

# Science and Invention

Muir Glacier is in Alaska, about 100 miles north of Sitka, between Chilkat and Deed, and Mount Fairweather. It terminates in Glacier Bay. It was discovered by John Muir, the writer and mountain climber of California, in 1890, when he was making a collecting trip among the islands of Southeastern Alaska. The glacier was named in his honor.

The "axle-light" system is to be applied on the trains of the Atchafalaya, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad on an extensive scale. Each car will have its own storage batteries supplied with electricity generated by the axles of the wheels, and the locomotive headlights will derive their illumination from the same source. It is a brilliant, safe, and full train, exclusive of the locomotive, will develop nearly 5,000 candle-power of light.

If the weather is exceptionally clear, and a strong glass is used, a large vessel can be sighted five or six miles at sea, either from the bridge or look-out station, fifty or sixty feet above the water, and if the vessel sighted be a steamship, her smoke can sometimes be detected before her height or hull are visible. Flocks of birds or the sails of a steamer in the distance are also visible. The distance at which the vessel is sighted is approximately expressed in miles the distance at which the sea's surface can be seen from a ship.

A notable recent achievement in archaeology is the discovery of the Roman Forum of a massive pavement of black marble nine feet square, which some believe to be the veritable "black stone" which the Romans venerated as marking the tomb of Romulus. Under the marble, among other objects, was a broken stele, or Latin column, covered with archaic Etruscan characters, and this is considered to bear out the statement of the later Roman historians that in the early days the Romans spoke a tongue which their descendants could not understand.

An enthusiastic wheelman in New York State recently got rid of a troublesome sprinkling of tacks in a novel and effective manner. The trouble occurred on a cycle path which had been broken up by a heavy rain. The cyclist had a yard of a shoe factory, and which were filled with iron tacks. It was proposed to build an entirely new path, but our rider solved the problem more cheaply. Constructing a framework carried on rollers, like a carpet sweeper, he furnished it with six powerful magnets and swept the track repeatedly, stirring up the cinders until every tack was removed.

Between the northern point of Long Island and West Point, there are two islands, two of which, Plum Island and Goose Island, possess a peculiar form of mineral wealth. It consists in heaps of richly-colored quartz pebbles, showing red, yellow, purple and other hues, which are usually called agates. They are used in making stained-glass windows, and there is a sufficient demand for them in New York to keep the owners of one or two sloops employed in gathering them from the beaches, where they are usually rolled and polished them, bringing out the beauty of their colors.

With the Crossley reflecting telescope at the Lick Observatory photographs have recently been obtained which show a surprising structure in the celebrated Ring Nebula in the constellation Lyra. With an ordinary telescope this nebula appears only as a delicate oval, hanging like a little smoke-ring, with faint stars sprinkled about it on the dark sky. The photographs not only reveal a star situated in the center of the ring, but they show that the ring is made up, to use Prof. Keeler's expression, "of a number of narrower rings interlacing somewhat irregularly." The space within the ring, which is crossed by a faint nebulousity, is seen in the photographs to be crossed by three dark and two bright bands. Near the ring is a small independent nebula whose photographic image appears in the form of a "left-handed, two-branched spiral."

## A MODEL ESTATE.

The splendid seat of the late Millionaire of Westminister, the richest man in England, were well shown on his estate at Eaton Hall. This estate is beautifully situated partly in Wales and partly in England, the River Dee meanders through it.

