

EXCURSIONS.

STEAMER CHARLES MACALESTER

Will make the very popular Forty-mile trip down the Historic Potomac

TO-DAY, DEC. 18

Special attention is called to the cafe on this steamer.

CITY PRICES

Will leave Seventh Street Wharf at 2:30 p. m. sharp; home again at 7 p. m.

Fare, Round Trip, 25c

NORFOLK & WASHINGTON STEAMBOAT CO. MODERN STEEL PALACE STEAMERS.

KENSINGTON. Cars from 15th and N. Y. ave. every quarter hour.

WINTER RESORTS.

PINE FOREST INN

Summerville, S. C. NOW OPEN. Most attractive Winter Resort in the South.

THE CITY CURE FORGOT

NEW ORLEANS

THE ST. CHARLES. Finest All-over Hotel in the South.

ATLANTIC CITY HOTELS.

HOTEL WESTMONT

Ocean and Rhode Island avenue. Splendid table and service.

HOTELS.

HOTEL RICHMOND

17th & H. Avenue, N. W. D. C. Reasonable. Phone 256. Clifford M. Lewis.

St. James, European

WASHINGTON, D. C. 147

FEATURES HOLIDAY SPIRIT.

"The Window Wishers" Given at Short Story Club Meeting.

The Short Story Club held its regular meeting on last Wednesday night at 522 Sixth street northwest.

Original poems were contributed by Mr. Jack Dunlap, "Heroes," "Arise," and "On a Windy Day"; by Mrs. W. K. Houghton, "A Friend," "The Brook," and another; "Fathers Will Be Fathers," written by her friend, Miss Corinne Rockwell, of Philadelphia.

The president paid a tribute to Mrs. Mary E. Merrill, whose sudden death had brought a sense of great loss to the club, and asked that it should be placed upon the minutes.

DIES AT AGE OF 110 YEARS.

Oldest Man in Scotland Passes Away at Loch Eckside.

Glasgow, Dec. 17.—Scotland has again vindicated its boast of being the home of a hardy race.

TRY TO APPEASE THE DEVIL.

Villagers Throw Calves and Goats Into Chasm.

Vienna, Dec. 17.—An astonishing case of superstition is reported from Rihai, near Grosswardein, Hungary.

PROFIT IN GUN-MAKING.

Krupps Announce a Dividend of 10 Per Cent on Capital.

Berlin, Dec. 17.—The great armorer and gun-making firm of Krupp announces a 10 per cent dividend for the year on the share capital of \$45,000,000.

SEES SUNS IN MILKY WAY.

Scientist Offers Theory for Birth of New Worlds.

Says Bodies, Travelling in Opposite Directions, Collide and Form "Temporary Stars."

STAR HEADING OUR WAY.

Sirius Approaching Earth at Hurricane Speed.

ANIMAL INSTINCT CAN ERR.

Watches Aid Parasite and Eat Larvae of Valuable Ailys.

WOMAN LOSING FORM

London Artist Agrees with American Critics.

ATHLETICS NOT THE CAUSE

Marcus Stone Says He Can See Marked Deterioration in Figures and Finds It Difficult to Obtain Suitable Models for His Work.

Necks Are Not Normal.

London, Dec. 17.—The question of the influence of athletics upon physique which was raised by Dr. Sargent, of Harvard, and Mr. Alexander, the American artist, continues to interest people here.

"Few English women indulge in athletics sufficiently to change their development," he says.

"Undoubtedly the figures of English women have grown worse, and it is extremely difficult for an artist now to find an ideal model."

"I paint pictures in which the figures are of women of the last century at its beginning, when the women wore the high-waisted gown and no corset. I have many girls and young women to sit to me, and I find that they cannot pose in these gowns properly."

"I have always been cramped with a corset, and have lost the natural way to bend."

Will Have Black Carpet.

Queen Mary, with Her Boudoir Furnishing, May Set Style.

London, Dec. 17.—Rumor says that Queen Mary is going to have a black carpet in her boudoir in Buckingham Palace, and if the rumor is true, black drawing-rooms will speedily become the fashion in England.

It was found that black as a background for certain varieties of furniture or pictures only appealed to certain tastes.

Besides, a black carpet wears very badly, the slightest speck of dust or footmark shows. It is a carpet to look at—not to walk on.

RUSSIA RECEIVES HAMMOND.

