

M'DONNELL, THE NOTED SWINDLER

After 20 Years in English Prison He Lands in San Quentin—Other Matters of Important News from the Bay City.

(San Francisco Bureau of the Journal.)
 San Francisco, Feb. 24.—George Taylor McDonnell must serve another term in jail. McDonnell, with his usual good fortune in escaping the severest penalty of crime will only have to stay 15 months at San Quentin, and even this short sentence may be reduced considerably by "good behavior." The prisoner was accused of using the United States mails for the purpose of defrauding the public and the secret service secured testimony enough to convict him. McDonnell is known as one of the most dangerous criminals in the world. He was the partner of the famous Eldwells in their robbery of the Bank of England when the band of forgers were run down by the Scotland Yard detectives. The immense sum of \$5,000,000 was filched from the bank by means of bogus bills and George Taylor McDonnell was the man who did the engraving for the gang. Twenty years in an English prison was the sentence that McDonnell received and he was expected to be sentenced for life, but a technicality saved him. When he left England after the two decades of prison life, he came to the United States, and after a brief sojourn in New York purchased a ticket for San Francisco.

Strange to say, McDonnell resorted to petty crimes on arrival here instead of aiming for bigger game. His method was that employed by those who are known to the police as "pawnpshop workers." The swindler would write to a man of some standing in country and explain to him that a certain person in whom the intended victim was interested had died and left no personal property except a pawn ticket representing a receipt for a valuable diamond locket that had been hypothecated for the small sum of \$12.50. McDonnell signed himself "The Rev. Mr. Taylor" and requested that the amount mentioned be forwarded him that he might redeem the locket and send it to the person addressed, as the friend on his dying bed had made provision that the ticket be turned over to him.

In this manner McDonnell received several hundred dollars from innocent persons. The United States secret service and the postal inspectors traced him to a little room in an obscure street in this city and he was placed under arrest, with the result that conviction followed in the trial.

One of the men who was sent to the English prison with McDonnell was Dan Noble. Noble was with the Eldwells when they attempted to rob the Bank of England and he shared part of the millions stolen from the Bank of England. Noble sent his money to America in care of one of his brothers and with it built the well known Rosemore hotel at Syracuse. Other investments were made that paid well and the forger patiently "did time" hoping to enjoy the wages of his crime on being released from jail. No sooner was he out of England and in New York than an old charge of forgery was brought against him by the New York authorities and today he is serving a term in Sing Sing. McDonnell seems to have lost his hold. He is still the keen, cold-blooded criminal that he has been described, but he is timid of results and has not attempted to plunge. He takes his sentence with indifference and says that a few months more or less in jail will do him no particular harm.

Press Club and Lillian Russell.
 Lillian Russell was given a genuine treat last Thursday night at the Press club. Some years ago Miss Russell was made an honorary member of the organization because of her timely assistance at a time when it was given to insure the success of the newspaper men's venture. For this service she was voted a life member. "Member" Lillian expressed a desire to visit the rooms of the club and note the progress that had been made in her 14 years of absence from the city. The club's executive committee determined to make the affair one of long remembrance by the people of the Weber and Fields company, the theatrical profession in general and the newspaper fraternity and arranged a dinner at which every actress and actor on the bill boards was invited.

Never in the history of similar entertainments did such a representative crowd of Thespians and writers gather to tell good stories and hear jokes by

some of the best theatrical talent in the country. The club had arranged a fine musical program and provided good things to eat and there was much merriment and plenty to satisfy the inner man. Every theatre in the city was represented and at 1 o'clock a. m. when the morning papers released their staffs all the newspapers published here were accounted for through the "men of the pen." The jinks room held a crowd of over 400 people from midnight till dawn and there was not a dull moment during all that time. Miss Russell was delighted with the reception and on receiving a gold key to the club portal she expressed her thanks to the journalists for the delightful entertainment they had afforded her.

