

## GOTHAM'S BIG VANS.

HOW THEY ARE USED FOR LONG AND SHORT DISTANCE MOVING.

Breakage, Time and Trouble Saved by These Large Vehicles—The Business of Moving Day Reduced to a Science—Travel by Train and Steamboat.

The estimator for a storage and van company will walk into a house or a fat and estimate within a cubic foot of how much space the contents will take up packed, and he doesn't make any elaborate computations either. He just walks in a leisurely way through a house from roof to cellar or through a flat from end to end, and when he is through he knows. Houses vary greatly. One three story house might have in it three van loads. The house just like it next door might have six, but the estimator rarely makes a mistake. He might get half a van load out of the way in estimating a six load house, but this would be quite unusual. He would be much more likely to hit the mark.

The contract price for moving means for moving from any floor to any floor. If it is desired, the company will send barrels, boxes and packing materials and men to pack crockery, bronzes, books, bric-a-brac, and so on, at 75 cents a barrel or its equivalent in space. The time for loading and for starting the vans would depend somewhat on where the goods were going. If they were going 40 miles into the country, the vans would be loaded the afternoon before and would start at 2 o'clock the next morning. They would arrive at their destination at about 10 o'clock the same morning, the horses would be put up and the vans unloaded, the start on the return would be made at about 2 o'clock the next morning, and the arrival in the city would be at about 10.

Vans are specially constructed with large bodies and low wheels for transportation by steamboat or railroad. Whether horses are taken on such trips depends altogether on the distance the vans are going. If to a nearby point, the horses go along; if to a distant point, it is cheaper to hire horses there. If vans were used to Newport, for instance, they would be shipped on a freight propeller, whose derrick would pick them up like great boxes of goods and land them on deck. On such a trip horses would not be taken, but hired in Newport for the hauling there. Horses would meet the vans at the dock upon their return here. Vans go west at least as far as Louisville, south to Baltimore and Washington. In transfers, say to Long Branch and other nearby points, the horses go with the vans.

Fifty miles would ordinarily be about the limit of the distance that vans cover on their own wheels, but they sometimes go greater distances. Forty miles would not be at all unusual, and trips of 80 miles and less are common. The drivers know the roads within 50 miles around New York well. They know where the paved roads are and those that are most nearly level, and where the poorer or more difficult roads are, too, and so they know what sort of an outfit to take. Where the roads are good to destination the vans would be drawn by four horses. On bad or hilly roads they would take six horses. It is interesting to note, as the result of the drivers' observations, that the roads around New York are better than they used to be, and that they are steadily improving. Not infrequently the van companies move people from one point to another outside of the city. For example, a gentleman who lived in a town near Bridgeport, Conn., who was about to move to a place near Tarrytown, in this state, contracted with a van company of this city to move him. Three vans went up from the city on this expedition. The work took about two weeks. Here the distance to be covered was so great that it was impossible to make it in a single day, and the vans halted at night and went on in the morning. They went to and fro in this way until the work was completed. The bill for this job came to nearly \$1,300.

The van companies move goods as well as people in the city as well as to and from it, and besides moving household goods they will estimate on and contract to remove the contents of a store or a building to another store or building. A recent moving job in this city came to about \$1,200. Goods moving in vans on their own wheels are not insured. In transit by rail or boat they are insured at the request of the owner. The cost of moving by vans depends, of course, largely on distance, and it varies somewhat according to season and circumstances. It is cheaper between seasons, and the nature of the roads to be covered might have something to do with it. To take an example, the distance about 80 miles, the price in the busy season would be \$35 a van and expenses, the expenses being ferrisage and tolls. To a point, say, 12 miles from the city, in the busy season, the rate would be \$20 a van and expenses.

The storage and van business has increased greatly in New York in recent years. The population of the city and its suburbs has increased rapidly, and there are now more moving vans than formerly. Many leases now run from April or October, besides those that run from May, so that the business is more distributed through the year. The number of those who go out of town for the summer has increased greatly. Many persons regularly every year move household goods enough to furnish or partly furnish a house at the seashore or in the country. There are many persons who give up their rents in spring and move their effects and go away until fall.—New York Sun.

## Where Snow is Red.

Snow is sometimes found in polar and Alpine regions, where it lies unmelted from year to year and the annual fall is small, colored red by the presence of innumerable small red plants. In its native state the plant consists of brilliant red globules on a gelatinous mass. Red snow was observed by the ancients, a passage in Aristotle referring to it, but it attracted little or no attention until 1780, when Saurer observed it in the Alps and concluded that it was due to the pollen of a plant. It was also noticed by the Arctic expedition under Captain Ross on his bay shore on a range of cliffs, the pollen penetrating to a depth of 12 feet. Less frequent is a green growth on snow.—Ladies' Home Journal.

## AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY.

An Adventurous Miner Runs Onto a Strange Prehistoric City.

Manville W. Cresworth, an English mining man well known throughout southwest Mexico, arrived at Mapimi, Mexico, recently from a long overland journey through the Sierra Madre mountains, his starting point being Culican, near the Pacific coast, in the state of Sinaloa. He claims to have visited a section of country never before visited by a white man of the present generation, and that he discovered a large and beautiful deserted city.

He told the correspondent that the wonderful city is situated about 80 miles west of Lake Colorado, in the recesses of the Sierra Madre. It occupies a basin about 10 miles long by eight miles wide. Perpendicular cliffs surround the basin on all sides, rising to a height of hundreds of feet. The only entrance to the city is through a deep canyon, which has a width of about 30 feet. Mr. Cresworth states that he stumbled onto the secret entrance quite by accident. He gives a vivid description of the deserted city.

The buildings, he says, are constructed of redstone blocks resembling granite. The business blocks are two and three stories in height and are entirely different in architectural design from the structures built by the Aztecs and Spaniards. The streets are very narrow, but are laid out in regular order. In the city is a small park which is overgrown with rare flowers and tropical vegetation. He entered the business houses and decaying residences, but found very little of value except some remarkable and strange ornaments made of stone.

He believes that the city was looted at the time that it was deserted, whenever that may have been. No records or writings of any kind were found, nor did he discover any skeleton that would give an idea as to the race of people who at one time inhabited the city. None of the natives of that section of country had ever heard of the deserted city. Mr. Cresworth is making diligent inquiry of them. Mr. Cresworth's story is very startling and remarkable, but it is believed by those to whom he has related his experiences. He will organize an expedition to make a thorough exploration of the city.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

## "HE WEARS RUBBERS."

A New Slang Phrase Which Has Caught On in the Metropolis.

During a recent discussion between a newspaper man and State Senator Owens of Brooklyn on the merits of a third person the senator said: "Why, that man is no good. He's not even decent. The fellow wears rubbers."

The newspaper man was at a loss to understand the senator's meaning, but not wishing to appear behind the slang of the day said nothing. The next day he approached a well known politician and asked him about it.

"What does it mean when you speak of a man as wearing rubbers?" he said.

"My boy," said the politician, "that is the very latest slang expression. It simply means that a man is a sneak; that, figuratively speaking, he approaches you with muffled feet. If you go into any police museum in the country, one of the things they'll show you is the rubber shoe that the sneak thief or the assassin uses. It is an ordinary tennis shoe, with a rubber sole and a canvas upper, and the only reason it is worn by crooks is because it gives them an opportunity to creep up behind their victim without being heard."

Another new bit of slang is, "He doesn't cut any ice." It simply means that he or she, whichever sex is referred to, plays no part. Both of these expressions are almost brand new, and the first, at least, is likely to become much in vogue with people who like to piece out their vocabulary with slang.—Brooklyn Letter.

## London's Fad For Eating Salt.

Coming home upon the underground the other evening, I read in an evening paper of a new habit which threatens to decimate us—the salt habit. People carry salt crystals about with them, at which they continually nibble. In time they lose their hair and eyelashes. Looking up from my paper suddenly, I saw this startling intelligence confirmed. A man in the opposite corner laid down his evening paper (it was the best evening paper), and took a small packet from his waistcoat pocket, which he unscrewed. It contained a white granular substance. Taking a pinch between his finger and thumb, he swallowed it.

"Excuse me, sir. Is that salt?" I asked, leaning forward excitedly. He smiled and pointed to the article (in the paper). "Have some," he said. I took it.—Pall Mall Budget.

## John Ruskin's Home.

Brantwood, the chosen lakeside home of John Ruskin during the last quarter century of his life, occupies one of the most favored spots in all England. Situated on the border line of Lancashire and Cumberland in the lake district, it overlooks the smallest of the waters in that "lake country" with which the names of Wordsworth, Southey, Coleridge, Lamb, Lloyd and Wilson are indelibly connected.

Set in the background of a half encircling wood of exquisite grace and mystic beauty, as seen in the green half light of its tranquil shade, Brantwood is protected from the east winds by the open, rising moorland that stretches far to the rear and faces a long slope of lawn that sweeps down to Coniston water's edge. Behind the green and purple moor the water of its overflow wells runs swiftly down the rocks with all the fuss of a real cascade, and the exalted roar of "Naboth's" rises just beyond the borders of his estate—a sort of natural pulsing which is rented by Ruskin, so that from its greater height, which he loves to climb, he may gaze upon the wider view. In front the narrow lake, sparkling in the sun and blue as the waters of the Rhone or of Thun. Then the rising banks beyond of broken green, with white faced houses blinking behind the trees, and the gray village of Coniston nestling away to the right, close down by the head of the lake, and beyond the "Old Man" himself towers above the smaller hills that rise close about his knees.—McClure's Magazine.