Mining Expert Gives Views to Heads of Departments.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 17.—John Hays Hammond, the American mining expert, is being received here by the departments of commerce, finance, agriculture, and communications with distinction.

usually given to the head of an important foreign mission. He refuses to commit himself as yet as to definite schemes, but the Russian press credits him with the intention of proceeding forthwith with the construction of grain elevators to cost \$50,000,000.

Mr. Hammond is also considering conditions for employing American capital and engineering skill for the irrigation of the Steppes and Central Asia, and also for the canalization and building of tramways for the great cities.

canalization of St. Petersburg is regarded as urgent, as the only means of ridding the city of the cholera. Sir A. B. Benson, a great English engineer, is now here in that connection.

FIND EGG 1,900 YEARS OLD.

Explorers in Ancient Moguntiaum Come Upon Odd Relic.

Berlin, Dec. 17.—A hen's egg which is estimated to have been buried for maybe nineteen centuries has been excavated by a party of explorers belonging to the Archaeological Society of Mayence, Germany, in the ancient Moguntiaum, which was built by Drusus, the son of the Roman Emperor Augustus, in the year 14 B. C.

Upon the site of the ancient Roman castrum or encampment near the city some excavations have been recently made with the result that among other relics several water cisterns of Roman make were discovered.

It was in one of these, which was located twenty feet below the ground, that a damaged Roman clay pot was found containing the shell of a broken egg and also a whole egg, which had been kept from being smashed by a sherd of the damaged pot which covered it like a shield.

The ancient Roman egg can be seen in the museum of antiquities, and as far as size and shape goes might be claimed for its own by any present day fowl.

ANOTHER POLICEMAN DEAD.

Raid on Burglars Answered by Fusillade, and Officers Fall.

London, Dec. 17.—A second policeman is dead and a third is in a critical condition as the result of an attempt by officers last night to enter a building at Houndsditch, where burglars were trying to rob a goldsmith's shop.

Five policemen were shot by the burglars. It was ascertained to-day that the burglars rented a house in the rear of the jewelry shop a few weeks ago, and have since been tunneling toward the store, which contained stock valued at \$10,000.

The noises made by the crooks in knocking and scraping aroused the suspicions of neighbors, who informed the police. The latter decided upon a raid. They appeared before the house at midnight last night and demanded admittance. The demand was answered with a fusillade of revolver shots from the interior, which mowed down the constables. The assault then made them escape from the building, firing right and left as they ran.

STAR HEADING OUR WAY.

Sirius Approaching Earth at Hurricane Speed.

Berlin, Dec. 17.—The latest addition to astronomical knowledge concerning Sirius, the brightest double star in the heavens, is furnished by Dr. W. Munch, of the Astrophysical Observatory at Potsdam, who has submitted the spectrographic data collected there during the last ten years to a minute examination.

The chief point of Dr. Munch's investigation has been to determine what is known to astronomers as the radial speed of the gigantic Sirius system, which is now calculated at 6,988 miles. This means that Sirius is approaching the earth at the rate of nearly every year, therefore, Sirius gets nearer the earth by more than twice the distance between the earth and the sun.

This sounds alarming; but timid people may be reminded that taken in relation to the immense distance of the great Dog Star, its annual rush earthward may be called insignificant. The parallax of Sirius, according to Dr. Munch, is 8.27 inches from which it is calculated that its distance from the earth is 557,000 times 32,880,000 miles (which is the distance between the sun and the earth), so that light needs rather more than eight years to cover the distance between the earth and Sirius.

PAYS \$12,500 FOR STAMPS.

Then Russian Philatelist Throws Them Into Fire.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 17.—A wealthy Russian stamp collector's freak has been the subject of some comment among philatelists. M. Stemmer, of St. Petersburg, a well-known collector, has in his possession five old stamps, mostly German, which he believed were the only specimens in existence.

His friend Prince Troubetzkoi picked the idea, and after much advertising, obtained duplicate from dealers in the United States and paid \$5,000 for them.

Stemmer was furious and wanted to buy them immediately, but Troubetzkoi refused to sell. After much persuasion, the five stamps changed hands for \$12,500, and, beaming with joy, Stemmer threw them into the fire.

"Now my set is really unique," he exclaimed to the amazed Troubetzkoi.

WIDOW DECLINES TO BE A CHATTEL

Left to Brother, She Flees with Former Sweetheart.

