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THE treasure chest of a great cathedral rivals that of a royal treasury in the magnificence of the jewels it incloses. These are set not in crowns or necklaces, but in altar utensils and in symbols, or sewed upon the priceless vestments which are used only upon special occasions. Like the crown jewels of a nation, these often have a sentimental value as great as their monetary worth, and they must be carefully guarded.

The treasures of St. Patrick's, the largest Roman Catholic cathedral in New York city, are kept in a crypt back of and beneath the altar. Few people know of the location of this chamber. From a room behind the altar a broad marble stairway with velvet handrails leads downward. A long room used for the cleansing of altar vessels and donning of vestments is the first stage of the descent. From a door in one end of this room a narrow flight of stone steps leads into the silent concrete regions below. They twist and turn steeply into a narrow, low celled passageway, which leads to the heavy door of the sub-crypt.

The sacristan opens this door and turns on a blaze of electric light which is reflected from every part of the room. The shelves about the four sides are laden with bright colored vestments. Some of these are of old



DOOR OF VAULT AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, NEW YORK, SHOWING THE SACRISTAN HOLDING THE OSTENSORIUM.

rose and gold, permitted only to the use of a cathedral and upon very special occasions; others are of red velvet, and all are heavily embroidered. A single garment is valued at \$5,000.

In the corner, locked and bolted, is the door of the safe, and thither the sacristan leads the way. When the door is finally opened the whole interior seems a mass of jewels and gold. But there is a second door of steel bars, and not until this is unlocked are the contents, placed at a safe distance behind it, to be inspected.

Among the altar furnishings are a chalice, the gift of Pope Leo XIII, a cup of solid gold. There is a ciborium, a coffer or case which holds the host, also a gift of the pope. In a long leather box is an archbishop's episcopal cross of gold and silver which with its pedestal stands eight feet high.

But by far the most valuable article is the ostensorium or monstrance, a box in which the host is exposed to receive the veneration of the faithful. In order that this might have a sentimental as well as a real value a former director of the Sacred Heart called upon the congregation to put into the contribution box some article of jewelry which they valued for its associations.

Lead Pencils Spread Diphtheria. A recent outbreak of diphtheria at Bacup, a small town in Lancashire, England, has been attributed by the medical authorities to the very bad habit the school children there have of moistening their lead pencils with the tongue to make them write more smoothly and legibly. The pencils in themselves were found to be harmless when clean and new. But in many of the rural English school districts pencils, pens, copybooks and slates are distributed to the children during lessons and collected again when school is dismissed for the day. Consequently no child is sure of getting the same pencil twice in two days.



Johnny Brown gets a nice new pencil today and moistens it frequently in his mouth during the writing lesson because he finds it writes easier when the lead is wet. Tomorrow Mary Hodgkins gets that same pencil. She, too, moistens the lead in her mouth to make it write better. And that is exactly how the dread disease was communicated from one child to another after it once got a start.

In the United States the danger of putting pencils in the mouth has long been recognized, and in all the schools every precaution is taken to prevent the interchange of pencils as well as the moistening of them with the lips. A great many children and even their elders, who ought to know better, persist in putting pencils in their mouths regardless of the risks they run.

THE "DICK TO DICK" LETTER.

Young Lady Who Discovered It Has Stirred Hornets' Nest.

The latest development in the interior department reminds one of the old days under the Ballinger regime, when investigations, charges and countercharges were humming from Alaska to Washington.

There is a woman in the case, but she discovered the scandal in this in-



MISS MYRTLE F. ABBOTT.

stance, whereas "the woman in the case" usually causes the scandal.

Miss M. F. Abbott, who unearthed the now famous "Dick to Dick" letter, is something of a mystery, inasmuch as nobody knows much about her. At first it was said she was the wife of Willis J. Abbott, the well known Washington correspondent, but this is now denied, and it is asserted that she is related to Lyman Abbott, editor of the Outlook.

