BANDIT A POOR "AD."

Excelsior Springs Boomers Decry Nearness of James Home.

Story of Jesse's Death Told by C. E Flanders Who Sent First Message of Ford's Act to World.

Excelsior Springs, Mo.—Officers of the Commercial club, who are desirous of making Excelsior Springs a watering resort rivaling the pretentious ones of Europe, are not particularly pleased with the proximity of the old Jesse James home, because of which they find their city associated with outlaw exploits in the minds of thousands of persons in all parts of the country. And this impression was helped along, they say, by the widely

Home of James' Mother.

reported visit of six Chicago aldermen to the bandit stronghold several weeks ago. Though Excelsior Springs is a bustling, up-to-date city, it is in the heart of the Missouri "cracker" country and abounds in the old-time types.

A story which Mrs. Zurulda Samuel, mother of the James boys, tells to many visitors to her farm near here is the shooting of Jesse James by his cousin, "Bob" Ford. An interesting description of that occurrence is given by C. E. Flanders, one of the leading merchants of the town.

At the time of the shooting Mr. Flanders was a young man and the only telegraph operator in St. Joe, Mo., where it occurred. He sent the first message to the outside world, telling of the occurrence. Jesse James, with his wife and two traitor cousins, "Bob" and Charley Ford, were living there. A reward of $5,000 had been offered by the governor for the outlaw, dead or alive. The story of how James when asked that fatal morning by his wife to hang a picture in the

parlor unstrapped and laid aside his two revolvers for the first time in months and Ford, entering the room, shot him through the back of the head is well known.

"The first we knew of the killing was a report which spread around town that Jesse James was dead," said Mr. Flanders. "For months reports had been coming in almost daily that he had been killed or captured in this or that part of the country, but we paid little attention to them. I stepped to the front door and looked at the big house on the bluff where the man we had known as 'Mr. Howard' had lived. The hill looked like an anthill with men swarming up its sides from all directions.

"Before I could start for the scene two men came into the telegraph office. They were the Ford boys. Charley kept nervously pacing up and down, pulling his little black mustache, while 'Bob' started laboriously filling out a blank. He was having considerable trouble with it and I said to him:

"'Shall I write it for you?'

"'I can write it myself, all right,' he growled.

"He wrote out two telegrams. One was addresed to the governor and simply said: 'We've got our man.' The other was to the chief of police of Kansas City and said: 'We've got our man; will bring the body.'

"As I took them 'Bob' Ford pulled out a revolver at least eighteen inches long, broke it and dropped out an empty shell on the floor. The bullet from it had killed Jesse James. I was young then and inquisitive and determined to find out who was shot.

"'Have some trouble, up on the hill?' I said.

"'Yes,' he vouchsafed.

"'Anybody hurt?' I insisted.

"'Killed a man, that's all,' he replied.

"By that time Charley had nervously edged 'Bob' as far as the front door.

"'Who was it?' I shouted.

"'A horse thief who got gay,' growled 'Bob.' 'If any answer comes to the telegram send it to us. We'll be uptown.'

"I was too excited to get any more definite address than 'Uptown,' and the two went out and gave themselves up to the police. They told their story and an undertaker went up the hill and took the body to his shop. At 4 p. m., when it was laid out in state and he opened the doors, everybody for miles around was waiting to pass through and see it.

"That was the last seen of the Ford boys around there. They took the reward and went west, where 'Bob' was shot in a dance hall, possibly by some revengeful member of the old gang, and Charley committed suicide, both a few months later."

Remembered Her Voice.

Columbus, O.—Although they have not met in 40 years, Mrs. J. E. Brewster of Stewartsville, Minn., aged sixty-four, recognized at a distance the voice of her classmate, Mrs. Fawcett McMillen of West Mansfield, O., age sixty-five, at the state school for the blind, and a pleasant reunion followed. Both are blind and are here to attend a meeting of the school's alumni.

Burbank Produces Two Blooms.

San Francisco.—Luther Burbank "plant wizard" of Santa Rosa, announces the perfection of an immense poppy—a combination of the shirley, the tulip poppy, and a species found in the mountains of North Africa, and an evening primrose, white, five inches in diameter."

SCIENCE AND INVENTION

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

Eighty-seven in every 100 Canadian farmers own their farms.

A rapid growth of the finger nails is considered to indicate good health.

Only about one out of every fifteen persons has both eyes in perfect condition.

The number of horses in the United States January 1, 1900, was nearly 14,000,000.

A healthy horse eats nine times its weight in food in a year, a healthy sheep six times.

