Point of Difference.

"Yes," said the bride of three short months, "I had made up my mind to remain in the spinster class, then John appeared upon the scene and I accepted him because he was so unlike other men."

"Oh, of course he's different," rejoined the envious lady friend. "He proposed."—Yonkers Statesman.

An Annual Luxury.

An English boy went to visit his two Scotch consins during his summer vacation. His breakfast every morning consisted of plain oatmeal, and he got very tired of it. "Say, Jack," he said, "don't you ever have milk with your porridge?"

Jack turned to his brother. "Eh, Tom," he said, "the lad thinks it's Christmas."—Success Magazine.

A Peep Ahead.

They were about to open the Panama canal in due form.

"What are we waiting for?" asked the man who was to deliver the oration.

"We are waiting," answered the master of ceremonies in a husky whisper, "to see if we can't scare up a few American built ships to go through first!"—Chicago Tribune.

The carrot grows spontaneously throughout Europe, Asia Minor, Siberia, Northern China, Abyssinia, Northern Africa, Madeira and the Canary Islands.

Camomile.

It is said not only that decoctions or the leaves dried and powdered of the common camomile will destroy insects, but that nothing contributes so much to the health of a garden as a number of camomile plants dispersed through it. No greenhouse or hothouse should be without camomile in a green or in a dried state; either the stalks or the flowers will answer.

Injury Done by Mosquitoes.

Before the draining and diking of England and Holland, mosquitoes, malaria, chills and fever were as bad as in our Southern States to-day. Undiked and undrained, neither of these countries had risen to its place in history, but had been balked by malarial degeneration.

So Like a Man.

"George, did you go and order that parlor lamp I told you I wanted?"

"No, Laura; I clean forgot it."

"Why, I asked you to tie a string around your finger to remind you of it, and you said you would."

"I know I did, but in the abstraction of the moment I tied it around my pocketbook."

Obviously.

"Aunt Hepsy, what do they use 'invisible hairpins' for?"

"To fasten up invisible hair, of course, child."

A careful estimate shows that the buildings and land on Manhattan island from the Battery to Central Park are worth $2,900,000,000.

$150,000,000 TRUST

J. P. Morgan, T. F. Ryan and Levi P. Morton Form Combine.

BIGGEST MERGER IN AMERICA

Represents Three Banking and Trust Companies, With Deposits of Over $133,000,000.

New York, Jan. 4.—J. Pierpont Morgan, Thomas F. Ryan and Levi P. Morton linked hands in New York today in a trust company merger which unites resources of $150,000,000.

It is a triple combination, bringing the Guaranty Trust company, the Morton Trust company and the Fifth Avenue Trust company, all of this city, under one head with the title of the Guaranty Trust company.

The merger is perhaps the largest of its kind in the United States. Directors of all three companies met today and informally proposed the terms of merger which will be put in more definite form Wednesday, when another directors' meeting will be held and the plan ratified by stockholders. The formal vote will not be taken until later.

Levi P. Morton, president of the Morton Trust company and of the Fifth Avenue Trust company—both known as Morton-Ryan concerns—has consented to act as chairman of the board of the merged companies. No president has been selected. Alexander J. Hemphill, vice-president and acting president of the Guaranty Trust company, has been mentioned for the position.

The new move in finance follows the recent absorption of the Guaranty Trust company by the so-called Morgan interests, but upon just what terms the merger was made is not disclosed. The Guaranty Trust company was organized in 1891 and has total deposits of more than $88,000,000.

The Morton Trust company, formerly the banking house of Bliss, Morton & Co., was organized in 1899. Thomas F. Ryan is vice-president. Its deposits aggregate more than $45,000,000. Like the Guaranty Trust company, its capital and surplus are $2,000,000 each.

The Fifth Avenue Trust company, founded ten years ago, is one of the better known up-town financial institutions. With a capital and surplus of $1,000,000 each it has paid large dividends. The capital stock of the new company probably will be fixed at $5,000,000, with perhaps a like amount for surplus. It is believed that the merger will involve the large stock and cash dividends to the shareholders of the three companies.

The present premises of the Fifth Avenue Trust company will be retained as a branch of the combined companies while the main offices will be in the financial district.

It is rumored that the Morgan interests had acquired the holdings of Thomas F. Ryan in the Morton Trust company, but no statement on this point was obtainable.

CALIFORNIA HAS NEW PEST.

Insect Like Ladybug Lays Waste Many Grain Fields.

Jackson, Cal., Jan. 4.—A bug, somewhat like the common ladybug, has made its appearance near here. In sowing a piece of land to grain, a number of sacks were left over night in the field. An examination the next day led to the discovery that each sack was swarming with small bugs with a dark yellowish back.

Other parts of this county were affected by the same kind of insects, it is believed, last year. The lands so visited were denuded of all vegetation, and the soil produced nothing for that season. It was as if a fire had swept over the surface. One large ranch had fully 100 acres so affected last year.

