QUESTIONS ANSWERED

THE REAPER.

E. A. P. (Crary Mills, N. Y.): Will you please inform me (1) when and by whom the mowing machine was invented; also (2) will you give me the same information concerning the reaper?

(1) Ohio Hussey was the inventor of the foundation features of the mowing machine, but his work was not completed until the hinged or floating bar had been invented by Lewis Miller. Hussey's first patent was taken out in 1833. In 1847 Hussey patented, as an improvement to his machine, the open backguard, or finger, which proved a vital feature of successful mowing machines. In 1856 and 1858 the most important patents on the hinged or floating bar were issued to Lewis Miller, of Canton, Ohio, who was identified with the leading firm in the syndicate that bought the Hussey patents. (2) The reaper was invented by Cyrus H. McCormick, of Rockbridge County, Va., and patented by him in 1834. None of the numerous designs of American and English inventors that anticipated this invention proved practical, and it remained for Cyrus H. McCormick, who inherited the problem from his father, to bring together the four essential elements of modern harvesters—the reel, the divider, the reciprocating knife and the platform. In 1858 C. W. and W. W. Marsh, of Illinois, patented a notable improvement which led the way to the modern binder. In 1873 the first automatic sheaf binding harvester, the invention of Sylvanus D. Lock, was placed on the market, and a year or two later other machines of the same type, using wire to bind the sheaves were successfully introduced. The foundation patents on the twine binding mechanism were issued in 1875 to Marquis L. Gorham, of Rockford, Ill., but it remained for John F. Appleby, of Beloit, Wis., to complete the development of the twine binder.

RUSSIAN JEWS AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS.

W. S. S. (Brooklyn, N. Y.): To decide a discussion will you please state, if under the conditions now prevailing in Russia the Jews there would not improve their position by making common cause with one of the political parties fighting for liberty?

By no means; the Jews cannot rely on any party. With them it will always be: "If the stone falls upon the pitcher, woe to the pitcher; if the pitcher falls upon the stone, woe to the pitcher." For, no matter who wins in the present struggle for liberty, the government or the revolutionists, the Jew cannot expect any help from either and will continue to be oppressed. We have seen how ungrateful and contemptible the progressive party as well as the Social Democrats proved with regard to the Jews. When, at Waronesh, in the moment of greatest distress and danger the Jewish youth capable of bearing arms—altogether twenty-five men—organized themselves for self-defence against the threatening mob, the Revolutionary Committee promised in case of an attack to send one hundred well organized workingmen to their assistance. But instead of this assistance there came, after hours of waiting, the "declaration" that they needed the hundred men for the defence of two of their leaders, together with the request that the Jewish "self-defence" should send some of their men for the protection of the "political" organization! From similar reports as well as from the fact of the horrible massacres perpetrated upon the Jews, it must be evident that the Jews of Russia are thrown upon their own resources and that it would be verging on suicide were they to seek their salvation in making common cause with any of the political parties.

RURAL FREE DELIVERY.

E. S. (Girard, Ohio): (1) Is it lawful for merchants to travel over the rural free delivery route and drop their advertisements into the boxes without stamp on them? (2) Has the substitute a right to carry the mail all the time? (3) If I should put a little change in an unstamped letter and put it in the mail box, but try to make the mailman stamp it, has he any right to tamper with or open that letter because not stamped?

(1) There is, at least in the state of New York, a law against dropping circulars into letter boxes. (2) Your question is vague. The substitute can carry mail so long as he is on duty. (3) Tampering with letters is unlawful under any circumstances.

APRIL FOOL DAY.