A new putty knife, the invention of a New Yorker, has a scraper attached to remove the surplus putty.

French mines yielded 37,971,758 metric tons of coal last year, 587,374 tons more than the year before.

A Louisiana man has patented a combined pickle fork and tongs, the latter operated by a ring in the handle.

The alloy of cerium and iron, which emits sparks when rubbed, has been introduced in a recently invented gas lighter.

A Georgia man claims to have discovered the secret of producing a black rose and is seeking a patent for his process.

It is a Kansas woman who has been granted a patent upon a fan provided with a sheet of absorbent material to hold water to cool the air which it agitates.

One of the most ingenious French aviators is trying out a combined dirigible balloon and aeroplane, a cigar-shaped gas bag helping to raise and support the machine.

A hog's habit of scratching itself against a post has led to the invention of an automatic disinfector for animals, which it sprays as they rub against a supporting column.

A patent has been granted on a roasting pan for meat which automatically bastes its contents by collecting the juices through a percolator and delivering them in the form of spray.

The word "caloriculture" has been coined to designate the new system of horticulture which is designed to replace the old French style of intensive fruit and vegetable forcing by soil cultivation.

DRINKING TUBE IS SANITARY

So Arranged That When Mouthpiece Is on Level With Person's Mouth Water Spouts Gently.

A common fault of ordinary sanitary drinking fountains is the waste of water, but a drinking device of this, and, although only running when in use, it is likewise claimed to be impossible to get a drink from it before the mouthpiece is thoroughly cleansed.

It is attached to a water pipe in the same manner that a faucet is attached flush to the wall. When a drink is wanted, the lever is pushed upward and the mouthpiece forward on a line with the drinker's mouth. The water spouts up gently with a sufficient scouring action to cleanse the mouthpiece and in a stream sufficiently great to obviate the necessity of touching it with the lips. In this

Fountain Drinking Tube.

it embodies the principle of the flowing cups which are frequently found on street fountains, with the added advantage that the water is running only when a person is drinking. When the lever is let go the water is automatically shut off.

The Costly Mosquito.

Dr. L. O. Howard calls attention to the enormous money losses caused by mosquitoes. The value of real estate in regions infested by them is reduced beyond calculation. The development of the whole state of New Jersey, says Doctor Howard, has been held back by the mosquito plague. In several states lands eminently fitted for grazing and dairying cannot be effectively used for such purposes because of the attacks of mosquitoes on the cattle, which reduce the yield of milk. In the vicinity of New York and Philadelphia large areas of land are rendered almost uninhabitable by swarms of these insects, and this notwithstanding the advances made in the destruction of their breeding-places, says Youth's Companion. In some parts of the northwestern states horses have to be covered in the daytime with sheets to protect them from the attacks of mosquitoes. Doctor Howard estimates the cost of house screens in the United States at $10,000,000. The remedy is more effective means of extermination.

Moving Pictures in Color.

The Literary Digest translates from the Paris Nature an account of a device for producing moving pictures in colors. It is the invention of William Friese-Green. He uses filters made of thin celluloid ribbon to take his negative films. The band is divided into sections, colored in the order, red, green, blue and so on, indefinitely. The sensitive film and filter ribbon pass the shutter of the camera together as the successive pictures are taken. The same ribbon is used when the pictures are reproduced on the screen, when if the machine is operated swiftly, the persistence of vision gives the appearance of a single moving picture in natural colors.

USEFUL BED FOR HOSPITALS

Can Be Lowered or Raised at Head to Any Position Comfortable for Patient.

A boon to the bed-ridden and to thousands of hospital patients throughout the country is the invention of a Kentucky man. This is a bed which can be raised or lowered at the head to any position comfortable to the patient, and having a rest for the legs in addition. A pair of standards with a crossbar, looking like a horizontal bar on rollers, holds the upper end of the bed suspended. At one side of the standards is a wheel and gear by which the head of the bed may be raised or lowered to change the posi-

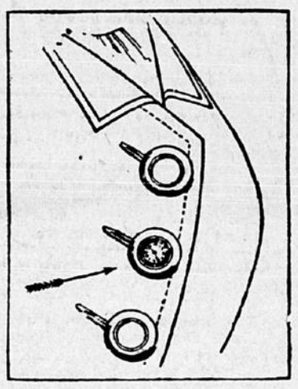
Turn Crank and Bed Moves.

tion of the person occupying it. Running up from the foot of the bed is a T-shaped bar to be placed under the legs of the patient, so that when the bed is tilted at a steep angle he is kept from sliding downward, the bar beneath his legs giving him the feeling of being in a reclining chair. Any person who has been forced to lie abed for any length of time, unable to change his position, will appreciate the relief such a bed will afford.

