

POST OFFICE ROBBERIES.

The United States Experience Shows Some Curious Things.

The United States post office inspectors, in addition to their regular work, have just completed a thorough inspection of the 4,000 Presidential post offices of the country.

Chief Inspector Wheeler, in speaking of the work of his force, said the months of March and April were very busy times for them, particularly in hunting down post office burglars.

"The post office burglar," he continued, gives us a great deal of trouble. His adventures in the annals of crime is but recent, yet he is a type peculiar to himself and it would seem that he has come to stay.

Post office burglars, as a rule, are the most desperate characters, possessing every cunning, and are alike ready to seize on any chance to 'lift' a 'bundle of stock, or crack, or safe; any method suits them if it will enable them to get the booty.

The booty is usually in postage stamps, which are disposed of through the medium of a fence, the burglar seldom realizing more than 40 per cent, on the real value of the stolen stock; yet with this heavy discount the occupation seems alluring and consequently keeps our men constantly on the alert.

This class of depradation became so common that I found it necessary in 1894 to call special attention to it in my annual report, and I recommended to the Postmaster-General that a series of rewards be offered for the apprehension of these criminals.

The suggestion was adopted, and has materially aided our men in ferreting out the perpetrators. We now have an annual appropriation from Congress for this purpose, and for the past three years the number of burglaries has fallen off in a slight degree.

That the burglar is still at work, however, is attested by the fact that fifty-three were captured during March and April, although my opinion is the general result of the fiscal year will show still another decrease in the aggregate of post office robberies.

A very interesting chapter in the history of crime can be made from the unfortunate trait in human nature which suddenly transforms the tried and trusted postal employe into a thief. I do not believe there is another service wherein so many cases are found as in the postal service of this country.

SIR WILLIAM DAWSON.

Treats of the Origin and Cause of Earthquakes.

In volume V of the "Canadian Naturalist and Geologist," published in 1860, Sir William Dawson, who furnished some "notes on the earthquake of October, 1860," thus wrote upon the cause and origin of earthquakes.

Mallet defines an earthquake as "the transit of a wave of elastic impression in any direction from verticality upward to horizontality in any azimuth through the crust of the earth from any centre of impulse, or from more than one and which may be attended with tidal and sound waves dependent upon the impulse and upon the circumstances of position as to sea and land."

Such "earthquakes" travel outward from the centre of impulse with immense velocity and appear as upward shocks or undulating rolls according to the greater or less verticality of the motion. They may also be complicated with indirect shocks arising from unequal or ciccutions transmission of the vibrations, and these complex shocks usually occur in great and destructive earthquakes.

The causes of the vibratory waves are too deep seated to be directly known to us, but they must occur when any part of the crust of the earth is subjected to tension, and when this is suddenly relieved by fracture or otherwise, and again when any part of the earth's crust is left unsupported and collapses under the force of gravity.

Geology teaches us to refer such effects to the slow expansion or contraction of great masses of rock under the influence of heat to the disengagement of elastic gases under pressure, to the removal of matter from the interior to the surface by volcanoes, to the transference of sediment from the land to the sea basins. Such causes are constant and regular, and of course the precise time at which the tension or unsupported weight shall give away, can scarcely be calculated, and may occur with suddenness at irregular intervals.

And so nice may be the balancing or opposing force that observation shows us that the attraction of the moon or an unusually low state of atmospheric pressure may overset the equilibrium and induce an extensive vibration of the solid crust of the earth, yet the actual causes of the phenomenon may have been for ages slowly preparing for it.

The fractured condition of the rocks of the earth shows that earthquakes have occurred throughout all geological time, and they are by no means rare phenomena at present.

For the whole earth, their rate of occurrence is stated to be nearly 3 per month, or 36 per annum; and no doubt very many are unrecorded, and would considerably increase the average. But their distribution locally is very unequal. While in some spots slight earthquakes are of almost constant recurrence, and in others great agitations of the earth are not infrequent, in other extensive regions no earthquakes are known to have occurred.