The Transport Service.
 The army transport service is wondering whether it will be called upon to put on a number of vessels to transport troops and marines to the Philippines. While the officials in charge have not received direct orders from Washington, many of them admit that it is evident to them that the government is preparing to send more men to the islands and to offer some of the ships that are available to the navy department for the purpose of sending marines to Cavite. It is known that the situation in the Philippines does not justify this and it is surmised that the intention is to keep a larger force at the islands than that they may be available should trouble occur in the far east that might involve the United States. There has been a deal of activity at army headquarters and all of the troops at the Presidio are being drilled with a constant eye to the status of the labor market. Spring will show a big increase in building permits issued.

Building Industry.
 There are several millions of dollars worth of large buildings under construction that will not be ready for occupancy for 10 months or a year. The new Merchants' Exchange building, which is the home of the Southern Pacific company, will be completed in January, 1905, and the Fairmount hotel will be ready to receive guests about the same time. James Flood's magnificent structure on the site of the old Baldwin hotel at Market and Duane is receiving the interior finish and is pronounced one of the handsomest specimens of architecture in the west. The hotel St. Francis is ready for the furnishes and will be opened in the summer. The Pacific Union club cannot occupy their new club house before next winter. The famous Bohemian club has purchased a piece of property at the corner of Mason and Post streets and will erect the most unique club house in the city. Plans are now being drawn. A great deal of complaint has been made of the inactivity of the Hellman syndicate in the matter of improving their Market street property, which is an eyesore and a menace, because of its flimsy character. The fine structures that have been built in the vicinity.

SOUTHERN LINE SOON COMMENCED
 The long-looked-for railroad into Central Oregon is at last soon to be built. From Shaniko, the present terminus of the Columbia Southern railway, south to Bend, a distance of 100 miles, the line is to be extended. Work will begin about the middle of next month and the line will be completed in about 18 months or two years.

It takes quite a little while," said President E. E. Lytle of the Columbia Southern this morning, "to construct 100 miles of new railroad, but we expect to have trains running on the line within two years. We intend to begin work just as soon as the weather clears up, and I expect we will start about the middle of March. There is still some snow in that part of the country."

The extension of the road from Shaniko has been anticipated ever since the line was first built. It was thought the road would have been constructed before this, but as the Columbia Southern is a feeder of the O. R. & N. Co. and it has been understood that the company held back in hopes that the Harriman people would buy the road. The price asked was intimated by an O. R. & N. official to have been too much.

The region to be opened to the outside world by the Columbia Southern is directly through the largest woolgrowing region in the United States. Annually 5,000,000 tons of wool is shipped from Shaniko. The land of Central Oregon is similar to the rich wheat land of the eastern part of the state, and it is said that the transportation problem is the only thing that is keeping farmers out of the country. As it is

Vast Area Stretches From Eternal Snow to Waters Near Equator

William E. Curtis in the Chicago Record-Herald.
 Before we go any farther it might be profitable for you to know a little something about the country we call India, the character of its population, and the plan of government, because it is necessary to have that knowledge in order to understand certain matters about which I intend to write. What surprises one most for a few days after arrival is his own ignorance and misapprehension, and he is compelled to discard and abandon most of the ideas he brought with him and begin again upon a new basis to study the situation.

The first impression of India is its vastness and its variety. Few travelers have even a slight conception of either fact until they are brought face to face with them; and to a newspaper writer both are so bewildering that he is perplexed where to begin and what to talk about first.

India is a great triangle, 1,900 miles across its greatest length and an equal distance across its greatest breadth. It extends from a region of perpetual snow in the Himalayas almost to the equator. The superficial area is 1,766,642 square miles, and you can understand better what that means when I tell you that the United States has an area of 3,970,230 square miles, without counting Alaska or Hawaii. India is about the size of that portion of the United States lying east of a line drawn southward along the western boundary of the Dakotas, Kansas and Texas.

