

GOLD IN THE MAILS.

COIN AND BULLION SHIPPED IN THIS WAY.

Millions of Dollars in the Yellow Metal Make Journey to New York Every Year from the West, South America and Europe.

Vast quantities of gold pass through the New York postoffice. The postoffice authorities are naturally reticent about it, for publicity adds to the risk, but the fact is that millions of dollars in gold coin and bullion are shipped through the mails by banks and individuals every year. In two days this year \$3,175,000 in gold coin came through the New York postoffice for local banks. Most of the gold comes to New York from the West.

Gold is sent through the mail in strong canvas bags, such as are used in the treasury and bank vaults, securely fastened, and sealed. The bags contain from \$1,000 to \$10,000 each in \$5, \$10 and \$20 pieces. The bags are registered, and the amount of gold contained in each package is marked on the registry receipt. Unless the bags have been broken open in transit, or their contents appear to have been tampered with, they are checked off when received at the postoffice without their contents being counted. But once in a while a mail bag comes into the postoffice with loose coins rattling in it that have escaped from one of the money bags. In that case the gold is counted to make sure that none of it is missing.

The treasure comes in with the ordinary mail matter, and is dumped unceremoniously into the mail wagons at the railway stations. No outsider would suspect anything extraordinary in the character of the mail. But, even if he did know the contents of the bags he would have a hard time in getting away with any of them, for the wagons have armed guards in plain clothes inside.

When the mail containing the gold bags arrives at the postoffice the mail pouches containing the registered matter are carried directly to the registry department. The banks to which the gold is consigned each has a confidential clerk at the postoffice ready to receive it and carry it to their vaults. These clerks are also accompanied by armed guards. The bank clerks are usually known personally to the superintendent of the registry department, yet they must present their credentials on each visit, with duplicates of invoice. The mail is piled on a long table, around which the postoffice and bank clerks gather. The bags containing the gold are separated from the rest, and the names of the banks to which the gold bags are addressed are called off. The respective bank clerks respond, and each bag is checked off as it is handed over to them. Here the responsibility of the postoffice ends and that of the banks begins. The bags are carried to the mail street end of the postoffice building. If the consignment to any one bank is large it has a wagon in waiting there, into which the gold is loaded and carried to the bank. Sometimes it is carried in cabs and sometimes in boxes by bank messengers.

Almost every bank in New York receives gold in this way. Most of it comes from the West; some of it comes from South America and some from Europe. The amount of mail shipments of gold is constantly increasing. In 1897 \$16,000,000 in gold came through the New York postoffice. Last year the amount was \$12,000,000, and this year the figures will be much larger. The reason for shipping gold through the mails is the same as for transferring diamonds in this manner, namely, cheapness and safety.—New York Evening Post.

ONE OF LAST OF HIS KIND.

John Padgett, Who Lives as a Trapper, Remote from His Fellow-Men. Residing in the woods of Dubois County, Indiana, away from any other habitation, lives "Uncle" John Padgett, one of the remaining pioneer trappers and hunters of Southern Indiana. According to a correspondent of the Chi-



UNCLE JOHN PADGETT'S CABIN.

cago Tribune, he still makes a good living by trapping the mink, otter, skunk, and fox, and kills enough game on which to live comfortably, with the addition of the vegetables which he raises in a little patch of ground near his cabin. All strangers are eyed suspi-

ciously by him until he is satisfied that they do not intend to encroach on his favorite haunts, then he becomes hospitality itself. "Howdy, Mister," is his invariable salutation to every one. Those who gain his favor can be assured of a free passport to a paradise for sportsmen. The march of civilization has gradually driven the old man farther and farther into the forests, until now he is sufficiently isolated to be free from annoyance the rest of his life. The only persons he sees are the traders who come to buy his furs, and an occasional hunter. He has sons living in different cities who would gladly care for him the rest of his life, but the old man has lived so long in the woods with his dogs as his only companions that he does not care for the constant association with his fellow-men.

NEW HEAD OF HARPERS'.

Colonel Harvey Recently Appointed Manager of the Publishing Firm.

G. B. M. Harvey, recently appointed manager of Harper & Bros., was born in Peacham, Vt., on Feb. 16, 1864. He began to do newspaper writing when 15 years old, and his first position, obtained when he was 18, was on the Springfield (Mass.) Republican, at \$6 a week. He then went to Chicago, and in 1885—in which year he married Alma A. Parker of Peacham—he came to New York City to engage in newspaper work. In 1893, when editor of the World, he resigned that position and turned his attention to the development of electric street railways, in connection with William C. Whitney. His most notable achievement as a promoter was his organization of a syndicate which bought the Havana street railway system for \$1,472,000. He is president of the Atlantic Coast Electric Railway in Asbury Park and Long Branch, treasurer of the Staten Island Ferry Company, chief owner of the Newark Daily Advertiser, and an officer or director in many other transportation, mercantile and financial



GEORGE B. McCLELLAN HARVEY.

companies. Mr. Harvey is a member of the Lotos, Lawyers', Reform, Metropolitan, Manhattan, Colonial, Rockaway Hunt, Ardsley, Knollwood, Westchester Golf, Harbor Hill Golf, Deal Golf, Farmachenee, Democrat, Monmouth, and Ocean County Hunt and Country clubs, and the Sons of St. Patrick, and the New England Society.

Practical Knowledge.