C. J. (Halifax, Fla.): When and where did the custom of fooling people on the first day of April originate?

Of the origin of the custom nothing positive is known. Some speculators trace it back to Noah and the Ark. "The April fool custom," says "The London Public Advertiser" of March 13, 1769, "arose from the mistake of Noah sending the dove out of the ark before the water had abated on the first day of the month among the Hebrews which answers our first of April, and to perpetuate the memory of this deliverance it was thought proper, whoever forgot so remarkable a circumstance, to puhish them by sending them upon some sleeveless errand similar to that ineffectual message upon which the bird was sent by the patriarch." Others refer it to the time of Christ, arguing that, as the passion of Jesus took place about this time of the year, and as the Jews sent Christ backward and forward to mock him—i. e., from Annas to Caiaphas, from Caiaphas to Pilate, from Pilate to Herod, and from Herod back again to Pilate—this ridiculous, or, rather, impious, custom took rise thence, by which we send about from one place to another such persons as we think proper objects of ridicule. These theories must, however, be dismissed as unfounded, in view of the fact that in character, though not in point of time, All Fools' Day corresponds with the Roman Saturnalia, when the ancient Romans did everything to fool one another. But the nearest and most startling analogy, not only in kind, but almost in actual date, was and is the Feast of Hull, in Hindostan. The last day of this feast is March 31, when the chief diversion is to send people on errands and expeditions that are to end in disappointment for the sendee and merriment for the sender and his friends. The custom does not seem to have had any existence in Great Britain until the eighteenth century. The earliest literary allusion to it is by Addison, in "The Spectator," where he scornfully tells how "a neighbor of mine, who is a haberdasher by trade, and a very shallow, conceited fellow, makes his boast that for these ten years consecutively he has not made less than a hundred fools. My landlady had a falling out with him about a fortnight ago for sending every one of her children upon a sleeveless errand, as she terms it."

THOMAS POWNALL.

G. S. (Parkersville, Penn.): (1) Can you give me any information concerning the writings of Governor Pownall of Massachusetts or (2) any account of what he did?

(1) He was the author of many works, including "Colonial Institutions" (London, 1764); "Principles of Polity" (1752), "The Administration of Colonies" (1764), "Description of the Middle States of America" (1776), "A Memorial to the Sovereigns of Europe on the State of Affairs Between the Old and New World" (1780), "Memorial to the Sovereigns of America" (1783), "Notices and Descriptions of the Antiquities of the Provincia Romana of Gaul" (1788), "Intellectual Physics" (1795), "Letters Advocating Free Trade" (1795), an antiquarian romance, and a treatise on "Old Age," besides many papers on widely diffused subjects, published in "The Gentleman's Magazine." (2) In 1767 he opposed parliamentary taxation of the Colonies. In 1777 he was the first to announce that England's "sovereignty over America was gone forever," and then advocated a commercial treaty in order to frustrate French influence. He was the first member of Parliament to bring in a bill for peace with the Colonies. He believed that the Americans had equal constitutional rights with the English in England. He is renowned for being the first Englishman of education and influence that devoted his entire life to the amelioration of American political conditions. As a scientist, Pownall was much esteemed by Benjamin Franklin, whose close friend he was. By some he was thought to be "Junius."

FREEMASONRY.

C. G. A. A. (Alberene, Va.): (1) When, where and by whom was the Masonic order founded? (2) Kindly inform me whether there are periodicals issued in America or Germany or England which give reliable accounts of important social, commercial, religious, national, etc., movements of every nation and country in the world. Please name those which are edited in a strictly scientific way.

(1) Fable and imagination have traced back the origin of Freemasonry to the Roman Empire, to the Pharaohs, the Temple of Solomon, the Tower of Babel, and even to the building of Noah's ark. In reality it took its rise in the Middle Ages along with other incorporated crafts. Skilled masons moved from place to place to assist in building the magnificent sacred structures—cathedrals, abbeys, etc.—which had their origin in these times, and it was essential for them to have some signs by which, on coming to a strange place, they could be recognized as real craftsmen and not impostors. Freemasonry in its modified, more modern form, dates only from the seventeenth century. The modern ritual is said to have been partly borrowed from the Rosicrucans and Knights Templar, and partly devised by Elias Ashmole, the founder of the Ashmolean Museum. In 1725 it was introduced into France by Lord Derwentwater, and in 1733 the first American lodge was established. (2) Yes, such periodicals are published in great numbers in our own country, not to mention England and Germany. To name them all would require too much space, and to name but a few would be doing injustice to the rest that are just as worthy of recommendation. For these reasons we refrain from answering your question. Consult a newspaper directory.