London, Dec. 17.—A new record in the matter of curious wills has been achieved by an elderly Cornishman, who bequeathed his wife to his brother Bob. The bequest carried with it some \$2,500, but in the end neither the money nor the widow became the property of Bob. The Cornishman's will ran as follows:

I have not much to leave, but I bequeath my wife, Millie Marjorie, to my dear old brother Bob, together with the whole of my savings (about £500), on the condition that he (Bob) marries (the Millie) at the Cathedral of Truro within two weeks of my decease.

Otherwise upon Robert's refusal the money and other effects shall go to the first man of over fifty years of age of respectability and good character who shall offer Millie a home.

I can thoroughly recommend her. She is twenty-four this 7th August 1910. She washes well and cooks better.

Millie Marjorie was accepted by "poor old brother Bob," a six months' widower, in the following letter:

Dear Millie, I am looking forward to your filling poor Ann's place, though you will have a hard job to do that properly until you have got used to my ways.

Of course, you are young and in many ways it will be wise to have you here, especially if you are all poor John makes out.

Will marry you in the cathedral on Saturday, November 25.

Write and tell me when you are coming, and don't forget to bring the money with you.

Alas! Poor old brother Bob had reckoned without his host; the lady had other views and is now on her way to America with the money and a more youthful husband in the person of a certain, an old sweetheart of school days. The Cornishman had forgotten to tie up the money until such time as the conditions of the unusual will were fulfilled, and the lady promptly took advantage of the omission.

GERMANS FINEST OPERA HOUSE.

German Emperor Will Erect Luxurious Building in Berlin.

Berlin, Dec. 17.—The German Emperor, it is said, is seeking a site in Berlin for the erection of the finest opera house in the world. It will be a luxurious building, and eight of Germany's leading architects are said to be at work upon its plans.

Three thousand persons will be accommodated in the auditorium, while the stage will be 100 feet in width and 90 feet in depth. For the sake of the royal family there will be a box capable of seating eighty persons. There will also be spacious dressing and retiring rooms for the use of royal visitors.

The cost of the whole scheme will be very great—so great, it is reported, that the actual sum has been withheld from the German public.

KING TO STAY IN ENGLAND.

Will Not Follow Father's Plan of Going to South Europe.

London, Dec. 17.—King George will not follow his father's custom of migrating to the south of Europe in the spring, but he will go to the English coast for a short stay. Between Easter and Whitsuntide the London sojourn of the court will be resumed, and there may be about ten days passed at Balmoral for the early fishing.

Barton Manor, the King's seaside residence on the Osborne estate in the Isle of Wight, will for the future be lent to several members of the royal family who desire a few weeks' rest and change. Barton Manor was considerably enlarged and improved during the late reign, and is now an extremely comfortable house.

The younger members of the King's family will pass their summers there, while the King and Queen Mary are also expected to stay there next August, as it is a favorite residence with the Queen.

RAID ON BURGLARS ANSWERED BY FUSILLADE, AND OFFICERS FALL.

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SEES SUNS IN MILKY WAY.

Scientist Offers Theory for Birth of New Worlds.

Says Bodies, Travelling in Opposite Directions, Collide and Form "Temporary Stars."

London, Dec. 17.—There are about a hundred million suns in the Milky Way which can be photographed at least five or six times as many dead suns.

So says Dr. Hicckerton, who is professor of chemistry and physics in New Zealand, and has come to London to explain a new theory concerning the birth of new worlds. He developed his theory before the Royal Colonial Institute the other evening in a lecture entitled "The romance of the heavens."

To put it briefly, his idea concerning this vast number of suns in the Milky Way is one of collision. They travel, he said, in two great streams in opposite directions. As they pass each other at tremendous speed they attract each other, but are more likely to graze one another than to meet directly. As a result enormous sparks are struck off each star, sometimes of the mass of our sun.

The two wounded suns pass on their way, but the particles coalesce and form a third body of terrific heat and energy, known to astronomers as temporary stars. Owing to its heat this body explodes and is finally dissipated into atomic dust.

The professor declares that his theory will successfully accounting for the appearance of temporary stars proves too that a continual rejuvenescence of the cosmic system is in progress, thus giving proof of the eternal character of the universe.

CRUSADE AGAINST SHARPEERS.

European Hotels Will Seek to Protect American Travelers.

Paris, Dec. 17.—Hotel sharpers, swindlers, and thieves, who have victimized many an overconfident American on his travels abroad, are going to have a hard time from January next.