While there is no general appearance of the bug in the county, it has appeared in localities wide apart.

Message in Sections.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Following a forenoon conference with presidents of six of the great railroad systems, President Taft late this afternoon announced a change of program in the sending of his message dealing with interstate commerce and anti-trust law amendments to congress.

The message will be split into two parts. The section dealing with trusts will be sent to congress Thursday noon. The section dealing with the interstate commerce law, in which railroads are directly interested, will be deferred until Friday. The president's special message on conservation of natural resources is expected to be ready for congress Monday.

Manila Has Cancer Cure.

Manila, Jan. 4.—A conditional and preliminary report of what is hoped will prove to be a successful treatment for cancer was presented before the Manila Medical society today. The treatment consists in making the patient immune from the further progress of the disease by the use of vaccine prepared from his own cancer. Experiments have been made during the last eight months, both in cases where operation was possible and where it was not. A number of patients, apparently cured, were exhibited before the society.

Negro Refused Entrance.

London, Jan. 4.—A negro who claims American citizenship is an unwelcome guest of the Union Castle Steamship line at Southampton pending the outcome of diplomatic negotiations to determine the man's nationality. The negro was deported from South Africa after he had been convicted of a crime and served a sentence in a British prison. He was returned to New York, but was refused permission to land there as he was unable to satisfy the authorities of his American citizenship.

March Cause of Mutiny.

Fishers Island, N. Y., Jan. 4.—Many of the non-commissioned officers and men of the One Hundred and Thirty-First company, U. S. Coast Artillery, are confined in the guardhouse, at Fort H. G. Wright, as a result of a mutiny Saturday. The company was ordered out for a march of 15 miles and all but nine men declined to do the duty. It was declared authoritatively today that a majority of the men in the company had been ordered before a court-martial.

COMET WILL BRUSH EARTH.

Pacific Coast Will Have Best View About May 18.

Oakland, Cal., Jan. 5.—Halley's comet will give the Pacific Coast a close brush this year on May 18, between the hours of 4 and 10 o'clock p. m., and the "brush" will be something spectacular, says Professor Charles Burkhalter, of the Chabot observatory.

The earth will then pass through the last of the 20,000,000-mile tail of the celestial visitor, and the result ought to be as dazzling a piece of fireworks as this generation has ever witnessed.

The astronomer insists that he has "nothing to say" about so dramatic a situation, fraught not only with awe-inspiring possibilities to the dwellers on the globe, but fraught, as well, with possibilities of tragic moment. Whether or not the earth's dive through the comet's tail will mean anything more than a dazzling starry spectacle, Professor Burkhalter will not predict. He only says:

"Wait and see."

The news that Halley's comet will be seen only on the Pacific Coast has not hitherto been published, although the fact has been known for some time to the astronomers of the world, many of whom will journey to California to be on the scene when the great phenomenon takes place.

In discussing the comet, the astronomer says:

"Astronomers Cromelin and Cowell, of the Royal observatory at Greenwich, have probably made the most exhaustive researches into the history of the comet.

"According to the computations Halley's comet will reach the descending node on May 18, 1910, when it will be in a direct line between the orbits of the earth and the sun, and it so happens that the earth will reach that particular point of its orbit about the same time. Should the calculations of the astronomers prove to be rigidly exact, the comet will pass directly between the earth and the sun between the hours of 4 and 10 o'clock standard Pacific time.

"Assuming that it will happen during the middle of this time, or 7 p. m., it will be visible over the Pacific Ocean, Eastern Asia and Western North America.

BANK MERGER GROWS.

Big Money Trust Adds $61,000,000 in One Day.

New York, Jan. 5.—J. Pierpont Morgan and associates may control, through further trust company mergers in New York, the enormous sum of $210,000,000 in deposits alone.

This is approximately $25,000,000 more than the deposits of the National City bank of this city, the largest financial institution in the United States.

Reports of additional trust company consolidation are given credence in view of yesterday's announcement of the merger by J. P. Morgan & Co., of the Guaranty Trust, Morton Trust and Fifth-Avenue Trust companies, with combined deposits of about $150,000,000.

This brought a revival in the financial district of rumors embracing the Bankers Trust and the Manhattan Trust companies in the same combination. There were definite reports that the Mercantile Trust company and the Equitable Trust company eventually would be taken into some sort of a powerful alliance.

In point of fact, the Bankers Trust company is closely affiliated with the so-called Morgan interests in that two partners in the Morgan banking house—George W. Perkins and Henry P. Davison—sit in the directorate of the former.

Other directors of the Bankers Trust company, including A. B. Hepburn and A. H. Wiggin, president and vice-president respectively of the Chase National bank, and William H. Porter, president of the Chemical National bank, are active in affairs of the Guaranty Trust company, which is to be made the titular head of the Guaranty-Morton-Fifth-Avenue consolidation.

Relations between the Morgan interests and the Manhattan Trust company always have been intimate, though the latter is not regarded as a Morgan appendage. It is perhaps significant that the building once occupied by the Manhattan Trust company is to be razed soon to make way for a 30-story building to be erected by the Bankers Trust company.