POPULATION OF CITIES.

C. M. C. (Brooklyn): Please give, as near up to date as possible, the population of some of the world's largest cities.

London, 4,536,541; Greater London (metropolitan and city police districts), 6,581,372; New York (1905), 4,014,304; Paris, 2,714,068; Berlin, 1,888,848; Tokio, 1,818,655; Chicago, 1,698,575; Vienna, 1,674,957; Canton, 1,600,000; St. Petersburg, 1,313,390; Philadelphia, 1,293,697; Calcutta (with suburbs), 1,125,400; Constantinople, 1,125,000; Moscow, 1,092,360; Peking, 1,000,000.

BAROMETER.

M. M. (New-Castle, Penn.): It has been stated that the weather could be foretold by coffee. What truth, if any, is there in this statement?

It is well known that sugar is extremely susceptible to humidity—"sygroscopic," as say the scientists. To this are attributable the strange phenomena that were first observed by a naturalist of Valencia when sweetening his coffee. He inferred the following: If, without stirring up the coffee, the sugar is allowed to dissolve, air bubbles are seen to rise. If these bubbles form a foam in the middle of the cup there is sure to be lasting clear weather. If the foam sets all about the edge of the cup there will be rain showers. Between the edge and the middle the foam announces changeable weather. If the foam, without dividing, flows to one point of the edge of the cup, a moderate rain is to be expected. It is said that the barometer perfectly agrees with these indications. Experiments, of course, have to show whether this prediction of the weather from a cup of coffee is really something more than a mere joke for amusement.

THE ZODIAC.

H. A. W. (Westminster, Vt.): (1) At what period of time was the zodiac divided into twelve parts? (2) Why was the human body made to represent these parts? (3) How many light years is the North Star from the earth? (4) Who wrote "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world"?

(1) The twelvefold division of the zodiac is probably Babylonian in origin, indicating an antiquity of some four thousand years. It was evidently suggested by the occurrence of twelve moons in successive parts of the zodiac in the course of each year. The approximate relation was first systematically developed by the early inhabitants of Mesopotamia, and formed the starting point for all their divisions of time. As the year separated, as it were, of itself, into twelve months, so the day was divided into twelve "double hours," and the great cosmical period of 43,200 years into twelve "sars." Each sar, month and hour was represented at once, visibly and symbolically, by a twelfth part of the "furrow" drawn by the solar Bull across the heavens. (2) Because they assumed that man was a microcosm, and, therefore, that everything in the heavens must have its counterpart in man. They accordingly divided the human body in twelve parts, each corresponding to one of the twelve signs in the zodiac. (3) Peters estimated the distance of Polaris in 1846 at 44.7 light years. This is probably as good a guess as any. (4) This phrase occurs in William Ross Wallace's "What Rules the World." Here is the first stanza:

They say that man is mighty,
He governs land and sea,
He wields a mighty sceptre
O'er lesser powers to be;
But a mightier power and stronger
Man from his throne has hurled,
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rules the world.

MEDIUMISTIC COMPOSITION.

F. D. (Newton, N. J.): Is it true that the conclusion to Dickens's "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" was written by a medium under the dictation of the spirit of the author, and if so, how do you account for it? Are there other cases of spirit authorship?