Earthquakes are manifestly connected with the causes of volcanic action, and follow the same law of distribution on the surface of the globe; though in volcanic regions earthquakes and volcanic eruptions sometimes alternate, as if the suppression of the latter gave increased energy to the former.

Mothers

Anxiously watch declining health of their daughters. So many are cut off by consumption in early years that there is real cause for anxiety. In the early stages, when not beyond the reach of medicine, Hood's Sarsaparilla will restore the quality and quantity of the blood and thus give good health. Read the following letter:

"It is but just to write about my daughter Cora, aged 19. She was completely run down, declining, had that tired feeling, and friends said she would not live over three months. She had a bad

Cough

and nothing seemed to do her any good. I happened to read about Hood's Sarsaparilla and had her give it a trial. From the very first dose she began to get better. After taking a few bottles she was completely cured and her health has been the best ever since." MRS. ADDIE PECK, 12 Railroad Place, Amsterdam, N. Y.

"I will say that my mother has not stated my case in as strong words as I would have done. Hood's Sarsaparilla has truly cured me and I am now well." CORA PECK, Amsterdam, N. Y. Be sure to get Hood's, because

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Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists, \$1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

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A Lot of half an acre of land in Pownall Village. Excellent site for dwelling house, business stand or summer residence. Beautiful situation; good bathing, shooting and fishing.

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THE OLD, OLD STORY.

Advice on Love, Courtship and Marriage Given Fifty Years Ago.

"The Mystery of Love, Courtship and Marriage" is the title of a little book which, though published 50 years ago, contains much advice that is as sensible now as it was then. "Flattery," says the author, whose sex is not revealed by the title page and is not easy to guess from internal evidence, "is a powerful weapon in the art of making love. Never lived there yet man or woman but that in some way or other could be flattered. The great point is to know in what way to use it. A young lady will feel flattered if you get a chance, young man, to tell her mother about the good qualities of her daughter. Never fear but the daughter will hear of it."

Then the author fits the shoe to the other foot. "There is no impropriety," he or she says, "in a lady's taking any reasonable measures to induce her beau to make his proposal when he is either backward, slow or bashful." The advice of old Weller to "behave of vidders" is indorsed in only a half-hearted way. "In making love to a widow," our author says, "you have nothing to do but to answer her questions and to return her caresses. In making love to a widow, then, you must first be sure that you want her for a wife, as it will not be safe to trust yourself within the pale of her influence if you expect ever to get off heart whole."

They Got the Bell. The trustees of a church near Detroit found it necessary to establish a fund to purchase a bell. The membership was small, and composed principally of persons who were unable to do more in a financial way than they had already done toward building the church edifice. Grocer Smith, one of the trustees, believed it would be a good plan to solicit contributions to the \$200 required among the few well to do members of the congregation.

A Living Flytrap. "The big alligator in our menagerie," the old circus man said, "didn't always take his feed very well. Sometimes he wouldn't open his mouth at feeding time, and then we had to resort to strategy."

Alligators are very sensitive about the nose. When this alligator wouldn't open his mouth, we used to rub the top of his nose very gently. That always made him mad, and he'd throw back his upper jaw like a cellar door on hinges. Then we'd throw a chunk of beef, maybe five pounds or so, down his throat, and down would come the cellar door shut again, and he would swallow the beef. In that way we used to give him about 85 pounds of beef at a feeding without much difficulty.

The old alligator was very fond of flies. You might think a fly would be pretty small game for a 12 foot alligator, and one fly would be. But this old alligator would throw his upper jaw back and go to sleep apparently. Flies would light around inside the alligator's mouth just the same as they would anywhere outdoors, and when there were about a million there the alligator would shut his upper jaw down with the flies all inside. Pretty soon he'd throw the cellar door back and set the trap again.

Precious Stones Fade. The powerful chemical effects of the sun are felt even by precious stones. The ruby, sapphire and emerald suffer less than other colored stones in this respect, but it has been shown by experiment that a ruby lying in a shop window for two years became much lighter in tint than its mate kept in a dark place during that period.

