BIG CITY IN RUINS

Earthquake at Valparaiso, Chile, Is Followed by Fire.

HUNDREDS CRUSHED TO DEATH

Great Port and Surrounding Country Stricken—Throngs of Homeless Crazed by Calamity.

New York, Aug. 18.—The Herald today prints the following:

Valparaiso, Chili, Friday.—Without the slightest tremor of warning an earthquake visited this city at 8 o'clock last night, bringing death to hundreds of persons and leaving many hundreds more imprisoned in the ruins, many of whom were burned to death before aid could reach them. Fire started immediately after the first shock and every branch of the city's service was paralyzed. Panic and consternation indescribable followed, and those who escaped death and injury became frenzied with fear and could render little assistance to the victims.

The business section of the city is almost entirely destroyed, and fires are still raging. We are suffering here a repetition of the horrors of San Francisco.

As night comes on, the city is everywhere aglow with unobstructed fires, and clouds of choking smoke and vapor settle into the streets and houses, where throngs of homeless ones are wandering about, crazed by the awful calamity.

It is almost impossible to ascertain how wide an area of country the visitation has laid waste. Nothing has been heard from Santiago, the capital city of Chile, and it is feared that the fate of that city is as bad or worse than that of Valparaiso.

Telegraphic communication is cut off in all directions, and every one here is too much depressed by the calamity at home to seek information of other places. No trains have arrived or left here since the first shock came, as all of the railroad tunnels are filled and miles of track on the surface are twisted and rendened useless. It is only known from general accounts that death and destruction are on all sides.

There were two distinct and terrific shocks, the second one following almost instantly after the first and completing the work of destruction. The day had been unusually calm and pleasant.

Many landslides have occurred around the city and scores of lives have been lost. At present it is impossible to state the number of dead in the entire city, but it is believed that there are several hundred, many of whom are still in the ruins. It has laid waste the best part of the city, and has doubtless put Chile back many years in the scale of civilization.

NO UNION PACIFIC DIVIDEND.

Has Surplus of Over $25,000,000, Southern Pacific $19,000,000.

New York, Aug. 18.—At the conclusion of a meeting of the executive committee of the Union Pacific railroad here today statementn was given that no announcement would be made regarding a dividend. The committee's estimate of the income of the road for the year ending June 30 showed gross receipts from transportation $67,281,542, increase $7,956,593 over 1905; expenses and taxes, $36,963,773, increase $5,101,059; surplus available for dividend, $2,201,844, increase $6,416,337. The balance after payment of dividends on the preferred stock was $25,219,812. The sum for expenses includes $2,206,619 for betterments, equipment and repairs.

The estimated income of the Southern Pacific company shows: Gross receipts from transportation, $105,619,110, increase $7,478,531; expenses and taxes, $70,586,649, increase $4,993,029; surplus, $21,560,712, increase $9,128,740. After payment of a dividend of 7 per cent on the preferred stock, the balance was $18,790,833. The sum of $2,117,286 was credited for betterments and equipment.

Santa Fe Buys Tie Farm.

San Diego, Cal., Aug. 18.—By a deal closed today the Santa Fe railroad becomes the owner of the famous San Dieguito ranch, just north of the city, comprising 8,659 acres of land. The price paid was $100,000. The ranch is to be used to raise eucalyptus trees for ties for the future use the road. It is proposed to plant about 600 acres each year, and as the trees are quick growers it is figured that in 20 years the road will be able to harvest six to eight ties to a tree and keep up the harvest thereafter continually.

Scourge of Cholera Checked.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 18.—F. P. Warner, connected with the beureau of prisons at Manila, returned to the States on the steamer Dakota today. He says the health authorities in the Philippines have checked the annual scourge of cholera. From June 1, when the first case was reported, up to the time Mr. Warner left the islands, only 13 cases had been found in Manila. Speaking of the island prison, Presidio, at Manila, Mr. Warner says there are 4,000 persons confined there, of whom but 100 are Americans or English.

Frauds by Coffee Importers.

New York, Aug. 18—Collector of Customs Stranahan conducted an examination today in relation to the complaint by Scott Truxton, government agent of the Porto Rican Commercial agency, that a firm here had made fraudulent declarations of a clearance of coffee. The declarations were made by a boy who, in manifesting several hundred bags which contained coffee as "choice red beans," omitted the word "coffee."

Sulta's Thank Offering.