## Talking and Writing.

What a difference there is between talking and writing! It is mighty dull correspondence where one person has to do all the writing, but it is no unusual thing to find a person whose idea of perfect conversation is where he does all the talking.—Boston Traveller.

## HUMAN DEFECTIVES.

Methods of Treatment Suggested For Certain Classes of Public Dependents.

Dr. James W. Walk, in a lecture on "Defectives" before the University of Pennsylvania, defined the defectives as those members of society having serious mental or physical defects, either congenital or acquired. This group comprised six classes—first, the blind; second, the deaf mutes; third, insane; fourth, the feeble minded, or idiots; fifth, the inebriates—where drunkenness has become a disease—and sixth, the epileptics.

Dr. Walk took up each of these classes and stated what he believed to be the best way to deal with them. Of the blind and deaf he said: "Blind, deaf and feeble minded children have as much claim to an education as others, and since their defects prevent them from receiving it in the ordinary public schools it is only just that they should be instructed in schools especially adapted to their condition. Such schools are also a most economical investment of public money, for by means of the training they give the great majority of the blind and deaf mutes become self supporting in adult life."

"To fit blind children for self support it is necessary that their discipline while at school should be rigid, so as to impart thoroughness in the practice of the few industries, such as weaving and music, which are open to them. The managers of the best schools for the blind now insist upon this rigid training, and in this way sometimes incur unpopularity among those who do not understand their real motive."

"For those of the adult blind who cannot maintain themselves in open competition with normal workmen there should be founded in each state industrial homes where they may reside and labor, the deficiency in their earning being supplied by benevolence. Where such homes are well conducted they are nearly self supporting."

"Under the stimulus of the popular interest excited by the eloquent addresses of the great philanthropist, Dorothea Dix, Pennsylvania many years ago undertook to make adequate provision for the insane at public expense. The first institution for their care in the commonwealth was the insane department of the old Pennsylvania hospital. We have now many asylums for these people, but not enough yet to accommodate them all. Asylums should be so regulated that the inmates can work and be self supporting."

Dr. Walk thought that idiots, or the feeble minded, should not be permitted to marry. Of epileptics he thought the same, as their defects are hereditary. Inebriates should be confined for a long period, during which they would be forced to abstain totally. This treatment, he said, results often in permanent cure.—Philadelphia Press.

## Bored.

The great secret of boredom is to be found in two leading qualifications. A bore must be unable to find amusement in himself, and he must also be unable to find amusement in any one else. He must depend for his amusement neither on his own mind nor on the minds of his friends, but simply on the gratification which it is to him to give a special direction, or at least to suppose that he gives a special direction—for he is a creature of the most unlimited credulity in the art of magnifying his own influence—to the minds of his friends. He is in despair unless he can imagine himself a person of influence, and unluckily he can never imagine himself a person of influence—for he is a man of very limited imaginative power—unless he is taking overt steps to convince somebody of something, whether it be of some technical doctrine like Dugald Dalgety's strategic principle, or simply of his own importance, or even of the importance of his patrons, like Mr. Collins in "Pride and Prejudice." To be a first rate bore you must have no resources in yourself and no resources in your friends, but must depend for your satisfactions on the real or fancied power of making your friends either think or do, or—London Spectator.

## His Point of View.

An odd illustration once given Emerson, the philosopher, of the fact that the laws of disease are as beautiful as the laws of health is reported in his lecture on "The Comic."

"I was hastening," he says, "to visit an old and honored friend, who I was informed was in a dying condition, when I met his physician, who recited me in great spirits."

"And how is my friend, the reverend doctor?" I inquired.

"Oh, I saw him this morning. It is the most correct apoplexy I have ever seen—face and hands livid, breathing stertorous, all the symptoms perfect." And he rubbed his hands with delight, for in the country we cannot find every day a case that agrees with the diagnosis of the books."—Youth's Companion.

## An Angry Executioner.

Deibler, the French executioner, is said to be the angriest man in Paris. A prisoner in the Roquette jail, under sentence of death, committed suicide after M. de Paris had specially sharpened the knife for his No. 17 neck. Then the executioner is much disappointed because he has not received the ribbon of the Legion of Honor in common with all others who have distinguished themselves in the suppression of anarchists. He argues that he risks his life more than the man who drives the bomb wagon, who has been decorated.—Paris Letter.

## A Late Fad of Royalty.

The latest fad among the ladies of the English royal family, including, it is said, the queen herself, is to beguile the winter hours by plaiting straw for the fabrication of hats to be presented to their sons and husbands at the approaching season. A well known hatter has just finished a handsome straw hat for Prince Henry of Battenberg, every inch of which was plaited by Princess Beatrice's own hands. It is said to be a remarkably delicate piece of workmanship.—London Letter.