Certain it is that in 1873 there was published at Brattleboro, Vt., "The Mystery of Edwin Drood, by the Spirit-Pen of Charles Dickens—Through a Medium," containing the continuation of the famous story. That the work really emanated from the source which was claimed for it is, of course, a claim that may confidently be dismissed as tommyrot. There remains the theory of deception or auto-suggestion to account for it. But after so many years it is difficult to determine how much the publishers availed themselves of the former for the sake of advertising the book or to what extent the rather illiterate medium may in his poetical production have thought himself really possessed by the spirit of Dickens. However this may be, this case of imaginary spirit inspiration does not stand alone. Thus as early as the fourteenth century the Dutch mystic Ruysbroek maintained that every word in his writings had been penned down by him under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, and even before, in the twelfth century, St. Hildegardis declared that all the knowledge contained in her learned works on natural science had been revealed to her by the Virgin Mary. As to modern times, the literary activity of the spirit world became particularly manifest in the nineteenth century. In 1858 there was published at Guadeloupe a complete novel entitled "Juanita," said to have been dictated to the medium by a spirit with the aid of a chair. Only a few years ago a German writer, Mrs. Clara Eysell-Kilburger, published under the title of "Echoes from the Other World, a Mystery," a volume of poetry, in the preface of which she expresses her doubts as to whether she was the real author of the poems or merely the instrument used by controlling spirits. Another German poetess, Maria Knorr-Schmidt, published a volume of poems which, according to her assertion, contained exclusively compositions dictated to her by the spirits, every poem bearing even the signature of the spirit author. In the year 1900 Dr. Flournoy, professor of psychology at the University of Geneva, published a book, "From India to the Planet Mars," in which are recorded his and his learned colleagues' observations for a period of three years on a somnambulistic young woman. In her trances she revealed some historical facts unknown to, but later on verified by historians, and she even gave, of course unverifiable, descriptions of the planet Mars and specimens of the language and writing of its inhabitants—and all this, as she claimed, under dictation of the spirits.

But the activity of the spirit world seems not to be confined to literature only; it manifests itself also in painting and music. Thus some twenty or thirty years ago they exhibited in various cities of Europe paintings said to have been the work of spirits, and about five or six years ago they even produced at Milan an opera, "I Travolti," the music of which was said to have been composed by a spirit called Felix, and the words by another inhabitant of the other world, named Yo. These are about all the parallel cases to "Edwin Drood" on record. They go to show that the question involved is not necessarily one of deception of spiritualistic fancy, but rather one of the most difficult problems in scientific psychology, e. g., inspiration, not in the theological, but in the general, acceptance of the word. An explanation of this phenomenon we must, however, for lack of space reserve for some other occasion.

GRAYING HAIR.

H. D. (New York City.): Is there any medical support for the statement sometimes made that people's hair turns suddenly gray under stress of grief, strong emotion or extreme excitement? If so, is the change confined solely to persons of a sensitive nature?

Sudden graying of the hair, overnight for instance, has long been popularly believed possible. Scientific men, and especially German writers on dermatology, have, however, until recently scouted the idea. On the other hand, such a trained observer as Brown-Séquard has reported his personal experience, showing that a graying of the hair overnight can certainly occur. History tells of numerous famous persons in whom the hair has suddenly turned gray. Sir Thomas Moore and Marie Antoinette, on the eve of their respective executions, are said to have presented this phenomenon. Bichet mentions a similar case, and many others are contained in the memoirs of Sanson, the famous executioner of Paris, where persons have shown the same conditions as a result of fright or anxiety. Graying of the hair has been observed to supervene gradually as the result of various changes in the nervous system. Insane persons, especially melancholics, and also those affected by other central and peripheral nervous affections, show premature graying of the hair. Thus hemiatrophia facialis and long continued and frequently recurring attacks of neuralgia are also at fault. General diseases are also accompanied or followed by graying of the hair, which, however, after some time recovers its original color.

AUTOMOBILE PHASES.

Constant New Developments in the Popular Recreation.

"Have you noticed," said a prominent professional automobilist to a Tribune reporter, "that the agents in this line of business no longer feature in their advertisements the pretty legend, 'A Child Can Drive It,' with accompanying cut of some cherubic-faced three-year-old at the steering wheel? The reason is, in laundry parlance, it wouldn't wash. They don't even replace the form of baby with that of his sport loving mother or auntie. The fact of the matter is, the modern automobile is such a complex piece of work that, let him say what he will in conversation with his prospective customer, the agent is now unwilling to make statements in print which subsequent experience with the machine on the part of the purchaser would be awkward to substantiate."

The question was put, Have women, seeing how devoted they are to the pastime, displayed any marked desire or adaptability to act as their own chauffeurs, in the same way as other owners?