Constantinople, Aug. 18.—The sultan has ordered the release of all the prisoners in the empire who have completed two-thirds of their sentences, as a mark of gratification for the recovery of his health.

CASHIER BACKED BOOKIES.

Hering Represented Himself Wealthy Man Seeking "Suckers."

Chicago, Aug. 17. — Absolute proof that Henry Hering, cashier of the wrecked Milwaukee Avenue State bank, was financial backer of a bookmaking syndicate which laid odds on horseraces, was brought to light late today, when Inspector Shippy found a check made payable to Harry M. Smith, who for years ran the Buffet at 56 South State street, and whose place was closed this spring, because of running a handbook, that handbook being none other than that run by the syndicate headed by Hering, but whose name never appeared as connected with it until today. Other men in the syndicate were Charles Francis, Thomas Rowe, Walter Frantzen, Harry Thorpe and Henry Troy.

All these men were interviewed by the inspector and all admitted that they were connected with the book, but denied that they knew Hering was connected with any bank, and said that he represented that he was a wealthy man, and that he wanted to increase his wealth by separating "a few suckers from their loose change."

BUYS ST. PAUL SYSTEM.

Harriman Secures Railroad Coveted by James J. Hill.

New York, Aug. 17.—It can be authoritatively stated that control of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad has passed into the hands of E. H. Harriman, via the Southern Pacific Railroad company, which is controlled by the Union Pacific Railroad company, the main Harriman concern. A rumor to the effect that Harriman sought to own the St. Paul property has been heard on various occasions of late, but not until today could it be learned from a competent authority that there was good foundation for the report.

As a railroad deal this purchase of the St. Paul by Harriman is more remarkable than the coup by which he secured the Illinois Central control nearly a year ago. Harriman had for years been an important factor in the Illinois Central management, but until now he has never been mentioned in connection with St. Paul.

The present deal is also interesting from the fact that in 1900 James J. Hill, Harriman's arch enemy in the railroad arena, made strenuous efforts to purchase the St. Paul, but was refused control by the same Standard Oil interests which with willingness turned the property over to Harriman.

PEOPLE GROW CALLOUS.

Eye Witness Describes Warsaw After Outbreak of Terrorists.

London, Aug. 17. —The Tribune's Warsaw correspondent telegraphs a description of the scenes witnessed by him after the disturbances Wednesday.

"The hospital surgeons, fatigued by their labors," he says, "were unable to attend to cases, and wounds regarded as fatal were left to take their course.

"The scenes in the morgues were horrible. In one I counted 32 civilian bodies, all dirty and dressed as they fell.

"The people have grown callous with too much death. I heard a young girl laugh heartily at the sight of a woman whose brain-pan had been torn off by a bomb.

"In one hospital I saw a youth who, when bayoneted yesterday, feigned death. The soldiers trod over him and their heavy boots crushed his fingers to a pulp, but he successfully stood the ordeal. He was carried to the morgue, when it was discovered he was alive. He is now progressing favorably.

"Last night resulted in an orgie of blood in the Jewish quarter. The number of persons clubbed or bayoneted exceeds three hundred.

"The morgues are crowded with dead. The bodies were arrayed in rows, the clothes dirty with the filth of the streets where they fell. No effort was made to do more than pile the corpses in morgues, and very little has been done towards indentifying them. Relatives and friends of those who lost their lives are fearful of brutal treatment at the hands of the authorities if they visit the morgues."

Oldest Fxed Date in History.

Chicago, Aug. 17.—Professor James H. Breadsted has announced in an article in the Biblical World that the "oldest fixed date in history" is 4241 B. C. In that year the calendar was established, the year beginning on what would now be July 19. Consequently the calendar now in use was 6,147 years old last month. The professor arrived at these conclusions during his long exploration trip in the Nile valley, when he compared the astronomical data in the old and middle kingdoms of Egypt.

Negro Hard to Kill.

Hattiesburg, Miss., Aug. 17.—With one bullet through his heart and another through his temple, entering on one side of the head and coming out at the other, Charles Williams, a negro of this city, has survived for three days, and the prospects are that he will eventually recover. The wounds were inflicted by a 38 caliber revolver, fired at short range by another negro. Williams fell over as though dead, but when the undertaker attended the wounded man he was able to sit up. Since then he has been eating heartily.

Come From the Antipodes.