One of the Duke of Westminister's hobbies was good roads. He had one of the best road engineers in the kingdom in his employ, who was continually experimenting with material and methods for road-making. The hundred odd miles of driveways on the estate are by far the finest in Europe. None in Great Britain or France equals them. The cyclist can actually ride ten miles at a time without seeing a loose stone on the road. The roads are built of a clay and cement foundation, on the top of which is laid a mixture of crushed stone about the size of a walnut and more cement. This gives a surface so smooth that after a rainstorm washes away what little dust there is the top is like asphalt, only more level and without the undulations so often found in asphalt roadways. Other parts of the highways are composed of macadam without cement, but built in place by the weight of twenty-ton rollers operated by steam. The system has been an object lesson which highway builders in her Majesty's domain and the continent have studied with profit. The road-making has given employment to a force of 300 to 400 men constantly. Just how much has been spent on the roads at Eaton Hall cannot be exactly estimated, but it runs up to over \$1,000,000. However, his grace utilized them but little, going over his estate on his private railroad line. When built, about ten years ago, this was one of the most extensive private lines in the world. It was laid out on a gauge of three feet. The road weighed twenty-five pounds to the yard. The engines averaged about five tons each, and under a full head of steam carried the owner over his place at the rate of eighteen miles an hour. The road is thirty-five miles long. The main terminal station is a covered corridor at the hall. The Duke could step from his library into the corridor, get aboard the train and come back to the same place in three hours, after visiting the principal centers of interest. Unless he wished to leave the car and walk around at some of the stations, he could take the trip bareheaded and in evening dress, as the cars are heated by steam in cold weather and lighted by gas. Most of the rolling stock was used by the guests and the workmen about the place, as the Duke found that he could transport the farmers, gamekeepers and contractors and

here and there by steam and save time and money by it. When a man had work to do at a point twenty miles or so from where he had been employed, the train could save half a day or so in carrying him where he wanted to go. Up to the time the Duke's death regular schedule was in service. Trains were run each way over the road at least twice a day, and extra ones when needed. The owner had a "special" consisting of a miniature palace car. It was elegantly upholstered and had an office, a smoking compartment and most of the appointments of the American private car except a sleeping compartment.

## ORIGIN OF THE WIG.

First One Mentioned in History Worn by King Saul's Daughter. The first wig mentioned in history was made of goat's skin and worn by the daughter of Saul, King of Israel. The first artistic wigs were made in the south of Italy for the Gapielins, who lived in Apulia and were known for the luxuries of their toilet. These people, as they are called, were the first who painted their faces; this they did with the juice of strawberries.

The Persians wore wigs. Xenophon relates that little Cyrus, when he visited Astyages, his grandfather, whose eyes were framed in blue paint and who wore an enormous wig, threw himself on his knees and cried: "Oh, mother, what a beautiful grandfather I have!" Aglala, a maid of honor, was so struck by the appearance of the old gentleman that she remained with Astyages as a slave.

The Phoenician women, who were proud of their hair, having been ordered by their priests to offer it up on the altars dedicated to Venus after the death of Adonis, obeyed, but with murmuring. Soon after they were consulted by a Greek merchant, who told them that he would give them the means of hiding their bald pates under luxuriant curls. In his chariot he had hundreds of wigs of all colors.

Wigs were in vogue in Rome toward the end of the republic, and so well made that, says Ovid, "No man could know if his wife had any hair at all before she had given him an opportunity of seeing her by the tresses." Teutonic peasants were the providers of blonde hair for rich Roman princesses, who loved the contrast of its flaxen hue with their black eyes. They even had morning wigs, small and tightly curled, of any color, and they kept the beautiful fair ones to receive their admirers at night. Messengers had 150 wigs to disguise herself.—Cincinnati Commercial-Tribune.

Their Remarkable Record. It would be well if all families could point to as creditable a history in point of freedom from domestic broils as that of Deacon Kendrick, of Dasherly. The good deacon and his wife were celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary. A large concourse of relatives and friends had assembled at the old homestead, a splendid dinner had been served and eaten, and the speeches, without which no anniversary of this kind is considered to be complete, were in progress.

"In all these fifty years, my friends," said Neighbor Brown, in the course of his remarks, "as I have been told a hundred times and believe to be true, our venerable friends have never exchanged a cross word. Is it not so, Deacon?" "Yes, that's true," replied the deacon. "Is it not so, sister?" asked Mr. Brown, addressing Mrs. Kendrick. "Yes," she replied, with a twinkle in her eye. "Abner may have given me a cross word now and then, but I've never answered back."