"There may be the desire, all right, among women automobilists, to take the coveted place at the wheel, and there is no lack of opportunity to achieve this ambition where it exists; but, either from lack of nerve or from supineness, they have not manifested any marked intention to oust men from control. I think they have the good sense to recognize that an automobile is no mere plaything, and that the position at the wheel is one of great responsibility. On the nerve and judgment of the chauffeur hangs the fate of human lives, both inside and outside the car. The fact that many women are excellent whips and can rival any man in taking a four-in-hand through the crowded streets of a city is not conclusive proof that they would show to the same advantage if controlling one of these big modern touring cars. You know, with all respect, women have a strong weakness for posing, and the steering wheel of an automobile is the last place to indulge such weakness. None of us are argus-eyed, but when in charge of one of these machines it is incumbent that we do not spare the two we have—it is a case of measuring all conditions fore and aft, and on the side.

"Even when in charge of horses women don't cease to be women. Some of them know the rules of the road, but precious few of them have any regard for them. The hand that rocks the cradle is capable of wrecking traffic. When a woman is out driving, for the time being she is queen of the road, and it is futile to attempt to deny her the royal prerogative of indulging her own sweet wilfulness. Whenever I see a woman driving either a horse or an automobile, whether she may be doing the right thing or the wrong at the moment, I keep my eye on her, and give her plenty of leeway. You never know what she will be up to next. Therefore, I take no chances. I did happen once to remind one of the sex, who was bearing down on my car, that in this part of the country we had a rule of the road; but, with a saucy toss of her head and an encouraging smile, she bade me 'forget it.'

"Apropos of women and automobiles, I have been amused by stories retailed by attendants at garages and roadhouses that many owners of late, to save tipping, are resorting to the artful dodge of allowing their women friends to take charge of the steering wheel just before pulling up at one of these places. Of course, you know the old story that even when women do tip, the recipient requires a microscope to discover the coin and a good set of teeth to test it. Usually, however, women think they have met all the demands of the situation when they hand out just a smile. If this helped to pay the rent, all would be more than well, but the reward is too intangible to be popular with garage attendants, and servants."

The speaker went on to say that new improvements of a technical character were continually coming in, and being superseded again. The tendency now is to increase the number of cylinders. To-day the best cars carry six, and, in his opinion, the day is not far off when it will be eight. The more cylinders the more flexible the power. The flexibility of steam power is the objective aimed at. Electricity as a motive power is not satisfactory, especially in touring cars; using this power one cannot venture far from one's base of supplies. It is widely felt in automobile circles that fuel alcohol is bound to replace the more expensive, dangerous and malodorous gasolene. It will be produced from potatoes by farmers all over the country, and will thus be procurable everywhere.

"My remark a minute ago," went on the speaker, "with respect to the constant introduction of new improvements reminds me of an odd fact; and that is, though I am always on the lookout for them in all parts of the country, I have yet to see a car in the streets dating its birth back further than 1902. Of course, I know there must be some, but where are they? Many rich owners do not keep their cars longer than one season, but what becomes of these second-hand cars I have not yet been able to determine. They are in too good condition to be sent to the scrap heap; thus I have come to the conclusion that they either go out of town to some poor relation or are relegated, like the freak cars, to the din and dusty basements of the garages. It may be that my vision is in some way defective, but I have yet to see a dead donkey and a second-hand automobile which can lay claim to the mature age of five years.

"This is somewhat of a digression from what I set out to tell you about—namely, the latest phases in automobiling, but what of the departure instituted by a surety company which in the last two weeks has issued to responsible owners over three hundred documents, which are styled 'powers of attorney,' but which are, in plainer terms, bail bonds for their holders when arrested for breach of speed and other local bylaws. For $20 any owner can be furnished with five of these 'powers of attorney,' each bond standing for $500, and if at the end of the year for which they are issued he has been so law-abiding as to have not more than three unused bonds, the company will redeem these at $4 each. These bonds are supposed to be good in the states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Minnesota, Wisconsin and California.