San Francisco, Aug. 17.—The cry for labor sent out from San Francisco has been heard around the world. Forty skilled mechanics arrived yesterday from Australia, where they were paid $3 a day. They will receive at least twice that pay here. Every day sees rapid progress in the work of rehabilitation. Already $400,000 has been subscribed to construct the Young Men's Christian association building, and $100,000 more is assured.

Seized at Prison Door.

New York, Aug. 17.—Charles C. Browne, the convicted Federal silk examiner, who was ordered released from the state prison at Sing Sing Tuesday on a writ of habeas corpus, issued by Judge Hough, of the United States Circuit court, was rearrested as he stepped from the prison today and arraigned before Judge Hough.

SLAUGHTER POLICE

Reds Throughout Poland Start Attack on Enemies.

WARSAW IS CENTER OF TROUBLE

Slaughter in Polish Capital Calls Forth Effective Volleys—Police Meet Simultaneous Assaults.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 16.—Acting apparently with a definite plan and as a signal the terrorists and revolutionists today inaugurated a carnival of murderous attacks with bombs and revolvers on the police and troops in various cities in Poland, echoes of which are heard from Samara, Ufa, Yalta, Kiev and even far away Chita, where the acting chief of police was slain almost on his own doorstep.

The revolutionist campaign flamed out with special virulence at Warsaw, where over a score were killed in the streets, and many more were wounded. Among the killed, according to the latest official advices, were two sergeants of police, eight patrolmen, three gendarmes, five soldiers, a Hebrew merchant and a woman. The returns are not all in.

Policemen and soldiers were shot down like rabbits in the streets. Their assailants, who traveled in small bands, almost all escaped among the terrorized but sympathetic populace. The only considerable capture was a band of three men who had invaded a grog shop and killed a soldier. These were taken by a passing patrol.

Bombs were employed in an attack on the police station at Warsaw, where a sergeant, two patrolmen and a soldier were wounded.

Other Polish cities singled out by the terrorists were Lodz, where six soldiers, three patrolmen and the wife of a police captain were wounded by the explosion of bombs in the police station and two soldiers and two terrorists killed in the streets; Radom, where a bomb was thrown in the police station, killing the wife and child of the police captain; Votslavsk, where a captain was slain, and Plock, where at a given signal the policemen on all the posts were simultaneously attacked and several of them wounded.

On account of the agrarian disorders, especially several attacks on post trains, the railway between Samara and Zlatoust, which was already carrying guards on all its trains, was today placed under martial law. Two of these attacks occurred today near Ufa, revolutionists in each case flagging the train, bursting open the doors of the cars with bombs and rifling the registered pouches. The booty in one case amounted to $15,000; in the other case the amount is not known.

FIRST PURCHASE OF SILVER.

Shaw Buys 50,000 Ounces at 66.62 Cents an Ounce.

Washington, Aug. 16.— Pursuant to the announcement of the secretary of the treasurer that he desired to receive tenders of silver yesterday, four bids were made to Director Roberts of the mint.

The bids were opened yesterday afternoon, and after being submitted to Secretary Shaw, it was announced that the government had purchased 50,000 ounces of silver, 999 fine, at 66.62 cents an ounce.

It is not the custom to announce the name of the individual or corporation through whom the silver is obtained. It is expected the government will require from 50,000 to 100,000 ounces of silver a week for an indefinite time. It is the purpose, therefore, of Secretary Shaw and Director Roberts to receive bids Wednesday of each week until further no ice.

Bodies Hurled a Mile.

El Paro, Tex., Aug. 16.—It is reported here that between 30 and 50 Mexican laborers and bystanders were killed this afternoon at 4:30 in Chihuaha, Mexico, by the explosion of a carload of dynamite on the Mexican Central railroad. The car was being transferred for transportation to the Robinson mine at Santa Fulalia. Bodies and pieces of human flesh were hurled into the air and picked up a mile distant. Windows were broken in almost every house in town and many walls were cracked. Several Americans are reported killed.

Stensland in East.

Pittsburg, Aug. 16.— Paul O. Stensland, the defaulting president of the Milwaukee Avenue State bank of Chicago, was in Pittsburg today and at present is thought to be in the East. Stensland was seen aboard a Pennsylvania railroad train at the Union station by Oscar Holmer, a mechanical engineer, who used to be a close friend of Stensland. In telling of the incident Holmer said: "I walked up to him and said, 'Hello, Stensland, what are you doing here?' 'For Gods sake,' he said, 'don't give me away.' "

Strikers Charged With Rioting.