MOST UNIQUE BUTTON-WATCH

In Many Cases It Is Worn Unprotected on Sleeve of Coat—Fastened by Shank.

One of the most novel of the many novel forms of watches is the button watch invented by a New York man. The case of this watch is the size and shape of an ordinary button, such as is worn on a man's coat sleeve, but hollow, and the works are inside. The dial is fastened to the case by a long,



Odd Button Watch.

strong shank. There can be a pocket in the cuff of the coat sleeve into which the little time piece will fit, but in some cases it is made to wear unprotected on the sleeve. Except for the face it would be almost impossible to tell it from the other buttons on the coat. There used to be a novelty watch that was worn in the buttonholes of the coat lapel, but this one is used as a regular button.

WIND GUIDE FOR AERONAUTS

Furnishes Aid Corresponding to Pilot Charts of Ocean Navigator—Record of Years.

A unique sign of the times is Dr. Richard Assmann's guide to the winds of Germany, prepared from the records of the direction and force of the winds kept at forty-nine well-distributed stations for an average of nearly twenty-one years. It furnishes the aeronaut with an aid corresponding to the pilot charts of the ocean navigator. For each season and each station it shows how often, on the average, the wind blows from each of eight directions, and the average frequency of the various degrees of wind between a calm and a hurricane. It indicates the best places and times for making ascents, with the direction airships without high power will probably drift. More than this, it suggests the best location for airship sheds and ports, and gives evidence that not only are places near the coast unsuitable, but that many inland stations are uncomfortably stormy. Friedrichshafen, chosen by Count Zeppelin for his great sheds, is an unfavorable place for handling the huge airships. The records show that it has an average of twenty-four stormy days a year, while Celle has only twenty-two such days, Berlin and Cassel only four, and seven other stations less than ten.

New Use for Moving Picture.

The moving picture is now applied to educational purposes. Chemical tests are now exhibited on the screen. There are films illustrating the electrolysis of water, the action of nitric acid on silver, and action of aqua regia on metallic gold, etc. The test tube is thrown on the screen many times enlarged and the chemical action clearly illustrated. Most unsavory but educational is a film illustrating the peril of the fly. The flies are shown laying eggs in unsavory places, and before the eyes of the spectators the eggs develop in heaps of wriggling maggots. In the final stage the winged fly is shown in all its unsanitary glory. Still another film exhibits the acrobatic fly lying on its back juggling various articles with its feet, and even swinging a dumbbell as large as the insect itself.

WHERE DIGNITY SITS ENTHRONED

by EDWARD B. CLARK

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WHEN the Supreme court of the United sit with full membership provided no deaths occur during the vacation period and provided also that Associate Justice William H. Moody has so far recovered his health that he can join States enters upon its fall term it will and esteem. Some one has said that Governor Hughes, while in the main a his colleagues on the bench.

Governor Charles E. Hughes of New York state will be welcomed to membership by the individual members of the court with full hearted pleasure conservative, is a man who believes that the laws should be interpreted in the spirit of 1910 rather than in the spirit of 1830. The criticism on the judgments rendered on occasion by the Supreme court has been to the effect that seemingly some of the members live in the past, and that objection has been made to allowing new lights to strike the "laws of the ancients."

The Supreme court of the United States is said to be the most dignified body in the world. It looks it, but it must not be taken for granted that these judges, from the veteran Chief Justice Fuller down to the youngest man on the bench, have not their times of relaxation when they give full vent to their sense of humor. Justice John M. Harlan, who is seventy-nine years old, has a rare humor and he likes to give it play. Justice Edward D. White of Louisiana, who has been pronounced by many of the leading lawyers of the country to have a "judicial mind" not excelled in the United States, has hard work at times to keep from giving vent to his humorous conception of things as they appear in court. Such a proceeding would be dubbed undignified, and so Judge White manages to control his flow of wit when in court, but when the tribunal is not in session he gives his mood full play.

Judge Oliver Wendell Holmes, son of one of the most distinguished American scholars and one of its rarest humorists, has a great deal of the fun of his father in him, but self-confessedly he tries to hold its expression in check on many occasions because it might be said that he was trying to make Oliver Wendell Holmes the second appear as Oliver Wendell Holmes the first, and this the present justice modestly holds, to be impossible.

Not long ago a lawyer went to the residence of one of the associate justices of the Supreme court, a married man and one who the lawyer thought was the staidest of the staid. The visitor had gone to see the justice to get some advice on behalf of a person who he know was a family friend of the one of whom he was seeking advisory help.