## Why Not Live Forever?

Old age results from the body becoming too heavy and clumsy for the muscles and sinews which are necessary to healthful activity. In all the food we eat there is a certain proportion of lime. So long as the muscles are actively employed this lime is worked out of the system. If the body becomes inactive it accumulates about the joints and makes it more and more difficult to move them. Some of it gets into the muscles themselves, making them hard and inflexible. This is the reason why heart disease proves so often fatal to old people. When the muscles relax the heart has to work more than it is able to do at almost any time of fatal results. If any man could exert enough will power to make himself take a certain amount of exercise every day, barring accidents, he would live forever.

Of course, a man might accidentally acquire a fatal illness, and in that case he might die in spite of his dumb-bells. Character in Red Hair. Red-haired women are ardent and vivacious, especially if with it they have hazel eyes, in which case they are full of life and quick intelligence. They have a great deal of natural fertility for study, and good memories. Red hair with blue eyes shows the same warmth of character, but not so much intelligence; bright golden hair, of a rich, deep color and of a crisp and waving texture, growing thickly on the head and somewhat low on the brow, shows an ardent, poetic and somewhat artistic temperament. It is the signature of Apollo, the sun. People with red-brown hair which is very thick, and redder over the ears and at the temples than on the head, are courageous and energetic. This sort of hair gives sense of color, painters, force of language and eloquence in poets, and never in musical composition.—Woman's Home Companion.

The Rubicon. The great Caesar drew near to the Rubicon faintly, and when he was come at last to the banks of the noted stream, he hesitated to cross. "How different it would be if I were a college graduate!" he exclaimed, with emotion. This incident in the life of the famous Roman admonishes us to take advantage of every opportunity to obtain a liberal education.—Detroit Journal.

Regarded as a Crime. There is one country in the world where it is considered a crime to smoke. Abyssinia is the region, and the law forbidding tobacco dates from a decree issued by the emperor Menelik intended to prevent poisons from smoking in the churches, but it was taken too literally, and nowadays even foreigners have to smoke sub rosa, as if they were still schoolboys.

Gold in Kamooiatka. Kamchatka may soon become as popular a resort for the tourist, as gold has been discovered there in promising quantities.

Wages in New South Wales. One dollar and seventy-five cents a day has been adopted by the New South Wales Government as a minimum wage to railway laborers.

Women, when cornered, cry, and thus gain time in which to think up a new excuse. A woman with a cooling voice is invariably disliked.

# Master of the Veterans

WHEN the sun of August begins to redden the green out of the foliage the veterans of the civil war in thirty-fifth national encampment will assemble in the State when their order has birth. Not in the city where the original post of the Grand Army of the Republic was instituted, indeed, but in the borders of the State where the idea was first promulgated and carried into effect. Next August the veterans will meet in Chicago, but the army, once an appreciable proportion of the grand army which dropped the sword for peaceful pursuits, is fading away with the lapse of years.

Boys in years and animation when the smoke of the big guns curled about Fred Sumter, nothing but gray beards remain to-day. Veterans then have long since passed over the great divide. Nine years ago as it is to-day, it is fitting indeed that as the day draws near there will be no Grand Army left these who still cling to life should return to the old homestead in reunion. Boys in years and animation when the smoke of the big guns curled about Fred Sumter, nothing but gray beards remain to-day. Veterans then have long since passed over the great divide. Nine years ago as it is to-day, it is fitting indeed that as the day draws near there will be no Grand Army left these who still cling to life should return to the old homestead in reunion.