San Francisco, Aug. 16 —A number of former tracklayers of the United Railway company, who are on a strike, after following a number of cars which they supposed were carrying nonunion workmen, boarded a car on Devisidaro street and attacked two men. They dragged them from the car and marched them down to Fillmore street, where they were met by two policemen. A fight ensued. The policemen dispersed the crowd and returned the men.

Gives Up Polar Trip.

London, Aug. 16.—A dispatch from Christiania to the Daily Mail says that private letters received there from Spitzbergen state that owing to the lateness of the season Walter Wellman, chief of the Chicago Record-Herald Arctic expedition, has abandoned the project of ballooning to the north pole this year.

LEGAL INFORMATION.

The town authorities cannot haul sand all over the district from a sand pit located within the road limits. They must first secure the permission of the owner.

A party has no right to put advertising signs on fences and buildings without first obtaining the owner's consent. This also applies to trees, telegraph poles, etc., within the road limits.

It is the duty of the administrator of an estate to give information to the heirs and to answer all reasonable questions. If the administrator refuses to do this, ask the Probate Judge of the county, or his clerk, for the information desired, or consult some good attorney.

J. C. D. Polk Co., Minn. "Can I recover damages from my divorced husband for injuries inflicted by him upon me before the divorce." Ans.—No. A married woman cannot either before or after a divorce maintain a civil action against her husband for a personal wrong committed by him against her during the marriage.

C. M. S., Maine, Minn. "An old married couple, having no children and no relatives, own personal and real property. If neither makes a will will the survivor inherit the property?" Ans.—Yes. In your State, where there are no children and no will is made, the law gives all the property of a married couple to the survivor. Of course, the estate of the dead spouse must be probated, and this involves some trouble and expense.

"A butcher maintains a slaughter house in a filthy condition in the vicinity of my land. What can I do to have the place cleaned up and kept clean?" Ans.—A slaughter house such as you describe is a nuisance, and would probably be abated by the health authorities upon complaint to them. Or if your property is injuriously affected or your enjoyment lessened, you can maintain a personal action to have the nuisance abated, and to recover damages for the discomfort you have suffered.

"Two sloughs, one about ten acres in extent and the other about forty, are located on the land of different owners. A natural depression or waterway drains the smaller slough in part into the larger; can the owner of the land deepen this natural waterway so as to wholly drain the smaller slough into the larger?" Ans.—The only limitation in regard to draining land in this situation, is that one must so drain his property as not to unnecessarily or unreasonably injure the property of his neighbor. With this limitation he can always deepen a natural waterway, and get rid of surface water as best he can.

"A man made a will of all his property. Afterwards he married and later died without children and without having made any other will. What part of the property, if any, now belongs to the wife, if there are no children?" Ans.—The law gives the wife in this case the homestead absolutely and one-third of all the other real estate of her husband. But in this case the wife must refuse to accept the provisions of the will and insist upon the provision made for her under the statute. Within six months after the time the will is filed for probate, she must file her written refusal to accept in the Probate Court.

Characteristics of Russell Sage.

Here are some of the points about the late Russell Sage and his career which will give a good understanding of the man:

He was worth between $100,000,000 and $150,000,000.

He would argue about the price of two apples or quarrel about the cost of a hair cut.

He was saved from bankruptcy by Jay Gould.

He returned the compliment by saving Gould from financial ruin.

He narrowly escaped imprisonment for usury.

He began money making at the age of 19.

He had made $75,000 when he was 25.

He served in Congress between 1852 and 1856.

Early in his career he was a rum-seller.

His word was as good as most men's bonds.

He went to church every Sunday.

He gave scarcely anything for public or charitable purposes.

He appeared almost absolutely to lack nerves.

He wore the cheapest of clothes and his tastes were of the plainest.

She Thought It Was the Elevator.

Shoppers who happened to be near the silk department in one of the large department stores on one of the busy bargain days were highly entertained by the behavior of one of the visitors to the establishment. After making some purchases she walked to the little room in which evening silks are shown, established herself on the settee and waited. For awhile she possessed her soul in patience, then she arose and stood in the doorway. Beckoning to the nearest clerk, she said tartly, "Has your elevator boy been granted a permanent leave of absence? Is this elevator never going up?"