One never knows where a piece of practical information will come into play. The safe rule is never to neglect an opportunity to learn an art or a science, lest at some time or other we should find ourselves greatly in need of it. An interesting story from Good Cheer emphasizes this lesson.

At Cornell University all the students of mechanical engineering are obliged to learn seven trades. One of these, that of the blacksmith, is very distasteful to some young men, but it has to be learned, nevertheless. One young fellow, who was averse to soiling his hands, begged to be exempted from wearing the leather apron, but the professor took special care that nothing was lacking in the thoroughness of his training at the forge.

Last fall that student went to the professor and thanked him for compelling him to learn the blacksmith's trade. "You see," he said, "I am now superintendent of a mine way back in Colorado. Last summer our main shaft broke, and there was no one in the mine except myself who could weld it. 'I didn't like the job, but I took off my coat and welded that shaft. It wasn't a pretty job, but she's running now. If I couldn't have done it, I should have been obliged to pack that shaft over the mountains, and the mine would have had to shut down till it got back. My ability to mend that shaft raised me in the eyes of every man in the mine, and the manager raised my salary.'"

General Humidity.

The following delightful bit of warm-weather dialogue is from Rev. S. Barling-Gould's recent "Book of the West:

"Ay!" "Preposition be running all over me." "Preposition! Yu'm no schollard! I be breakin' out in Presbeterians."

Nothing is more annoying than for a sensible man to associate with a fool, unless it is for a fool to associate with a sensible man.

His Highest Critical Praise.

Edward Terry tells of a pretty incident which occurred during a tour in Australia. "Do you know what I consider the most glowing tribute I ever received? The compliment came from a child. There was a crowded house, an intent audience, and humor had for the instant given place to pathos. You might have heard a pin drop and I felt the tension of the house was at breaking point. The intense silence was broken by a childish voice—a girl's—who, turning to her parent, asked in a broken voice: 'Mother, is it real?'"—San Francisco Bulletin.

Perhaps the most trying experience in the career of a maiden who has passed the first blush of romantic girlhood is when she braces herself to meet the shock of a proposal of marriage from some man, and the shock doesn't come.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

A Literary Project.

Stern Parent—No, Marcella, I positively forbid you to receive George Gay-boy. He's taken to bad ways lately; does nothing but frequent race tracks and poolrooms. Marcella—Oh, but, pa, he has a good object in going there. He's a literary man, you know, and he told me he was making a book on the races.—Harlem Life.

Prosperity for 1900.

Indications point to great prosperity for the coming year. This is the sign of a healthy nature. The success of a country, as well as of an individual, depends upon health. If you have any stomach trouble try Hostetter's Stomach Bitters which cures dyspepsia, indigestion and biliousness.

In Germany, between Düsseldorf and Crefeld, a distance of 14 miles, an express train is run by electricity at a maximum speed of 37 miles an hour.

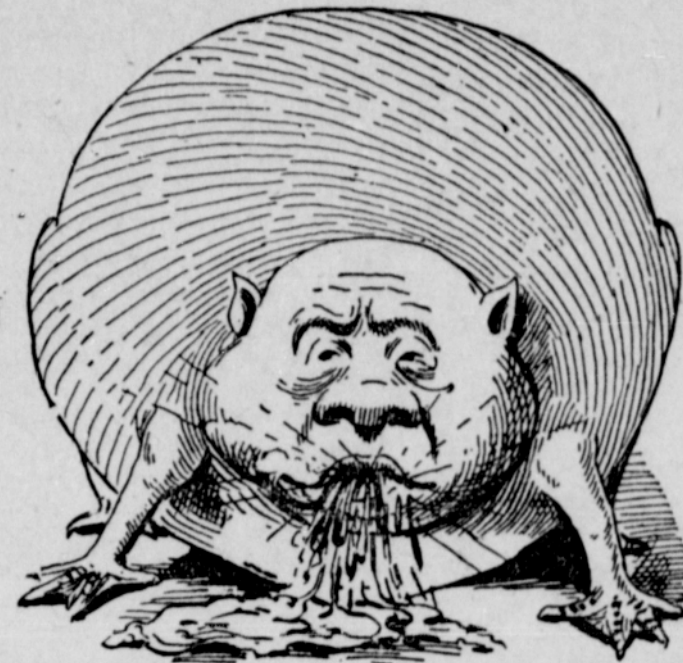
"Take Time by The Forelock."

Don't wait until sickness overtakes you. When that tired feeling, the first rheumatic pain, the first warnings of impure blood are manifest, take Hood's Sarsaparilla and you will rescue your health and probably save a serious sickness. Be sure to get Hood's, because

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Never Disappoints

At a mass meeting held in St. Paul it was decided to establish a uniform rate of 25 cents for hair cutting. Out of 105 shops in St. Paul all but three were represented at the meeting and all present signed the agreement.

BOWEL BLOAT



A horrible, slimy monster that makes man's life a misery.

After eating: a bloated belly, belching of gas from the stomach, a foul, ill-smelling scurf on the tongue, dizziness, headache, a sour rising and spitting up of half-digested food,—it's Bowel Bloat.

When the bowels stop working they become filled with putrid, rotting matter, forming poisonous gases that go through the whole body. If you don't have a regular, natural movement of the bowels at least once a day your fate is bowel bloat, with all the nasty, disgusting symptoms that go with it.

There's only one way to set it right.

Clean yourself out gently but thoroughly and tone up your bowels with CASCARETS. Every form of bowel trouble is quickly and permanently

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