Thirty-four years will have passed away when the next meeting will be held since the first national encampment was held in Indianapolis. Half a dozen States were represented in that gathering, with but 228 members in the assembly. Illinois had something over twenty posts then and was the only State organized into a department with department officers. Since then the army has prospered until every State in the Union almost has a department, a large membership and a large budget. In 1890 the census numbered over 400,000; to-day, less than ten years later, the army has been reduced to but a trifle over two-thirds the high-water mark.

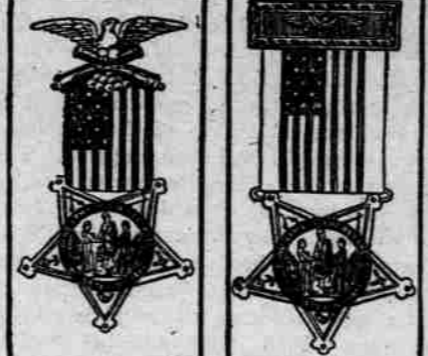
Line of March Shortened. Year after year the line of march in all parades has been shortened, that the fatiguing veterans may not be over-fatigued. Even when civic pride demands the old long lines the men with the blue blouses and bronze buttons pass by the reviewing officer and then, again dropping their military formation, fall out of the line and mingle with the people who assemble to see the parade. Stopped shoulders bent under the burden of years have replaced the straight and soldierly, and the jaunty stride of the war days, the old men clinging fondly to the trinity of the order, charity, fraternity and loyalty, turn out indeed, but the marching marches of forty years ago are beyond their strength.

Steadily each year the percentage of loss by death is rising until to-day it is almost as high as it was in the days when muskets were borne over the shoulders of the men, or leveled in the years ago the high tide of the army was reached. Even then the losses by reason of the falling out of stragglers whose memories alone remain was heavy, as heavy as the average loss by death in any great battle. Last year the decrease in membership and the increase in flower-decked mounds was nearly as great as the total losses from all causes in the stiffest fight any member ever participated in.

But a few years remain of earth to the men who fought the good battle to preserve the Union. None live now— with here and there a notable exception— of those who were bearded youths when they went to the front to throttle the most serious rebellion the world ever saw or ever will see. The men who in 1861 wore beards and had the tread of mature manhood have gone before to blaze the way to the land of eternal rest for their juniors. Thirty-four national encampments have been held since the organization was born in Springfield, and some twenty-eight sessions will see the closing of the records, for the veterans will be all gone and posterity will have but the recollection of what they did and how they would have kept alive the loyalty and fight again the fights of the war. To-day if half that number—in spite of the heavy membership in Chicago and the State—should assemble from all parts of the broad land it would be a noble gathering. Age, poverty—few of the members are wealthy—and distance from the scene will prevent many a man from attending. Yet in every breast will be the hope, for every veteran realizes that this may be his last opportunity to meet with his comrades this side of the grave.

This side of the grave, while at the front fighting for the Union, the idea of an association of volunteers after their military duties had closed was born in the mind of a son of Illinois, Dr. Benjamin Franklin Stephenson, surgeon of the Fourteenth Illinois Infantry, and who was active in the grand army. It was first thought out the scheme which was worked so intimately with Chaplain W. J. Rutledge. In the quiet hours of the night after "taps" had been sounded these comrades often talked of the hope of organizing the Grand Army. As early as the spring of 1862 Mr. Rutledge broached the topic and Dr. Stephenson elaborated it to include a national order.

Looking far into the future the Doctor saw that distress would come to the men of arms as the years passed by. Wounds and disease would cripple them prematurely. Hardships and exposure, bad food and not enough of that in the field would shorten the term of their active business life. Hope of aid they would have none unless banded together as brothers. They should relieve each other. Seeking to keep alive the fires of patriotism, seeking to provide a relief association which should aid by the highest type of charity a de-



Adjutant General, D. C. McNeill of Iowa, Quartermaster General, W. A. Pike of Missouri, Chaplain. Gen. Hurlbut administered the affairs of the army for one term, then giving away to another son of Illinois, the one who had attained the highest rank and greatest fame attained by a volunteer officer, John A. Logan. Gen. Logan became chief of the army in 1868. He signalized his administration by promulgating an order setting apart May 30 as memorial day. He issued his famous order No. 11 on May 5, calling on all survivors of the war to look after the graves of all fallen comrades with flowers on May 30. The ceremonial to be observed were left to the individual posts, as up to that time no ritual had been adopted for this purpose.