"This doesn't happen to be the elevator, ma'am," the clerk answered. "This is only the room in which we show our evening fabrics—we turn on the lights to get the effect of gas light on the colors, you know. The elevator is across the aisle, ma'am."

A Shrewd Forecast.

"That plain, dark girl is the brightest one in the graduating class."

"Yes, I know she is," but that giggly one, with the fluffy blonde pompadour, will get married first."—Baltimore American.

An Aggravated Assault.

"They have a cow out in Oregon that wiggles her horns."

"Gee! I'd hate to have a cow like that hook me."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

EDITORIALS

OPINIONS OF GREAT PAPERS ON IMPORTANT SUBJECTS

THE VINDICATION OF DREYFUS.

THE Dreyfus drama is closed at last with a triumph of justice. To say that the triumph was complete would be an error, because there has been act after act in which irremediable injustice has been done. Dreyfus himself has suffered so terribly in mind and body that no human tribunal could ever rectify his wrongs. Men who rallied to his assistance received injuries from which recovery was impossible. An unspeakable clique of rogues prospered far too long while the innocent and the true were subjected to persecution.

These are facts that should not be overlooked when the vindication of the accused is considered. The restoration to his rank in the army is an insurance for the future, his reputation and the reputations of his supporters have finally overcome calumny, but atonement for the cruelties of the past is impossible.

The impressive decision of that great court of forty-nine judges must be regarded as though it concerned another defendant, namely, the Republic of France, and in this view it is a confession. The judges say, in effect, that the French army was dominated by contemptible scoundrels and criminals; that ministry after ministry aided or condoned the offenses of these villainous conspirators; that the legal trials of Dreyfus were a mockery, and that the infamous "affaire" was a stain upon the honor of the nation. It is impossible to develop much enthusiasm over such a retrospect. The most that can be done is to dig up excuses out of political conditions, and these were long ago wasted on foreigners. But "better late than never," and France will profit in reputation by the action of the Supreme Court.—Chicago Record-Herald.

THE FALL OF THE FORESTS.

IN the very near future this country will be suffering a lumber famine. The once mighty forests have gone, or are going, like grass before a scythe.

The lumber cut in this country in 1905 is stated by the Department of Agriculture at 27,738,000,000 cubic feet. The vast proportions of this slaughter of the forests may be appreciated by imagining the lumber to be all of inch thickness, making a "board walk" 2,000 feet wide from New York to San Francisco.

Black walnut has almost disappeared. Oak has become a rare wood. Georgia pine, once cheap, is costly. There is little more white pine, and one of the difficulties of building now is that there is no substitute of quite such versatile usefulness. Only 3.5 per cent of the year's cut comes from this noble tree. The once despised hemlock furnishes almost three times as much. In the scarcity of better lumber, poplar and basswood, which the American of 1850 did not consider fit for firewood, furnish more than white pine.

Maine and Michigan are no longer the great dumber States. The Pacific slope and the gulf lead to-day, Washington being the chief lumber State and Louisiana second. Arkansas, Mississippi, North Carolina, Texas, Alabama, Georgia and Virginia make with Louisiana eight Southern States, each of which leads Maine in the amount of lumber produced.

How the huge annual cut of lumber and the ravages of forest fires as well shall be replaced is one of the most important problems with which this country has to deal.

Some of the great railway companies are planting trees by the millions to provide ties for the future. The government has been feebly attempting experiments in forestry. But far more thorough measures than any yet undertaken must be resorted to, and that speedily, if the next generation of Americans is not to be left without lumber.—Kansas City World.

THE COUNTRY TELEPHONE.

THE farmer's wife has a new resource. Her lot has been improved in many ways in the last ten years. The "separator" and the creamery have relieved her of the severest toil of the dairy. The rural free delivery brings magazines and newspapers to her door. Lately the telephone has put her within visiting distance of her neighbors.

The nearest farmhouse may be half a mile away, and the village three miles. The lines of poles and the wires, perhaps merely the wire fence, have suddenly drawn her into an intimate relation to both, unknown to her before. To one who has never experienced the solitude of the farm it is hard to realize the joy of the wife and mother at being able to consult a friend about the cut of the baby's coat, the recipe for mince pies, or the dose of cough sirup.

The demand for the telephone in the country is imperative. "Everybody's got one," said the village storekeeper to a city visitor. "Why, there's three families that's being helped by the town, and every one of 'em has got a telephone. Old Mis' Bearce says she'd rather go without her victuals than have the telephone taken out!"

