrna township, has made a record which should render her an attractive object to young farmers, not to mention the beauty which she possesses. Her father was pressed for help to harvest his grass, and Florence came to his assistance nobly. She borrowed a 3-year-old nag of Mr. Wm. Rutledge, hitched it to a hay-rake, and started after the mowers. She raked 75 acres before the harvest days were closed, and attended to the feeding and harnessing of the young nag herself. We congratulate her parents on the possession of such a jewel.

A suit has been commenced in the United States Court at New York by the government against B. T. Babbitt, the soap manufacturer, for \$83,480.74, with penalties, for alleged deficiency in his income tax paid the government from 1863 to 1871. The interest and penalties will put the amount claimed at over \$150,000, and the government claims to have evidence to show that the defendant's income for those years was much larger than the return made by him.

A resident of Plymouth, named McSweeney, was pursuing a fugitive cow last Saturday on the land of his neighbor, John R. Jones, when he encountered the owner of the property, and an altercation ensued. Jones lost his temper, and seizing an axe, attacked his neighbor and felled him to the ground. He then called two ferocious dogs and set them upon the prostrate man. What with the blows of the axe and the attacks of the dogs, McSweeney received injuries from which recovery is impossible.

A Wooltown farmer named Fred. Schaeffer was returning home the other night, when he met two men who demanded what money he had about him. Schaeffer knocked one of them down, and was pummeling the other one, when the two robbers combined forces, and, after a desperate struggle, overpowered the stalwart farmer. Then they robbed him of about forty-five cents.

John D. Weise, of Pittsburg, attacked with a razor a woman, named Irwin, last Thursday night, and after badly cutting her about the head and face, escaped through the rear entrance of the house. He was pursued by two officers, and being hard pushed, took refuge in a small shed and opened fire upon the police, who returned the shots, killing Weise instantly. Mrs. Irwin is not fatally injured.

The wedding feast had been prepared and the guests had assembled in Allentown one night recently, but the bride backed out at the last hour. The things did not go to waste, however, as those assembled made merry.

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F. MORTIMER,

New Bloomfield, Pa. July 22, 1879.

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ESTATE NOTICE.—Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration on the Estate of Susan Heiser, late of Rye township, Perry Co., Pa., have been granted to the undersigned of said township.

T. P. HOOVER, AUCTIONEER. Attention given to sales, and satisfaction guaranteed. Prices low. Call on or address T. P. HOOVER, Elliptsburg, Pa. August 2, 1879.

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