"So, you see, the holders of these bonds for a small outlay can have a high old time from the Atlantic to the Pacific. In the provisos attached to the bonds I do not gather that the humble chauffeur is debarred from benefiting under them—at all events, such a detail is easily adjustable. In the prospectus here I see the statement, 'If other powers are desired for members of your family, give full particulars, remitting additional sum.' I think I see signs in this phrase that the chauffeur has not been overlooked. And I hope it is so, for it has yet to be decided who, in case of infraction of the law, is the proper party to punish—the chauffeur or the master from whom, in nearly every case, he takes his instructions to 'let out.' I see here, too, this latest development in American automobiling is due to the zeal of Winthrop E. Scarritt, ex-president of the Automobile Club of America. It certainly is an experiment we shall watch with interest. The courts and police are yet in blissful ignorance of this new move to lighten the burden of the sorely tried automobilist. There's bound to be some fun over these bonds, for if they stand the tests ahead of them owners will be able to turn on the police the smile that irritates."

NATIONAL GUARD NEWS.

National Guard organizations in Manhattan and Brooklyn will parade on May 30 as escort to the Grand Army of the Republic in service uniform and will follow the regular forces. In this year's parade there will be a larger force of United States bluejackets than usual, owing to the presence of the many vessels of the Atlantic fleet. In Manhattan the parade will start promptly at 9 o'clock in the morning from 58th street and Broadway. From there the line of march will be to Central Park West, to 72d street, to Broadway, to 86th street, to Riverside Drive, where the parade will be reviewed at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, at 89th street. The parade will continue along Riverside Drive to 92d street, at which place it will be dismissed. The 2d Battery, Captain Wilson, will parade in The Bronx. In Brooklyn the line of march will be from the fountain at Bedford avenue and Clymer street, through Bedford avenue, to Eastern Parkway, under the Soldiers and Sailors' Arch, where the parade will be dismissed. The parade will be much smaller than usual, owing to the fact that the 13th Regiment will be absent in Hartford on a visit.

An election for major in the 22d Engineers will be held at the armory to-morrow night. At first it was expected that there would be two candidates in the field, as some of the officers favored Captain Bloomfield Usher, while others spoke in favor of Captain A. H. Dyett. The latter officer, however, announced that he would not be a candidate, as he was a believer in seniority in promotion and Captain Usher was his senior in rank. Captain Wilbur F. Barber of Company K, second senior captain in the regiment, has resigned on account of removal out of town. He was known as a most efficient officer and was popular in the regiment, which he joined as a private in October, 1885. He served with the volunteer regiment in 1898.

Arrangements are already making in the 7th Regiment for the entertainment of the rifle team from the Queen's Westminster Volunteers, which will arrive in New York about September 24 next. Major Fisk is the chairman of the committee in charge. Many social affairs will be arranged for the visitors, in which all the members of the 7th will participate, as well as many friends. Company F is to give a show, the proceeds from which are to be used to help defray the expenses for entertaining the British riflemen. Corporal Blackford has already written the play. Company F, which has qualified one hundred members as riflemen at Creedmoor, including seven sharpshooters, at its first practice, held an enjoyable stag last Wednesday at Terrace Garden. Captain Stotesbury led the singing. Privates McGovern and Clive and Corporal Radcliffe played the accompaniments. First Sergeant Mack sang several funny songs and two quartets from the company also helped entertain. Private Joe Dederer has been presented by the company with a 25-year gold medal for his long and faithful service.

Lieutenant K. K. V. Casey, of the 71st Regiment, well known as one of the most expert riflemen in America, has resigned on account of removal to Delaware, much to the regret of the regiment. He joined the regiment in 1898 and served in the Cuban campaign.

Colonel John H. Foote, of the 14th Regiment, recently elected, has passed the brigade examining board. The new company L, organized for the 23d Regiment, will, it is expected, be mustered in before the regiment goes to camp.