What a testimony to the desire for human companionship! The gossiping instinct, some cynical critic will say. But, after all, what is that but the wish to compare notes on the perennially interesting study of human nature—a study as fascinating to the unknown countrywoman as to the famous psychologist?—Youth's Companion.

THE VULGAR RICH.

MANY years ago George William Curtis wrote a little parable that now reads like a prophecy. He represented himself as having been asked to the house of a rich man, and when asked by another whether he was going, he said: "Will he give me any of his money?"

The man to whom he spoke was astonished at the question, and asked why he supposed that this would be done. Curtis went on to say that when he went to see a literary man or an artist or a distinguished social leader or a reformer or a scholar, he got something from his host—information, pleasure, inspiration, the charm of fine society, etc. In other words, every man gave him of that of which he had most. The rich man had only money, therefore, so the essayist argued, he should give it to those who visited him. There is, of course, no flaw in the logic. For society exists that men may give something to it and get something from it. If this condition be not fulfilled there can be no society. And this means that a man who has nothing but his money has no social value of any sort. When he steals his money—as many rich men do to-day—we have only another reason for excluding him. A fortune based on bribery and corruption, on bought franchises, on traffic in foul food and drink, is a vulgar and detestable thing. It is time that this truth were enforced on our people.—Indianapolis News.

AUSTRALIAN MESSAGE-STICKS.

They Served as Vouchers in Primitive Forms of Trade.

Considerable mystery has always attached to the so-called "message-sticks" used by natives of Australia, bearing marks that are often supposed to take the place of written characters in the transmission of information. There is no doubt that these curiously marked sticks are carried by messengers from one body of natives to another, but it is asserted by Walter Roth, who writes on the subject in one of the ethnographical bulletins of the Queensland government, that they do not serve in themselves to convey information, but are merely used for purposes of identification. Says Mr. Roth, as quoted in Knowledge and Scientific News:

"The limited quantity and portability of a native's personal goods offer little or no opportunity for the use of property marks. If weapons are of the same cut, there are minute, yet sufficient, differences which are recognizable to the owner; even if similarly ornamented, no two are so alike that they cannot be distinguished. In a general way, each having sufficient for his own wants, and no person having more than another, there is nothing to thieve and hence the lenity with which theft, even when it occurs, is regarded. Only in cases of trade and barter, through an intermediary, where it is essential that one individual's goods should be distinguished from another's, is there a necessity for a definite property mark, this taking the form of a so-called 'letter' or 'message-stick.' Under such circumstances the 'stick' may be put into use as follows: Charlie, residing at Boulia, wants, we will say, some pituri, but being prevented by sickness or some other cause from going himself, sends some relative or friend Peter to the nearest market on the Mulligan River to get some for him, and gives him a 'message-stick.'

"Arrived at last at his destination, Peter is asked his business, tells who has sent him, hands over the 'stick,' and establishes his bona fides. The bagful of pituri being at last forthcoming, the vender returns the 'stick' to Peter, but not before taking careful mental note of it, so as to be sure of recognizing it again. Peter returns at last to Charlie at Boulia, and delivers up both pituri and stick. It now remains for Charlie to pay for the pituri with spears, boomerangs, etc. If he can prevail on Peter to take a second trip, all well and good, but if not, as is usually the case with so long a journey, he either proceeds himself or sends another messenger with the goods and the identical 'message-stick' as before. He, or the second messenger, arriving at the Mulligan, finds the vender and gives him the spears, boomerangs, etc., together with the 'stick.' Recognizing the latter, the seller accepts the various articles in payment for the bagful of pituri which he parted with some few weeks previously, knowing now that he has been paid by the right person, probably personally unknown to him—i. e., the sender of the original 'stick.' "

Mr. Roth states his absolute conviction that the marks on the sticks do not convey any communication, in the ordinary sense of the term; the same message may accompany different sticks, or the same stick different messages, and the stick may bear no marks at all. He goes on:

"I have been given a stick to take with a certain message to another district, and purposely mislaid it temporarily, in order to secure another specimen. Again, 'second-hand' sticks may be used over and over again by strangers, who certainly have had no knowledge of the original manufacturers. Sometimes a broken twig is sufficient, without any incisions whatever, and I have often seen a piece of tea-tree bark, or even a rag, just tied round and round with twine, to constitute the so-called letter. To put the matter plainly, the message is taken verbally, the stick serving only to accentuate the bona fides of the messenger; if the messenger is known to both parties, no stick is sent. On the other hand, there is more or less uniformity recognizable in the shape of the sticks manufactured in different areas; the flat feather shape of the Boulia district bears a strong contrast to the squared form of the letters met farther north. Occasionally the stick may be affixed with twine to a handle, carried vertically in front, and the suggestion has been offered that this expedient is resorted to when the messenger is traveling through hostile country, so as to give him immunity for trespassing; my experience is that, under such circumstances, he would avoid any risk of being seen by traveling only by night. I have often seen a civilized black boy on the road holding in front of him a short twig, in the split extremity of which an envelope, etc., has been inserted; at a distance it resembles a flag somewhat."

ONE BATH EACH YEAR.

Task of Washing an Elephant Is a Serious Event in a Circus.

Some folks object to the unclean appearance of an elephant, but they probably do not know that an elephant has only one bath a year, and has to content itself during the remainder of the time with a dry rub of sand or dust.

The elephant's bath is a serious thing not only for the elephant, but for the attendants as well. It takes from ten to twelve weeks to wash thoroughly the herd of forty elephants at the winter quarters of a big circus. Thousands of square feet of hide must be cleaned and softened.

The skin is first prepared by a careful oiling, the ointment being rubbed well into the hide by six or eight men at work on each animal.

The oil is applied with swabs of cotton waste, some of the men attacking the elephant's legs, while others climb ladders and rub the upper regions of the huge neck. A keeper stands beside the animal's trunk with a hooked stick, ready for any emergency, for if a ladder should be overturned by a kick the oily back would be hard holding for those on top. A course of massage completes the anointing and work is suspended for two weeks. The next treatment consists of a thorough scrubbing, which brings off heavy layers of crust which have been loosened by the oil.

Then the entire surface is sandpapered—a most tedious operation. As many as ten men are detailed for each animal, and they are scattered all over the enormous body. The sandpapering is a sort of beauty treatment, for it eliminates all the deep wrinkles. On its completion the elephant comes forth to all appearances as good as new. After it has had a steaming, somewhat after the manner of a Turkish bath, its toilet is completed and it is ready for public presentation.

The arduous season on the road gives the animals plenty of exercise. Twenty of them are performers in the ring and their education has progressed to such an extent that they are said to be able to do almost anything except "thread a needle or read Shakspeare." The other half of the herd does the drudgery work of the show and is an essential part of the working crew that loads and unloads the trains. One occupies the position of a monitor and maintains discipline in the herd; another is a sort of a maid who carries hay and other food for baby Boo and her mamma elephant. There are no loafers in the herd, each having duties which require daily attention.

Red or Green.

It is well known that the poet Whittier was color blind, and unable to distinguish red from green. He once bought for himself a necktie which he supposed to be of a modest and suitable olive tint, and wore it—once. He never wore it again, for his friends soon made him aware that it offended against the traditional quietness of costume enjoined alike by the habits of the Friends and by his own taste. The tie was of flaming scarlet.

On another occasion, when he found a little girl in distress on account of a new gown, made over from her elder sister's, which was not becoming to her coloring and complexion, he tried to console her.

"I wouldn't mind what a rude boy says about it, Mary," he said, kindly. "Thee looks very well indeed in it—like an oread, Mary, dressed all in green."

Unfortunately, Mary was not dressed in green. She was red-haired, and her dress was red; that was the trouble.

Once, on a day in mid-March, when out walking with a Friend, and deeply engaged in conversation, Mr. Whittier approached too near for safety to a place where blasting was going on. The danger signal was shown, but neither Friend noticed it, until a workman, violently waving his arms and shouting, leaped before them and warned them back.

"I didn't see the flag at all," said Mr. Whittier's companion.

"I saw it," rejoined the poet, with a twinkle in his eye, "but I thought it was in honor of St. Patrick—thee knows my defect. I can't tell Erin from explosions, except by the harp!"

Masculine and Feminine.

Dumley—I see they're making quite a social lion of you, but it doesn't seem to hurt you.

Springer—No; my wife and I are still happy.

Dumley—And your wife—how does she like being a social—er—lioness?—Philadelphia Press.

We have noticed that a man who raises only fifteen bushels of wheat per acre, always doubts a story that another man has raised thirty.