Garnets and topazes are more easily affected. Pearls are said to show deterioration with age, but if they are not worn constantly they will recuperate wonderfully during brief vacations spent in quiet and darkness. The only species of unluck which the practical person believes the opal will bring to its owner is that of loss if the stone is exposed carelessly to heat. It is liable to crack, being composed principally of silicic acid, with a small proportion of water.—Exchange.

Watch the Kitchen. A social leader who was renowned among her friends as a practical house-keeper was congratulated at one time on her skill in fine cookery. She answered laughingly: "I have no time to do cooking. I spend some time in my kitchen daily for quite another purpose. I go to examine the sinks, the garbage pails and the general condition of the premises. My servants were very much disgusted at first that a lady should take interest in such matters, but they are used to my eccentricities now and manage to keep things as I desire to have them."

If more housekeepers made these tours of inspection, it would pay them in the increased health of their household.—New York Tribune.

Conjugal Logic. Mr. Cutting—Go to—a quite unmentionable hot place.

Mrs. Cutting—Delighted, my dear, at such an evidence of your affection.

Mr. Cutting—You seem to think it was one.

Mrs. Cutting—Wasn't it, when you seem to want me to spend eternity with you?—Brooklyn Life.

Dairy and Creamery.

Two hundred cows will keep a creamery going if they can furnish 4,000 pounds of milk daily. Five hundred cows would not suffice for it unless they yielded that much. In considering the question of starting a creamery you must find out whether the cows within reach are able to give 4,000 pounds of milk per day. Listen not to the honeyed words of the creamery shark who wants to sell machinery. Take counsel rather of the inner light of your own common sense.

A little New York Jersey heifer less than 14 months old last winter dropped a fine bull calf and is giving plenty of milk.

A creamery cannot be made to pay that only runs eight months a year. The best system is that which takes up cheesemaking in summer and butter making in winter.

From \$2,000 to \$2,500 will be required to build and start a creamery. It is a poor time now to start in the creamery business except in localities where there are plenty of dairy cows and no creamery already upon the ground. The prices of dairy products are low, and the risk of a new creamery is great. It is best at present to bring those already established up to the highest efficiency.

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"If Deacon Briery took a notion," said the grocer to another trustee, "he is able to buy the bell. He won't, though, because he's the closest man in the village. I'm going to him just the same and do my best to make him see his way clear to give us \$100."

The first man the grocer solicited the next day was Deacon Briery. The deacon was unusually grumpy that morning and was nearly unnerved when the grocer explained his mission.

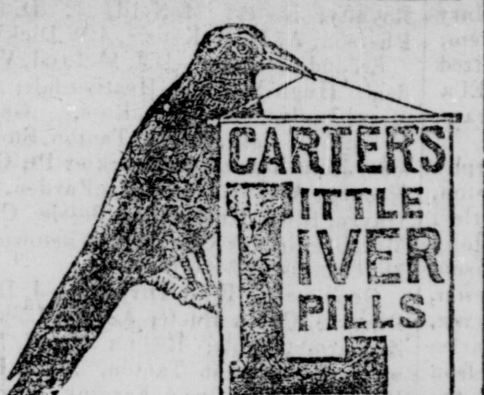
"I know I'm a member of the church, but things are so close that I can't do much just now."

"How much will you give toward buying the bell?" asked the grocer.

"Well, I reckon I'll give as much as anybody," declared the deacon.

"You were always good at your word, deacon, so you and I will buy the bell."

The grocer held the deacon to his promise. The grocer was not a wealthy man, and it came a trifle hard for him to spare \$100 from his capital, but it did him a world of good to hear the bell tolling a few months later.—Detroit Free Press.



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Dividend Notice

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Ch'town, May 31st, 1897.

Notice is hereby given that a half yearly dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum on the capital stock of this Bank, has been declared, payable at its Banking House on and after July 2nd, next.

The transfer books will be closed from 18th June to 2nd July, next, both days inclusive. By order of the board.

J. M. DAVISON, Cashier

May 31st-'97 127-dy26-wtd.

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The house on Richmond St. west, at present occupied by Mr. J. M. McLeod. This house is beautifully situated on the harbor front, with splendid view. Is fitted with all the modern improvements. Apply to Mr. Thos Campbell.

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