The population of India is 294,361,056, or about one-fifth of the human race, and it comprises more than 100 distinct nations and peoples in every grade of civilization, from absolute savages to the most complete and complex commercial and social organizations. It has every variety of climate, from the tropical humidity of the equator to the frigid cold of the mountains; peaks of ice, reefs of coral, impenetrable forests and bleak, treeless plains. One portion of its territory receives the greatest rainfall of any spot on earth, and another several hundred thousand square miles is seldom watered with a drop of rain and is entirely dependent for moisture upon the melting snows of the mountains. Twelve thousand different kinds of animals are enumerated in its fauna, 25,000 plants in its flora, and the statistical survey prepared by the government lists 125 volumes of the size of our census reports.

One hundred and eighteen distinct languages are spoken in various parts of India, and 59 of these languages are spoken by more than 100,000 people each. There are a large number of other languages and dialects spoken by different tribes and clans of less than 100,000 people, and to reach them the British Bible society has published the whole or parts of the Holy Scriptures in 42 languages, which reach 200,000 people, but leave 74,000,000 without the Holy Word. In order to give the Bible to the remainder of the population of India it would be necessary to prepare 103 additional translations, which the society has no money and no men to perform. From that little statement some conception of the variety of the people may be obtained, because each of the tribes and clans has its own distinct organization and individuality, and each is practically a separate nation.

The province of Bengal, for example, is nearly as large as the North Atlantic states combined, and contains 122,458 square miles. The province of Rajasthan is even larger, and has an area of 127,541 square miles. Bengal has a population of 74,744,886, almost as great as that of the entire United States. Madras has a population of 38,000,000, and the central provinces 47,000,000, while several of the 160 different states have populations of 10,000,000.

The population is divided according to religions as follows:

Hindus	207,146,422
Mohammedans	62,458,061
Sikhs	2,165,298
Animists	5,711,290
Christians	1,433,943
Jains	1,334,148
Parsees	94,130
Jews	18,228

It will be interesting to know that of the Christians enumerated at the last census 1,202,039 were Roman Catholics, 453,612 belonged to the established Church of England, 22,556 were orthodox Greeks, 220,863 were Baptists, 155,465 Lutherans, 53,523 Presbyterians and 157,847 put themselves down as Protestants without giving the sect to which they adhere.

The foreign population of India is very small. The British-born number only 96,653; 104,583 were born in Europe, and only 641,854 out of nearly 300,000,000 were born outside the boundaries of India.

India consists of four separate and well-defined regions: the jungles of the coast and the vast tract of country known as the Deccan, which makes up the southern half of the territory; the great plain which stretches southward from the Himalayas and constitutes what was formerly known as Hindustan, and a three-sided table land which lies between in the center of the empire and is drained by a thousand rivers which carry the water off as fast as it falls and leave but little to refresh the earth. This is usually the country of famine, but the government is pushing the irrigation system so rapidly that before many years the danger from that source will be much diminished.

The whole of Southern India, according to the geologists, was once covered by a great forest, and indeed there are still 66,305,506 acres in trees which are carefully protected. The black soil of that region is proverbial for its fertility and produces cotton, sugar cane, rice and other tropical and semi-tropical plants with an abundance surpassed by no other region. The fruit-bearing palms require a chapter to themselves and are a source of surprising wealth. According to the latest census the enormous area of 546,224,964 acres is under cultivation, which is an average of nearly two acres per capita of population, and probably two-thirds of it was actually cropped. About one-fourth of this area is under irrigation and more than 22,000,000 acres produce two crops a year.

As many as 171,735,000 people are wholly engaged in agriculture; 25,468,000 are more or less employed upon farms; 5,446,000 are engaged in raising cattle; 14,376,000 in producing food and drink; 11,220 are servants in households; 13,611,000 are engaged in the manufacture of textiles; 2,361,000 are in the manufacture of glass, pottery and stoneware; 5,285,000 in manufacturing leather; 4,293,000 in the manufacture of wood, cane and matting; 5,675,000 belong to the learned professions; 664,000 are in the military service, either as soldiers or in other capacities; 5,600,000 are employed by the imperial state and local administrations; and the enormous number of 1,552,900, which is equal to the population of half our states, are in what the census terms "disreputable" occupations.