Father William J. B. Daly, chaplain of the 69th Regiment, has resigned. He has been in ill health for some time, and has been unable to devote the necessary time to regimental duties in consequence. He was appointed chaplain of the regiment in January, 1898, and served in the volunteers with it. The committee of officers of the regiment, of which Captain Reville is chairman, Captain Foley vice-chairman, Captain Dillon secretary and Captain Reynolds treasurer, which has in charge the celebration of the opening of the new armory, has outlined the general plan. The opening will take place on Labor Day, and the 9th Regiment of Massachusetts will be present from Boston as the guests of the 69th. There will be a street parade, in which the 7th Regiment and the 1st Battery will join with the 69th and its Boston guests. The war veterans of the regiment will also parade, as well as a number of civilians and ex-members of the 69th. On Sunday night, September 2, there will be a grand banquet in the armory.

Major General Charles F. Roe will review the 14th Regiment in its armory next Wednesday night, and a reception will follow.

The officers of the 22d Regiment will hold the annual dinner next Thursday night at the Hotel Marie Antoinette. Colonel Hotchkin has appointed Lieutenant Smith, late of the 74th Regiment, a battalion adjutant, vice Conrow, promoted. Second Lieutenant C. J. Dieges, of Company F, the well known athlete, has had rapid promotion. He was elected second lieutenant in March last, and now, by the vacancy created by the promotion of Lieutenant William A. H. Foster to the captaincy, was on last Monday night unanimously elected first lieutenant. Captain Foster completed fifteen years of continuous service last Sunday, and received many congratulations. A handsome silver cup has been offered in the company to the member who makes the highest score at Creedmoor this season. Privates Christian, Schaefer and Zimpel, Company F, have been promoted to corporals, and Corporal A. J. Mayell, of Company A, has been promoted to sergeant after a competitive examination. Lieutenant Colonel Lilliendahl has passed the examining board and has received his commission.

Company A, of the 13th Regiment, will hold an election for captain and first lieutenant next Tuesday night. First Lieutenant Frank Dean, of Company E, will be elected captain, and Sergeant Walter Gibson, of Company A, will be elected first lieutenant. It is expected that the regiment will take almost its full strength on the trip to Hartford on May 30. Captain George Younie, of Company C, has been presented with a handsome silver loving cup by members of the company.

"THE QUEEN OF SICILY."

Syracuse calls itself the capital of the south, but it has no cause to dispute pride of place with Palermo. The metropolitan city is superior in population, wealth and much else, but it is deficient in what its ancient and glorious rival has in such abundance. For Syracuse has the supreme charm of Greece in a way that no other city except Athens has. Not even in Corinth, nowhere in Hellas, from Messana or Sparta in the south to Thebes in the north, is there any Hellenic town to compare with "the Queen of Sicily." As a sanctuary, Delphi is far more impressive than anything in Sicily; as a national meeting place Olympia has no rival; but nowhere, except at Athens, is a Greek city to be seen to-day which has the proud record of the marvellous metropolis of the Sicilian Greeks, a city as great in power and wealth and beauty as Athens herself, and victor at last in the long and fatal rivalry which indirectly involved the passing of the Hellenistic dominion of all the lands washed by the Ionian and Mediterranean seas.—Century Magazine.

LOST ON A SURE THING.

Drury Feild, of Richards, is a mule buyer and an enthusiast on good roads. He was in Kansas on a mule buying trip, when he stopped at a small town west of Fort Scott. A veterinary was preparing a hot application for a horse with a sprained leg, when Mr. Feild approached the livery stable. A kettle with the water heating in it stood near, and men were gathered about discussing how hot the water should be when applied to the horse's leg. They asked Drury Feild's opinion. Mr. Feild said it should be boiling. "But," said the doctor, "the horse could never stand having his foot put in a bucket of boiling water; it would cook the flesh to the bone." "Not at all," said Drury. "I have held my foot in boiling water for five minutes, many a time, and can do it again." "I'll bet you $50 you can't do it," said the doctor, with thoughts of easy money drifting through his brain. "I'll take the bet," said Drury, with a merry twinkle in his eye; "get 'er to bilin'." The mule driver has an artificial foot which he intended to put in the hot water when it should be ready. Meanwhile the subject of good roads came up, and when the tub of boiling water was ready the mule buyer, excited by his argument, absent mindedly put the wrong foot in the liquid, according to the statement of "The Richards Progress," and thereby lost what looked like a bet on a lead pipe cinch.—Kansas City Star.

