

WELL UP IN YEARS.

Mrs. NANCY A. OWEN, of Ithaca, N. Y., has just celebrated the 101st anniversary of her birth.

A long married couple dwell contentedly in Biddeford, Me. They are Mr. and Mrs. Augustine Landry and they were married seventy years ago. His age is ninety-six, and hers ten years younger.

ALVINZA HAYWARD, one of the earliest of the gold millionaires of California, is very old and feeble now. He is worth probably \$20,000,000 or more, but has dropped completely out of sight behind the new bonanzaists.

MR. AND MRS. IRA WARD, of New Haven, Vt., who recently celebrated their diamond wedding, have had ten children, seventeen grandchildren, and nearly twenty-four great-grandchildren, nearly all of whom are living.

The Society of the War of 1812, which was chartered in Philadelphia recently, numbers fifty-five members, of which David McCoy, of San Bernardino, Cal., 102 years of age, is probably the oldest. Another very old member is Abraham Daily, of Brooklyn, who sees without glasses at 97.

An interesting old man who is living near Woodville, in Rappahannock county, W. Va., is J. W. Yancey, now in his 99th year. Mr. Yancey taught reading, writing and arithmetic to Alexander H. Stevens, and he was one of the young men who composed Lafayette's escort in 1824.

NATHANIEL S. BARRY, of Bristol, N. H., is said to be the oldest living ex-governor of a state in the United States. If he survives until September 1, 1896, he will be a centenarian. He was a boy of very humble parentage, became a tanner, as Gen. Grant did, and in 1861 was elected governor of New Hampshire.

PRETTY FASHIONS.

SLIPPERS laced with ribbon to imitate a sandal effect are worn with empire gowns.

A HAIR of crimson wood berries set against a bank of moss was a recent beautiful church decoration.

CINNAMON is the favorite brown this year. It looks particularly well trimmed with fer-of-smartened up with a colored waistcoat.

PLAID sleeves with revers to match are very fashionable just now, and may be worn with either green or blue cloth or even black.

ROYAL-colored veils are suggested as becoming for winter wear, adding one more to the long list of colors permissible nowadays in face coverings.

WOMEN will do well to substitute some other neckwear than feather boas to wear in high winds. A strong breeze makes them "moult" disastrously.

It is a favorite fad just now to cover a neck with a scrap of broadened silk, sometimes padding it by a layer of cotton wadding underneath. Two ribbons are attached to opposite sides by which to fasten it together, and a dainty gift is furnished which is inexpensive, but rich in appearance.

THE WORLD'S ODD COUNTRIES.

The Egyptian is taxed fifty cents on the palm tree that grows in his garden.

The average depth of sand in the African desert is thought to be thirty to forty feet.

The natives in Vera Cruz do a large trade in fireflies, which they catch by waving a blazing coal at the end of a stick. The insects fly toward the light and are captured in pots.

A number of remarkable figures of hammered silver, representing men, women and animals, have been exhumed from a peat bog in Jutland, Denmark, and placed in the National museum at Copenhagen.

The highest place in the world regularly inhabited is the Buddhist town of Lhasa, in Tibet, which is 10,000 feet above sea level. The highest inhabited place in the Americas is at Galera, Peru, 15,000 feet above sea level.

A very dry named Mirambo was Henry M. Stanley's chief reliance when passing through one of the most savage districts of Africa. At the explorer's word of command, he would bravely in the most systematic manner, to the great alarm of the natives.

SOME FAMOUS OLD WOMEN.

The Countess of Desmond Lived to Be 115 and Then Died by an Accident.

It is an acknowledged fact that a great age is attained by women oftener than by men. Tissot, with what the St. Louis Post-Dispatch calls doubtful gallantry, accounts for this by declaring that the large amount of talking for which women are famous is a very healthy exercise and promotes the circulation of the blood without over-exercising the organs. The true reason, probably, lies in the quieter and more regular life usually led by women, whose nervous system and brains are consequently not worn out so quickly, as a rule, as those of men. One of the most famous of female centenarians was the countess of Desmond, who lived to be one hundred and forty-five and died in the reign of James I. from the effects of an accident. This wonderful woman found herself at the age of one hundred so lively and strong as to be able to take part in a dance, and when she was one hundred and forty she traveled all the way from Bristol to London—a no trifling journey in those days—in order to attend personally to some business affairs.

Lady Desmond is, however, quite thrown into the shade by a French woman, Marie Peron, who died in St. Colombe in June, 1888, it is said, at the wonderful age of one hundred and fifty-eight. Toward the end of her life she lived exclusively on goat's milk and cheese. Although her body was so shrunk that she weighed only forty-six pounds, she retained all her mental faculties to the last.

It is an extraordinary but incontestable fact that some women at the age when most people die undergo a sort of natural process of rejuvenation—the hair and teeth gray again, the wrinkles disappear from the skin, and sight and hearing reacquire their former sharpness. A marquise de Mirabeau is an example of this rare and remarkable phenomenon; she died at the age of eighty-six, but a few years before her death she became in appearance quite young again. The same change happened to a nun of the name of Marguerite Verdun, who at the age of sixty-two lost her wrinkles, regained her sight and grew several new teeth. When she died, ten years later, her appearance was almost that of a young girl.

AN OFFICIAL CAT.

The New York Stock Exchange Feline Has a Steady Job.

It isn't every cat that has the good fortune to come into a settled income, but that pleasing distinction from the rest of his race is enjoyed by an animal attached to the produce exchange staff, says the New York Times. He has had the job of looking after the mice and rats on the big exchange floor ever since his kittenhood, and he is now very nearly a full-grown cat, and a sizable one as well. Grain samples are sure to attract the rodents, and the produce exchange did not secure exemption from their visits. Traps were tried with some success, but the relief thus obtained was only temporary, and it was finally decided to resort to a cat. To secure one which would not run away at the first opportunity, it was deemed wise to obtain a kitten, which, having no experience of the delights of midnight battles on back fences, would be satisfied to get along without them. The theory of this has proved to be correct. The cat never leaves the main floor of the building, and apparently is satisfied with the hunting ground it offers, spending the nights there with praiseworthy regularity. At nine o'clock each morning he gives up business and seeks rest in a carpeted corner of the superintendent's office. When the gong rings at three o'clock to warn the brokers that the exchange day is over the cat starts out to patrol his beat, making a leisurely circuit of the hall and completing about the time the last stragglers are disappearing. He is a good hunter, and eclipses the achievements of the traps, his presence on the floor at night having resulted in rendering the rats and mice far less of a nuisance than they were. His pay comes in the shape of regular rations, while a polished metal collar about his neck shows that he is the "official" cat of the exchange.

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