Another startling fact is that out of a total of 140,435,405 women in India only 443,195 are able to read and write;

and 197,692 are under instruction, the great majority of them in missionary schools. The total number of illiterates recorded is 248,844,176, leaving 47,514,180 of both sexes unaccounted for, but of these only 12,097,580 are returned as able to read and write. The latest statistics show that 2,195,220 are under instruction.

Referring again to the languages the following table will show those spoken by more than 1,000,000 people; and most of them you never heard of before, yet they have grammars, dictionaries and a literature; most of them poetry and metaphysical works:

Spoken by		Spoken by	
Number	Language	Number	Language
19,888,127	Hindi	2,922,241	Telugu
18,892,876	Urdu (Masal)	1,706,698	Marathi
17,724,610	Bengali	1,622,098	Punjabi
12,229,735	Assamese	1,353,820	Gandhari
10,810,780	Gond	1,379,200	Kanarese
9,751,880	Central Pahari	1,153,384	Telugu
9,010,557	Marwadi	1,100,000	Burmese
5,920,804	Pashtu	1,080,931	Malayalam
5,428,200			

There are 2,148 tribes in India with more than 5,000 population, and 31 with more than 100,000 population. The largest is Calcutta, which, according to the census of 1901, has 1,125,400 people; Bombay has 776,000 and Madras 509,346.

Few countries have such an enormous birth rate and death rate. Nowhere else are babies born in such enormous numbers, and nowhere does death reap such awful harvests. Sometimes a single famine or plague sweeps millions into eternity, and their absence is scarcely noticed. Before the present sanitary regulations and inspections were introduced the death rate was nearly double what it is now; indeed, some experts estimate that it must have been several times as great, because no records were kept. In some of the provinces, and in most of them, they were incomplete and inaccurate. India is now in a healthier condition than ever before, and yet the death rate varies from 31.10 per 1,000 in the provinces of Assam and Orissa to 82.7 per 1,000 in the tropical regions of Behar. In Bombay last year the rate was 70.07 per 1,000; in the central provinces 66.75; in the Punjab, which has a wide area in northwestern India, it was 47.4 and Bengal 38.83.

The birth rate is almost as large, the following table being reported from the principal provinces named:

Births per 1,000		Deaths per 1,000	
Province	Rate	Province	Rate
Bengal	38.83	Bengal	31.74
Bombay	47.4	Bombay	37.4
Central provinces	66.75	Central provinces	35.3
Madras	50.93	Madras	31.3
Punjab	47.4	Punjab	27.4
Assam	31.10	Assam	25.4
Orissa	31.10	Orissa	25.4

shows such an enormous birth rate as India.

Notwithstanding the crowded condition of the country and the density of its population, which reaches 100 to the square mile for the entire empire, mountain, desert and jungle, as against 2.14 in the United States, the people of India love their wretched homes and few can be induced to leave them. The largest immigration of any kind in any one year was in 1901, when the total reached only 34,147, and the greater part of these were induced to go to Uganda, Africa, to work upon a railway; and it is asserted that the greater part of them have already returned to their homes. The average annual immigration for the last 10 years has been less than 10,000.

Bengal, the province of which Calcutta is the capital, on the eastern coast of India, is the most densely populated, having 588 people to the square mile. Behar, in the north, has 468, Oudh in the north 531; Agra, also in the north, 419 and Bombay 302.

Some parts of India have a larger population to the acre than any other part of the world. The peasants, or coolies, as they are called, are born, live and die like animals. Indeed animals never are so closely herded together, or live so miserably, wretched lives. In 1900 54,000,000 people were more or less affected by the famine, and 5,600,000 were fed by the government for several months, simply because there was no other way for them to obtain food. There was no labor they could perform for wages, and those who were fortunate enough to secure employment could not earn enough to buy bread to satisfy the hunger of their families.