It seems that the man's wife had died, and while the husband was a kindly disposed and most excellent man generally, his father-in-law and mother-in-law insisted on taking the children who had been left motherless. The widower did not want to part with his children and neither did he want to make a fight which would bring the children into public notice and show that he had had a breach with his wife's father and mother.

The lawyer who was calling on the justice said, "What would you do if your father-in-law and mother-in-law on your wife's death tried to get your children away from you?" The answer came quick and sharp, "I'd tell them to go to the devil."

Now it happened that the justice's wife was sitting at his elbow and the lawyer at this strong expression from the judicial minded one looked with trepidation at Mrs. Justice, expecting to see her overcome with mortification at her husband's outbreak. The visitor was relieved and also somewhat surprised when Mrs. Justice said, "I'd tell them to go to the devil, too."

The household court being thus unanimous, the lawyer went away and gave advice to his client, and the presumption is that within a day or two the father-in-law and mother-in-law went to the devil.

The justices of the Supreme court put on their robes in a room which is across the main corridor of the capitol from the courtroom. In order to reach the bench they are obliged to cross the corridor and this they do in procession, the clerk of the court leading the way like a pioneer and being followed by the chief justice and the associate justices in order of rank.

It is on the stroke of twelve, noon, that this procession takes up its way, and as it is known that noon is the hour for the court opening the corridor is always filled with people who want to see the judges file by. Just before they appear in the doorway of their robing room four attendants take up their places in the corridor and stretch across it two thick silken cords, thus making a passageway through which the procession moves. It is the most dignified looking proceeding possible and the justices look neither to the right nor the left, but conscious that there are scores of onlookers, each one bows, but bows straight ahead in order that there may be no discrimination in courtesy between those of the public who are standing on the right and those standing on the left. It is a perfectly impartial bowing proceeding and while it is dignified it strikes some people also as being awfully funny.

Every Monday, as soon as court assembles, it is the custom to read decisions on cases which have been considered and on which the court is to pass judgment. If the decision of a great case is expected the courtroom always is crowded and the members of the bar, newspaper men and others who have been present before on like occasions, look anxiously to see which judge is to read the important decision. If any one of three or four justices is to read it there is a distinct sense of disappointment, because nobody except the reading judge is likely to hear the decision. In other words, some of the judges of the supreme court have such weak voices that not even the men closest to them can catch what they say and everybody must wait until the decision can be read before knowing what it means.

This inability or perhaps lack of desire on the part of some of the justices to read out loud, is a great trial to the newspaper correspondents who are anxious to telegraph the news of the decision at the earliest moment possible. There are other troubles which beset the correspondents as well as those which come from the poor enunciation and the weak voices of some of the justices. Legal language is the hardest kind of language for the layman to understand, and the result is that when the decision is read the first part of occasionally makes it seem certain that one side has won the case, while the tail end of the decision may reverse everything and give the case to the other side.

There was one striking instance of this in a great case which was decided three years ago. The city of Chicago was trying to effect changes in its street-car system. The street-car companies held that their franchise was good for 100 years and that the city could not oust them from any of their privileges under their franchise. The case went to the Supreme court and was of tremendous interest to all the cities in the United States. Moreover, the speculative interests of the country were awaiting the decision with the keenest anxiety and interest, for if it went one way it meant that certain stocks still would be of great value, and if it went the other way it means that they would be worth little.

The decision was read in the Supreme court by a judge who had a good voice. Everybody had made up his mind that if the Supreme court decided that the railroad companies had a hundred years' franchise they had won the case and that the city had lost. This was regarded as the crucial feature of the whole controversy.

The newspaper correspondents from the great cities were in attendance at the court when the decision was read and they were ready to dispatch messengers instantly to the telegraph office with a brief dispatch saying either "The companies win," or "The city wins." This was all that was to be sent out at the first instance, for the situation was understood in every newspaper office in the country, and a single tip as to which side won would be sufficient to release long stories of the railroad controversy, and other stories already written of what the victory meant for the companies or for the city. In the very first part of the decision the statement was made that the Supreme court had decided that the companies had a franchise for 100 years. Instantly some of the correspondents sent dispatches, "The companies win." Two or three correspondents were held in their seats by a cautionary word from a veteran who had done long service in the Supreme court. He said, "Wait."

In a few minutes, as the reading went on, it became apparent that the court had decided that while the companies had a franchise for 100 years they had practically no rights under it. On the strength of the mistake which was made in sending out some of the first dispatches on that day stocks went up and then when the truth came out they tumbled so fast that they hurt their heads.