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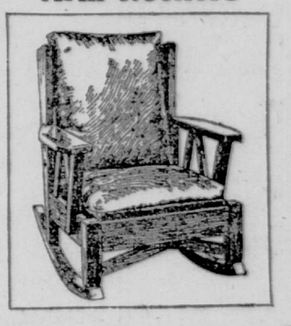
Morris Chairs

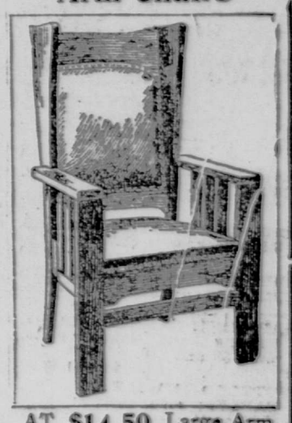
AT $20 Morris Chair at left, with loose Spanish leather cushions. Value $34.

Arm Rockers



AT $21.75 Mission Arm Rocker at left, with loose Spanish leather cushions. Value $36.

Arm Chairs



AT $14.50 Large Arm Chair in genuine leather. Value $24

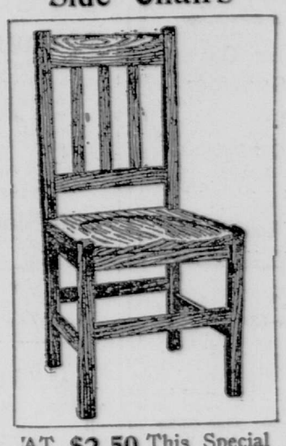
These Artistic High Grade Pieces

Embody the real Mission lines and a distinctive character that makes an impressive and rich room. Workmanship and finish are superb, while the genuine leather coverings produce beauty and solid comfort. These particular designs have been in great demand and will appeal to artistic tastes.

Arm Chairs

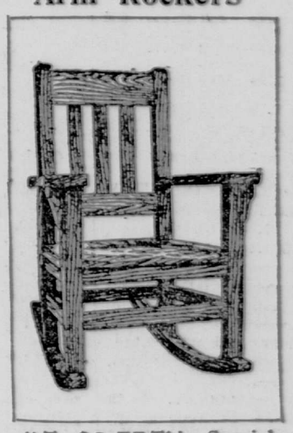
AT $3 This Special Arm Chair marked down from $5.

Side Chairs



AT $2.50 This Special Side Chair marked down from $4.

Arm Rockers



AT $3.75 This Special Arm Rocker marked down from $6.

THESE NEAT AND FINELY MADE MISSION PIECES are made on plain but effective lines, the wood seats being more in keeping with the Mission ideas. While prices are so low such a Mission set will produce a grander and more up-to-date effect than any other kind of furniture at treble the price.

LIGHT CREDIT ARRANGEMENTS.
FURNITURE, CARPETS, CROCKERY AND GENERAL HOUSEFURNISHINGS.
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AUCTION,

Tuesday, June 5,

At 12 O'CLOCK NOON in the BROOKLYN REAL ESTATE EXCHANGE, 189 Montague St.,

190 LOTS

INCLUDING EIGHT MODEL TWO-FAMILY BRICK HOUSES.

1st, 2nd and 3d Avs., 67th, Senator and 68th Sts.

Wakeman and Sedgwick places.
In the best and most accessible part of

BAYRIDGE

Large frontages, directly opposite

OWL'S HEAD

ON THE BLISS PROPERTY, FOR THE ACQUISITION OF WHICH AS A PUBLIC PARK THE CITY HAS JUST STARTED CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS.

And also opposite

BAY RIDGE PARKWAY.

OR SHORE DRIVE.

Property within two blocks of the ELEVATED STATION ON 3D AV. and within one block of the proposed

4th Av. Subway.

EXPENSIVE CEMENT SIDEWALKS AND CURBS HAVE BEEN LAID ON MOST OF THE LOTS AT THE SELLER'S EXPENSE.

BEAUTIFUL VIEWS OF THE BAY FROM PART OF THE PROPERTY.

75% on Mortgage at 5%

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