The "Dick to Dick" letter, alleged copies of which have been published in many newspapers, was from Richard S. Ryan, representing a financial syndicate, to Richard A. Ballinger, former secretary of the Interior. Walter Fisher, Ballinger's successor, denies that any such letter is on the files. The letter concerned the control of land along Controller bay, Alaska, and proposed to call in Charles P. Taft to influence his brother, the president.

Miss Abbott claims to have gained this information as a newspaper woman and magazine writer, in which capacity she had access to the files.

TWO DEEP SEA TREASURES.

Head Picked Up in Ocean Near Cape Town—Elephant Seal.

The remarkable head shown in one of the accompanying photographs was picked up in the ocean near Cape Town and is now in the New York aquarium. It has not been manipulated in any way. The ragged outline at the back of the head shows where it was severed from the body. The



THE "OLD MAN OF THE SEA"

lines on the lower part of the face are natural and are the outlines of the maxillary and other bones of the jaws. The nose has shrunk somewhat in drying. In life the resemblance to the human face was even more striking. The conical front teeth are shown in the photograph; the lateral teeth are very strong and evidently for the purpose of crushing shells. There are two rows in the lower jaw. The head is a puzzle to fish experts.

The New York aquarium also has on exhibition a small herd of elephant seals, which are rarely seen in captivity. The accompanying photograph was secured by Dr. Charles H. Townsend, who is now in charge of a scientific expedition on the steamship Al-



AN ADULT ELEPHANT SEAL.

battross in the interest of the New York Zoological society and the New York aquarium and who captured the seals on Gmdalupie Island, 250 miles off the southern coast of the Argentine Republic. The photograph of the adult male shown here is especially interesting, as it portrays the remarkable elephant-like proboscis, a characteristic of the male only, which can be expanded at will.

IS SHE CLOSE TO ROYALTY?

Stories From London That Emille Grigsby is a Chum of Princess Mary.

The latest social sensation stirring New York and London has a touch of mystery. It concerns Miss Emille Grigsby, who was the protegee of the late Charles T. Yerkes, and to whom that gentleman of transportation tubes and high finance left \$1,000,000 and a beautiful mansion in Park avenue, New York.

The stories have it that Miss Grigsby now frequents Buckingham palace, that she is a chum of Princess Mary and a friend of Queen Mary, that she had a box at the coronation and that



MISS EMILIE GRIGSBY.

she has had lords and ladies on her string in London, having, in short, scored distinct social successes.

On the other hand, it is said that her name has not been mentioned in a single London newspaper, that she is not recognized by any of the elite in the British capital and that if she had any entrance into Buckingham palace it was a back stair entrance. The gossip is that she is the friend of a Frenchwoman who talks that language with Princess Mary and acts as French secretary to the queen and that through this friendship she has gained the ear of royalty. Much space has been devoted to the case in the New York newspapers, and the cables have sung with the tale.

For years Miss Grigsby has been unmercifully snubbed in both New York and London, despite the fact that she is beautiful, accomplished and rich. Now, if these reports are to be credited, she has reached the social heights at a bound, to the unspeakable disgust of the would be climbers who have been at such pains to "cut" her in the past.

TO FLY FROM SEA TO SEA.

Atwood Plans to Cross the Continent in Three Weeks.

Harry N. Atwood, the Boston aviator, who flew from Boston to New London, from there to New York and from there to Atlantic City and thence to Washington, announces that he in-



Photo by American Press Association. HARRY N. ATWOOD.

tends to attempt a flight from the Pacific to the Atlantic before the summer is over.

"I intend to attempt a flight from coast to coast," he said, "but it shall be from west to east. To start from New York would be to buck a westerly head wind all the way across. When I start it will be by the southern route. I hope to be able to start in about three weeks, after I have finished my work at Washington, where I have to test out a government machine."

"I have been making a study of the air currents, especially in the mountains. To negotiate the Rockies will be the most difficult part of the flight. It will also be a problem to pack gasoline and food across some of the stages. It probably will be necessary to put an additional gasoline tank on the machine. With the present tank I can fly from 125 to 150 miles."

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