Its Struggles and Success. In the early years, in common with all fraternal organizations, the Grand Army of the Republic struggled for life. But with over 2,000,000 volunteers to draw from it was merely a question of time when no city in the land would be large enough to handle all if all should meet at any national encampment. When the high mark was reached the army numbered about 50 per cent. of all the survivors of the war eligible to membership. Losses from

various causes kept pace with gains for ten years. Then gains exceeded losses until 1890. Then the old fellows commenced to pass away with startling rapidity. The Grand Army commenced to grow rapidly after the '70s. By the close of the decade departments had sprung up all over the land. The membership was secured by any general, but commanded by any general, but Grant during the war. In 1890 the muster rolls showed 409,781 members. Last year but 287,981 veterans admitted adherence to the regulations. The losses from death are not the losses. Losses by honorable discharge are not as heavy as those by the final discharge.

Chicago must prepare to entertain 1,000,000 guests during the last four days of August. For the first time in the history of the nation, the members of the Grand Army of the Republic is to be held in the city by the lake, and preparations are already under way to make the occasion outline any national gathering ever held by that great organization.

"Approximately 750,000 veterans of the war are still alive out of the 2,225,000 recruits enlisted in that great struggle," said Secretary E. A. Bigelow, of the executive committee, having the management of the encampment in charge. "Of that number it is estimated from the rosters of the various divisions of the G. A. R. that 500,000 reside in the territory west of the Alleghenies, north of the Ohio River and east of the Missouri—that is, in the territory directly tributary to Chicago. They will come to this encampment—men who did not go to Philadelphia or Cincinnati or to any other place, but who will come to Chicago. And we will make them welcome."

A Child's Vocabulary. The language which the child of six employs is apt to be the basis of his speech throughout life. In the theory advanced by an obscurantist physician writing in the Woman's Home Companion. "We cannot separate from words the ideas for which they stand; thus what might at first appear to be merely an educational matter is also a serious moral problem. The writer retains a tolerably clear recollection of his own boyhood, and he has enjoyed the intimate acquaintance of many young children. From this experience he would express the opinion that a very small minority of children at the age of eight can be considered 'innocent,' and that a very considerable minority of boys of five can swear fluently, and use a shockingly copious stock of objectionable words. By making a hermit of a child we can prolong for a few years the inevitable contact with the coarser manifestations of human nature, but he will then very likely be ashamed, by his greater assiduity in acquiring the fruit of the tree of knowledge. We have built up a special code of ethics for children with a vocabulary to match."

His Character. The old hiring fairs are still held in some rural districts of England. There is a story of an old Gloucestershire farmer, who, seeming a likely lad at such a place, opened negotiations with a view to engaging him. "That's a character," said the farmer, "but my old gaffer be about somewhere, and I can get to write one." "Very well," said the reply, "I'll get it and meet it here again at a o'clock." The farmer and the boy met at the appointed hour. "What got thy character?" was the query. The answer was short and sharp: "No, but I ha' got thine, and I bean't a-comin'."

An Elastic Currency. "What we need is an elastic currency," said Mr. Geizer, who was elucidating the money question to his wife. "Then, why doesn't the government print banknotes on thin sheets of rubber?" demanded Mrs. Geizer, with the air of one who has solved a mighty problem.—Harper's Bazar.

Water Hard to Heat. Water is the hardest of all substances to heat, with the single exception of hydrogen gas. The easiest two are mercury and lead, which stand in this respect on nearly the same footing.