Deposits of the Bankers Trust aggregate $46,500,000 and those of the Manhattan Trust company $13,400,000, so that the two companies, if combined with those now in process of absorption by "J. P. Morgan & Associates," would total in deposits more than $200,000,000.

Train Is Lost in Desert.

Salt Lake, Utah, Jan. 5.—Train No. 4, carrying 100 to 150 passengers from Los Angeles to Salt Lake, is marooned on the desert, 34 miles from Calinete, Nev., the track before and behind it having been torn out by the flood of last week. The train is well stocked with provisions and there is no suffering. As soon as wagons can reach the stalled train, a matter of three or four days, the passengers will be brought to Barclay, six miles west of Acoma, where a train will be waiting to bring them into Salt Lake.

John D., Jr., Deep Delver.

New York, Jan. 5.—"I am heart and soul in this investigation," said John D. Rockefeller, Jr., today as he entered the Criminal Courts building to talk over the plans for the "white slave" investigation. Mr. Rockefeller was yesterday selected a foreman of the grand jury which is to make the investigation. "If these stories are true," he said, referring to the allegations of wholesale traffic in women, "the truth about them should be known definitely. If they are false they should be silenced."

Town Nearly Wiped Out.

Watertown, S. D., Jan. 5.—The town of Castlewood, 18 miles south of here, narrowly missed being wiped out by fire of unknown origin tonight. The entire south side of Main street is in ashes, entailing a loss estimated at $180,000, when 12 buildings were destroyed. The fire did not stop until the last building on the south side of the street was destroyed. Late tonight the fire had burned itself out on the extreme edge of Main street.

Paper Trust Probe Near.

New York, Jan. 5.—The federal grand jury here is expected to take up shortly the investigation of the alleged paper combination which the federal authorities have been looking into, following the action which led to the dissolution of the manila fiber paper pool.

A Miracle of Science.

Aeroplaning is another miracle of practical science—another impossibility shown to be possible—another dream of centuries realized, but realized in a manner which none but this generation could have understood. Will the history of the steam locomotive repeat itself? The actual maximum speed on railways is no higher to-day than it was sixty years ago, though, of course, the train loads are very different. Will it be so with the aeroplane?

Small Humming Bird.

Cuba probably has the smallest humming bird in the world—Calypte Helenae (named after Princess Christian), but it may have a rival in timiness in a Peruvian species of Acestrura. The Calypte Helenae is an exquisite little creature not quite two inches long, with a forked crimson gorget.

What's in a Name?

An amusing story has been told concerning Mr. Phillips' classic drama, "Ulysses." When it was being played in America, two young girls were sitting together in the stalls at a matinee performance, and before the curtain rose the following conversation was heard: "Say, Maude, I know this play is going to be funny." "What makes you think so?" asked Maude. "Why, anybody could tell that from the name!" was the reply.—M. A. P.

En Famille.

Willie, a little country boy, 6 years of age, was taken one Sunday night to a large city church, where he saw for the first time a vested choir. To his mother's surprise and gratification, he not only kept wide awake, but seemed greatly interested in every part of the service. At its close he turned to her and said, "I like this church, it is so nice to watch the preacher when he comes out with all his wives in their nightgowns."—Harper's Magazine.

Died at Eighty-eight as Predicted.

Prophesying early in life that she would live to see her eighty-eighth birthday, Miss Julia H. Hancock, of Brockton, Mass., died a few days ago on the day she had previously set for her death. Infirmities of age are given as the cause. She gave no particular reason for her prediction, although she seemed imbued with the belief that her prophecy would come true.

To-Day and To-Morrow.

Happy men are full of the present, for its bounty suffices them: and wise men also, for its duties engage them. Our grand business undoubtedly is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand.—Edward FitzGerald, "Polonius."

One Successful Case.

"Doctor, you're not so foolish as to think you can make people good by performong operations on them, are you?"

"That depends upon what you call making people good. You can check their disposition to commit crime."

"As, for example"——

"Well, I once knew a man who was cured, by a simple operation, of a tendency to rob banks and hold up railway trains."

"Did you perform it, doctor?"

"No; I was merely called on to verify the result after the operation was over."

"Well, who did perform it?"

"A frontier sheriff."—Chicago Tribune.

Needed Attention.

The Parent—Are you sure you give my boy as much attention in school as you do the other boys?

The Teacher—Attention? Why, say, I'm afraid to take my eyes off that boy of yours.—Yonkers Statesman.

Chance for a Bargain.

Dejected Youth—I would like to return this engagement ring I purchased here a few days ago.

Jeweler—Didn't it suit the young lady?

Dejected Youth—Yes, but another young man had already given her one just like it, and I would like to exchange it for a wedding present.—Tid-Bits.

Taking Him at His Word.

Upgardson—It goes without saying

Atom—Then suppose we let it go that way. Lovely afternoon, isn't it?