When the justices led by the clerk and the chief justice enter the Supreme courtroom everybody stands. When the judges have taken their seats the court crier, after the manner of court criers since the time of the patriarchs, declares that the high and honorable court is in session and that justice is to be dispensed. Just before taking their seats the justices bow to the assembled throng and the throng bows back. When the court crier's voice has died away everybody takes his seat and the proceedings begin.

The Supreme court sits in the old senate chamber of the capitol. It is the room where Webster, Hayne, Clay, Calhoun and others fought their battles. The gallery is a tiny affair capable of seating only about thirty people and the wonder is how when Webster delivered his great oration in reply to Hayne there could have been present the great crowd of which history tells us.

It was in the Supreme courtroom that the electoral commission which decided the Hayes-Tilden contest held its sessions. The fifteen members of that commission occupied the seats of the justices and it is said that during the progress of the hearing the little room was crowded literally to suffocation and that many people were overcome. It is an historic chamber and it is one of the places to which visitors to Washington bend their steps.

In the membership of the Supreme court there are two veterans of the Union army and two veterans of the Confederate army. John Marshall Harlan, who is a Republican, raised the Tenth Kentucky infantry and served in Gen. George H. Thomas' division. He rose to the rank of colonel and his name was before the senate for confirmation as a brigadier general at a time late in the war when his father's death compelled him for family reasons to retire from the service.

Oliver Wendell Holmes of Boston graduated from Harvard college in 1861 and at once entered the Union army. At the battle of Ball's Bluff in October, 1861, Holmes was shot through the breast and for a long time it was believed he could not possibly recover. He did recover, however, and went back to the front, taking part in the battle of Antietam, where he was shot through the neck, and again his life was despaired of. Once more he recovered and went to the front, only to be wounded again at the battle of Fredericksburg.

Justice Edward Douglass White was born in Louisiana and he served through the Civil war in the Confederate service. Horace Harmon Lurton, who was appointed by President Taft to the vacancy caused by the death of Justice Peckham, entered the Confederate service when he was only seventeen years old and he served three years. He was with General Buckner at Fort Donelson when the Confederate commander surrendered to General Grant. Lurton was Grant's captive and it is not at all probable that the northern soldier had any conception that this youthful prisoner was one day to be appointed to the Supreme court of the United States by a Republican president.

CITY MAN AS A "COME ON."

The average city man thinks the farmer who buys a "gold brick" in need of a guardian. Yet thousands of these same city men have paid for "bricks" which any farmer would have known were the commonest kind of brass. There are all sorts of them nicely prepared for city men.

Now it is a scheme to buy fruit land on the Pacific coast. Our city friend is told he can make $1,000 an acre from the start. A few days ago I found a young man almost on his way to the bank to draw $800 for such a scheme, says a writer in the Metropolitan. He had a guaranty that in five years he would be drawing $3,000 annually from his "farm." Next is some co-operative scheme for growing peaches in Texas or oranges in Florida. You do not work. You simply buy stock in the enterprise, pay for it, of course, and then sit in the shade and draw your dividends. You sit in the shade—no doubt of that—and the dividends draw like the memory of evil deeds.

Alloy of Wonderful Power

Remarkable Qualities That Caused It to Be Given the Name of "The Devil's Touchstone."

There has always been a popular notion which connected his Satanic majesty with fire, and so, when Welsbach, the inventor of the gas light mantles, discovered a new alloy which, when roughly rubbed with a file, gave out flashes of fire, the new fire-producing metal was dubbed "The Devil's Touchstone."

This new metal is an alloy of iron with certain rare earth-metals—cerium, etc. As is well known, these metals have such a strong affinity for oxygen that they burn with great energy even in the open air, writes Prof. John Phin. Magnesium, which is used for photographic flashlights, may be cited as an example of this. And certain metals, such as potassium, etc., which are near akin to those just named, actually take fire when they are brought into contact with moisture, so that the modern chemist finds no difficulty in "setting the Thames on fire," or even in causing a piece of ice to burn.

When sharply rubbed with a file the new alloy gives off such a shower of sparks that they literally make a flash of light similar to the sparks from flint and steel, but of tenfold brilliancy and energy. These sparks are capable of setting fire to substances upon which the sparks from flint and steel fall harmlessly, and some very ingenious devices have been invented whereby on opening a small metal case, the raising of the lid causes a small file to pass over a piece of the new alloy and produce sparks which ignite a lamp and thus furnish a flame which will light gas, candles and cigars.