He Came Pretty Near to Making a Big Strike. "It is mostly all luck in the mining business," said E. A. Frederick, a Klondiker from Seattle, "and that's a good thing where you find it is a surer proposition than any specification of a mining expert. Let me give you a couple of instances. In the winter of '97 I was working near Gold Hill in the El Dorado district and one Sunday I was at the cabin of Dr. Carper of my town, who was treating a lame shoulder I had. After the professional part of the call was over, the doctor and I who are old friends, were talking of mining, he being in it himself more than doctoring, and I told him we ought to go over on the opposite hill, next to a claim worked by man named Hester, and stake of a couple of claims. But he would not have it my way at all, and insisted that if there was any gold there, somebody would have claimed the territory which did not have a stake on it except an ancestor's. I listened to him and we didn't stake a claim, but in June following the doctor paid \$10,000 for four claims, each 100 feet square, on the same site, and out of thirty-two square feet of ore taken he took \$22,000, and he is still working them. That same year, at Christmas he was feeling pretty good, and the day before Christmas he told his brother and a couple of men who were working for him that he wanted to give them a Christmas present, and they could go into the mine and get a painful lot of whatever it might be worth. The three took him up, and went hunting for the richest dirt they could find. One of them didn't want to act the part, but he overcame his scruples and got into the richest ground, as the others did, and when they had panned their selections, one man got \$32, one got \$113, and the brother hit it for \$164. Think of that for a painful, when a man can get rich at it if it pays him a dollar a pan regularly. The pay streak in this mine is seven feet thick and in places the gold actually glittered in the gravel. "But I am getting ahead of my story. On the following Sunday I was with the doctor again, and I called his attention to another unoccupied hillside where he could stake claims, and again the doctor turned me down. He said that he was throwing away my right in the district to stake a claim in that locality, and for a second time I listened to him. On the same spot that season a luckier man took \$50,000 out of his claim and after he sold it for \$60,000. The claim, I finally got did not lose me any money, but I didn't get any big winnings, as I might have got if my luck and my nerve had been with me."—Washington Star.

GIVES AWAY HIS INCOME. A Reading Physician Whose Profits Go to Church and Charity. Dr. Isaac Detweiler, of Reading, Pa., is probably the only physician in the world who gives every dollar derived from his practice to the church and charity. For over ten years this, although it is not generally known, Dr. Detweiler celebrated his seventeenth birthday a year anniversary this week.

Dr. Detweiler has lived in Reading thirty years. When starting out in life he made a vow that as he prospered in his profession or business he would give a certain percentage to the cause of religion and charity. He has done so. More than ten years ago he made another vow that whenever he might be directed thereafter from his practice of medicine would be given in these good causes. The amount of money he has given since then aggregates tens of thousands. Although to-day not considering himself an active practitioner, his receipts from his professional last year amounted to probably \$140 a month, all of which was or will be donated to religious and charitable purposes.

During the Spanish-American war he contributed \$225 for the purchase of Bibles and testaments for the soldiers, and he paid for much other religious literature that was sent to them.

"I'm not surprised," remarked the debaron dry goods drummer, "that those people down in Kentucky don't drink any more water than they do. I have just heard from a customer of mine in Eminence, a pleasant town not far from Louisville, that a well-known citizen there, who has been troubled for a long time with a backing cough, had a severe spell of coughing the other day and raised two square blocks of some kind of hard substance. His servant then down to a Louisville chemist, who reported that they were blocks of limestone, caused by the limestone water the cougher had been drinking. I can't say any more, but just think of the liability a man is subjected to down there of having his bronchial tubes and his alimentary canal macadamized from Dan to Beersheba. I'd rather drink moonshine than run such a risk as that. I shure would."

A Wise Child. Inspector—Suppose I lent your father \$100 in June and he promised to pay me back \$10 on the first of every month, how much would he owe me at the end of the year? Now, think well before you answer. Pupil—\$100, sir. Inspector—You're a very ignorant little girl. You don't know the most elementary rules of arithmetic. Pupil—Ah, sir, but you don't know father's—Punch.