It is estimated that 30,000,000 of people starved to death in India during the 19th century, and in one year alone, the year in which that good woman Queen Victoria assumed the title of empress, more than 5,000,000 of her subjects died from hunger. Yet the population without immigration is continually increasing from natural causes. The net increase during the 10 years from 1891 to 1901 was 7,946,285. The struggle for life is becoming greater every year, as wages are going down instead of up notwithstanding the rapid increase of manufacturing industries, the extension of the railway system and other sources of wealth and employment that are being rapidly developed.

More than 200,000,000 persons in India are living upon less than 5 cents a day of our money; more than 100,000,000 are living upon less than 3 cents; more than 50,000,000 upon less than 1 cent and, at least two-thirds of the entire population do not have food enough during any year of their lives to supply the nourishment demanded by the human system. As I have already shown, there are two acres of land under cultivation for each inhabitant of India. This includes gardens, parks and pastures, and it is not evenly distributed. In many parts of the country, millions are compelled to live upon an average of one-fourth of an acre of land and millions more upon half an acre.

RIVER INFORMATION.
 Clerk Maher of the port of Portland commission is compiling data from the weather bureau records giving the lowest and highest stages of the Willamette river at Portland during the past 13 years. The lowest water known in February during the period covered was in 1902, when the river was only 2.4 feet above the low water mark. The highest during the month for that year was 11.3 feet. During the present month it has been up to 13 feet.

The highest water ever known at Portland was during what is termed as the June rise in 1894. At that time the river was 33 feet above zero, and flooded all the lower part of the city reaching to Sixth and Oak streets.

GRANGE TO SEE WARE.
 Low Round Trip Rate of \$4 to Seaview Good for Ten Days.
 The O. R. & N. announces the low rate of \$4 from Portland to Seaview, tickets good for 10 days from date of sale—February 25 and 26. This will afford an opportunity to see the wrecked schooner. Tickets good returning from Astoria via boat lines, also the A. & C. R. R. For particulars ask C. W. Stinger, city ticket agent, Third and Washington streets.

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FOR MISSES AND CHILDREN



Bremen & White's dull kid lace shoes, extension soles, newest shapes, were \$2.50, sizes 11 to 2 \$1.85
 Children's same, sizes from 8 1/2 to 10 1/2 \$1.35
 CHILDREN'S FINE KID LACE SHOES, turn sole, patent leather tips, sizes from 6 1/2 to 8, spring heels 75c
 Sizes from 3 to 6, spring heels 60c
 Sizes from 2 to 5, no heels 50c
 100 pairs Misses' fine kid button shoes, odd ends, sizes 13 1/2 to 2 only, were \$2.00 50c

Boys' horsehide double sole lace shoes, newest shapes, sizes from 2 1/2 to 5 1/2, were \$2.50 \$1.80
 Youths' same, sizes from 11 to 2 \$1.70
 Little girls' same, from 8 1/2 to 10 1/2 \$1.25
 Bremen & White's Boys' steel shod lace shoes, sizes from 2 1/2 to 5 1/2 \$2.25
 Youth's same, sizes from 11 to 2 \$1.90

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PRESIDENT LYTLE OF THE COLUMBIA SOUTHERN ANNOUNCES THAT EXTENSION TO BEND WILL BE STARTED NEXT MONTH—WILL BE COMPLETED IN TWO YEARS.

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grain-raising is profitless when the result of the harvest has to be transported overland to the railway for more than 30 miles.

At Bend, on the Deschutes river, there is ample water for the motive power for big scouring mills, and the building of a wool-cleaning establishment at that point, would mean the saving of thousands of dollars yearly in the woolgrowing area. As it is the raw unwashed wool is transported to Pendleton or the Willamette valley mills to be scoured.

BROOKPORT SUFFERS FIRE.
 (Journal Special Service.)
 Brookport, N. Y., Feb. 24.—Fire swept the business portion of this city this morning. The loss will reach \$110,000.

WINES, CORDIALS AND EXTRACTS

of cod liver oil act about the same on a weakened system as a cocktail does on an empty stomach. If any good is accomplished in either case the medical world has yet to find it out. The reason Scott's Emulsion affords effective and permanent relief and cure in all wasting diseases is because it restores health through nourishment, not through alcoholic stimulation.