## Hard to Distinguish.

Auntie—Well, did Uncle George tell you an interesting story?

Little Niece (from Boston)—Yes, auntie, it was full of delightful wonders, but some visitors called, and I had time to inquire whether it was a fairy tale or a theosophical hypothesis.—Good News.

## Respect For a Mother-in-law.

A lady not long since received a lesson on the subject of proper feeling for her mother-in-law which will last her a long time. Her husband's family were very affectionate toward one another—loved one another with even more than the ordinary devotion of close kindred. It may or may not be to the point to mention that they also liked great wakes, wedding and christenings.

The husband's mother died in course of time at a good old age. He and his wife had saved a little money against the contingency of his being without work in cold weather, when the hod carrying business is dull. In his big gust of grief over the sad event, the husband resolved to spend every cent of that money in giving his departed maternal relative a grand funeral. Nothing was too good for her. Food for his wife and baby, keeping the wolf from the door in cold weather, when members of his profession were mostly on their uppers, was as nothing. A great funeral and an elegant wake the old lady must have. His brothers and sisters were richer than he and needed no help from him in interring the good dame in proper, even fashionable, style. But not the affectionate son whose profession was not prosperous in cold weather would have none of that. He would never feel that he had done his duty by the old lady unless he put that \$25 into a grand wake.

Unfortunately at this point there was a difference of opinion between him and his wife. She ventured to hint that she and the baby needed the money more than his mother did, especially as the old lady's other children were quite able and willing to provide a wake that would drown the sorrows of the most afflicted and bereft family in the state. He indignantly repudiated the idea and reproached her with cold heartedness and want of feeling for her departed mother-in-law. But she insisted, unfortunately for her own sake.

Then the grief stricken son fell upon her and gave her such a beating that she did not get over it in two weeks. "I'll teach you," said he as he mauled her black and blue, "to show disrespect to my mother, and she dead and in her coffin and looking to all her children to give her an elegant wake. Next time your mother-in-law dies you'll know how to have proper feeling for her."

## Old John's Translation.

Every one in Boston knows of old John the Orangeman, that picturesque and almost historical personage who presides over the affections of all Harvard men. And every one who knows John knows also that his life's motto is that familiar phrase which expresses briefly and to the point the wish that Yale may be forever relegated to the region of sorrow and perpetual darkness.

One afternoon strangers were walking through the yard at Harvard, and on every hand they saw the college seal bearing this motto, "Christo et Ecclesie."

Not being on speaking terms with Cicero, Caesar and the other Romans, this did nothing but to arouse their curiosity.

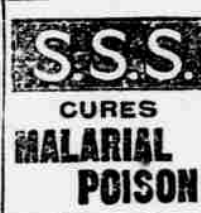
Finally they met John.

"I say!" said one of the visitors, "I see these words everywhere. Can you tell me what they mean?"

John looked carefully at the Latin inscription, bit his pipe a little harder and then replied gravely:

"O! don't just know, fr'nd, but Oi tink it means 'Tobacco and Yale.'"

Boston Budget.



LIFE HAD NO CHARMS.

For three years I was troubled with malarial poison, which caused my appetite to fail, and I was greatly reduced in flesh and lost all its charms. I tried mercurial and potash remedies, but to no effect. I could get no relief. I then decided to try SSS. A few bottles of this wonderful medicine made a complete and permanent cure, and I now enjoy better health than ever.

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## A Great Mistake.

A recent discovery is that headache, dizziness, dullness, confusion of the mind, etc., are due to derangement of the nerve centers which supply the brain with nerve force; that indigestion, dyspepsia, neurasthenia, wind in stomach, etc., arise from the derangement of the nerve centers supplying these organs with nerve fluid or force. This is likewise true of many diseases of the heart and lungs. The nerve system is like a telegraph system, as will be seen by the accompanying cut.

The little white lines are the nerves which convey the nerve force from the nerve centers to every part of the body, just as the telegraph wires convey the electric current along the wires to every station, large or small. The nerve system is the most important part of the body, and it is the cause of all diseases arising from derangement of the nerve system. It is the cause of all diseases arising from derangement of the nerve system. It is the cause of all diseases arising from derangement of the nerve system.

Franklin Miles, M. D., LL. B., the highly celebrated specialist and student of nervous diseases, and author of many noted treatises on the latter subject, long since realized the truth of the first statement, and his Restorative Nervine is prepared on that principle. Its success in curing all diseases arising from derangement of the nervous system is wonderful, as the thousands of unsolicited testimonials in possession of the company manufacturing the remedy prove.

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