Australian Opal Mines. Opal mining is one of the latest Australian mineral industries. The principal opal mining center is White Cliffs, where the gem has been found in highly paying quantities and of the richest quality, within a radius of ten miles, and a population of 1,500 or thereabouts is settled there.

When a man fusses, his wife doesn't care so much that he is displeased as she fears that the neighbors will hear him. After all, nearly every thing is knocked down to the lowest bidder.

## A MINER'S LUCK

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## A REMARKABLE FINANCIER.

A Chicago Man Whose Liabilities Amount to Over \$5,000,000. A Chicago man remarkable in the world of finance is Francis P. Owings. He is remarkable not for his vast wealth, but for the enormous debts he assumed, his liabilities amounting to exactly \$5,000,000. The fact that he owes this huge sum makes the situation more notable than if he had accumulated the amount in the same period, a decade. While it is, to the majority, a hard matter to become rich, it is granted that it is easier to accumulate more than to get so deeply in debt as his Owings.

The story of the man who deals in debts so splendidly and who has fallen on the most magnificent scale yet known is a part of Chicago's history. Francis P. Owings is the man who originated the idea of using the ninety-nine-year lease as a basis for building operations. He invented the process and put up at least thirty buildings in the business district in the city. For ten years the theory which he originated controlled real estate values in the downtown district and led to the erection of three-quarters of the skyscrapers in Chicago. He was a man of great energy without a dollar, but his dealings in the business world brought him so prominently before the public as a successful promoter that he can, as soon as his affairs became entangled in court, be settled, secure unlimited capital for a new start.

It was he who brought to the West the idea of building skyscrapers. Architects refused, owing to wind pressure, to build over the old buildings, but Owings accepted the responsibility and they were successfully erected. Owing to unfortunate circumstances, Owings was obliged to fail and, while others have profited by his business sagacity and become rich, he is to-day acting as clerk in a broker's office. That his career will in bankruptcy court, is not thought possible, as he has shown himself to be a financier of the first order and one of the most remarkable men the West has ever known.

MAIL WAGONS OF ODD DESIGN. Five Queer-Looking Vehicles Purchased by Postoffice Collectors. Five mail collection wagons of a type never before seen in Kansas City have been bought by the mail collectors of the Kansas City postoffice. These mail wagons are of a very odd design. There is a high box in front for the letters and a low platform behind for the driver. Box and platform are covered with a narrow cover. The collector may sit on a stool behind the mail box. The driver sits on a stool behind a street box the stool, by the operation of a spring, drops out of the way. The men who collect the mail receive the same salaries as letter-carriers, but they are paid for carrying mail, horses and wagons for collecting mail. These new wagons cost \$75 each.

Candy for the Soldiers. Candy of good quality, consisting of mixed chocolate creams, lemon drops, coconut macaroons and acidulated fruit drops, has been added to the regular ration of the American soldier. One New York firm has shipped more than fifty tons of confectionery during the past year for the troops in the Philippines, Cuba and Porto Rico. The use of candy as an army ration originated in some experiments on the diet of the troops conducted by the German government ten years ago. They showed that the addition of candy and chocolate to the regular ration greatly improved the health and endurance of the troops using it. Since that time the German government has issued rations of chocolate and candy to its army and other confectionery. The Queen forwarded five hundred thousand pounds of chocolate in half-pound packages as a Christmas treat for the troops in the Transvaal. American soldiers are now considering a movement to add jam to the army ration, it having been found wholesome for the British army.

Opal and Bad Luck. The superstition associating opals with baleful influence is all the talk of Hagerstown. Katherine Reinshue, a young society woman, became engaged, and her fiance presented her with an opal ring. She was superstitious, but finally accepted the ring. Her uneasiness grew into fear that the stone portended some calamity. Her lover offered to exchange the ring for another, but she declared that the ring was already wrought. Shortly after receiving the ring she was sitting before an open fire warming her hands. Suddenly the stone burst. Within a month after the bursting of the opal her lover died suddenly. Indianapolis special to Chicago Tribune.

An Engineering Triumph. One of the latest triumphs in engineering work consists in the construction, shipment by steamer, and subsequent transfer to railway transportation of a steamer of 4,200 tons built at Lake Baikal, Siberia, not less than 5,000 miles from St. Petersburg. From Corfe Castle to Bournemouth West Cliff English military men have passed acetylene gas signals, a distance of twelve miles—the message being clear to the naked eye.

The Sutor for a Girl's Hand Ought to Suit Her. A bridegroom who was on his way to the altar with a woman who was on her third.

Another New Jersey story is that of a man who was on his way to the altar with a woman who was on her third. A week or two ago the knot was tied for a Kansas man and a Missouri woman in the city of Atchison, Kan. The bridegroom's teeth chattering with cold as he read the service.

For fifteen years a Polisher in New York paid court and was finally accepted. The day before that set for the wedding she married his younger brother. An engagement that extended unbroken over a period of fifty years ended in marriage at Napoleon, Ohio, in September. The man was 80, the woman 72.

## FREAK ROMANCES.

Last Year's Crop Labeled Love Stories or Conventions. A woman in New York had her fiance arrested under a charge of theft and then married him. The New York papers told of a wife in New Jersey who was divorced by her husband and is now in the employ of his second wife as a cook.

A woman in Cowley County, Kansas, recently sued for divorce from the man with whom she had lived for thirty years because he did not love her quite enough to give up the use of tobacco. An Atchison man is suing his wife for divorce because he found her examining mourning styles. Another man in this same county sued a woman for breach of promise.

There is a colony of men and women near Mason City, Iowa, called the Amasa Society that is bound to strict rules of celibacy. Two members, however, fell in love and were married. A St. Louis woman pretended that she was her husband's sister that she might secure a divorce and marry another.

A man of Independence, Kan., made his fifth trip to the altar with a woman who was on her third. Another New Jersey story is that of a man who was on his way to the altar with a woman who was on her third. A week or two ago the knot was tied for a Kansas man and a Missouri woman in the city of Atchison, Kan. The bridegroom's teeth chattering with cold as he read the service.

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One of the scandals of the year was the case of William Brewster, who married Miss Rose L. Edwards, of Boston. He was to be best man for his friend, George H. Boeck, but stole the bride.

GOOD EFFECTS OF SINGING. A Valuable Form of Exercise for Persons with Weak Lungs. Many medical men are now recommending their patients to study singing, which is a most salutary exercise, both by virtue of its influence on the emotions, the respiratory movements, and on the development of the lungs. Nothing better shows the beneficial influence of singing in developing the chest and warding off lung diseases than the case of the celebrated tenor, Enrico Caruso, who, after a long illness, recovered from the effects of a severe cold, and on the development of the lungs. Nothing better shows the beneficial influence of singing in developing the chest and warding off lung diseases than the case of the celebrated tenor, Enrico Caruso, who, after a long illness, recovered from the effects of a severe cold, and on the development of the lungs. Nothing better shows the beneficial influence of singing in developing the chest and warding off lung diseases than the case of the celebrated tenor, Enrico Caruso, who, after a long illness, recovered from the effects of a severe cold, and on the development of the lungs.

Secret of an Ocean Tragedy. A peculiarly strange mystery of the sea has just been solved and the fate of the well-known schooner Howard H. Hanson and James B. Pace, which sailed from Philadelphia in November, 1898, for New England ports and were never afterward heard from, has been determined. The schooner, both vessels sunk on the southern coast of Massachusetts, apparently in collision. In both skeletons of men were found lashed to the rigging or to the rail, and while there was nothing left of the flesh it is thought they can be recognized by the clothing.

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