An international crusade against them has been started in Europe, headed by the Swiss hotel keepers, who have for two years been publishing descriptions and photographs of well-known "hotel rats," as they are named in Europe. Seventy of the principal towns in England, Germany, France, Austria, Italy, Belgium, Holland, and other countries have now joined the movement.

The Swiss organization is practically complete, for every town and resort has joined the crusade, and the police of the country have promised every assistance.

In future international gangs of hotel swindlers will be fought by international methods of publicity. Every journal connected with the hotel industry in Europe is called upon to assist in the new movement for the protection of travelers.

ANIMAL INSTINCT CAN ERR.

Wasp's Aid Parasite and Eat Larvae of Valuable Ailys.

Paris, Dec. 17.—Animal instinct is not always infallible, Prof. Bonier told the French Academy of Sciences the other day. As an example he described investigations carried out recently by Prof. Roubaud in the life of wasps.

OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL XMAS Use Your Credit to Buy Useful Xmas Gifts The sensible thing to do is to give Useful Xmas Gifts—handsome, useful Furniture for the home. You don't need ready cash to buy such gifts here. You are welcome to select everything you want at our genuine MONEY-SAVING PRICES, and you can arrange to START YOUR PAYMENTS NEXT YEAR.

This Exact \$35.00 Claw-foot 3-Piece Parlor Suite, \$19.75 Very pretty Three-piece Parlor Suite, exactly like illustration; highly polished croch mahogany frames, claw feet, mercerized velour loose cushions.

This Exact \$25.00 Boston Leather Turkish Rocker, \$13.75 The Handsomest and Most Luxurious Rocker you can buy; wide head rests; covered in genuine Boston leather; full tufted and ruffled front; best spring seat; carved claw feet.

38 NEW STYLES IN SHAVING STANDS At 25% OFF Every new and up-to-date style in Shaving Stands is in this Xmas stock. Shown in mahogany and solid oak. Take your pick of the stock and save at least 25 per cent of what you'd pay anywhere else in town. Prices range from \$8.75 to \$35.00

"THE HUB SPECIAL" ARRIVES ON TIME A MECHANICAL TRAIN That Runs by Itself on a Big Circular Track A \$1.50 Toy for 39c 5,000 of these Mechanical Trains on sale to-morrow. The biggest treat yet for the boys. The set consists of Metal Locomotive, Tender, and Car on a big circular track. The locomotive is equipped with a spring motor, which, once started, allows the train to run by itself. Only 39c for this wonderful mechanical toy.

The Best Gift for Xmas This Exact Claw-foot Extension Table, with Six Saddle Seat Solid Oak Dining Chairs to Match, All for \$16.75 This Exact \$9 Mahogany Music Cabinet, \$6.50 Highly Polished Croch Mahogany Music Cabinet, exactly like cut; partitioned interior; shaped legs. This is only one of many similar bargains in Music Cabinets and Music Roll Cabinets.

Hub Furniture Co. S. E. Cor. 7th and D Sts. JEWISH CENSUS TAKEN. London, Dec. 17.—Considering their seeming ubiquity, it is perhaps somewhat surprising to find that the total number of Jews in the whole world does not exceed 11,877,781. These are the figures given in the Univers Israelite, and may be taken as authentic. Of this total, 8,922,266 are in Europe, 1,834,469 in America, 822,653 in Asia, 341,867 in Africa, and 17,106 in Oceania. Of the European Jews, 5,110,549 are in Russia, 1,234,809 in Austria, 851,253 in Hungary, 667,862 in Roumania, 233,273 in England, 166,883 in Holland, 52,115 in Italy, 33,669 in Bulgaria, 15,000 in Belgium, and 12,264 in Switzerland. New York has the distinction of having the biggest Jewish population of all the cities in the world. It is given at 1,062,000. The Jewish population of other cities is given in the following order: Warsaw, 527,712 (65.3 per cent of the population); Budapest, 186,947 (25.5); Vienna, 146,292 (13.5); London, 144,300 (2.1); Odessa, 138,385 (31.4); Berlin, 98,865 (4.8); Lodz, 98,571 (31.4); Chicago, 80,000; Saloniki, 75,000; Philadelphia, 75,000; Paris, 70,000; Constantinople, 65,000; Vilna, 62,841 (41.5); Amsterdam, 53,965 (11.5); Jerusalem, 53,000 (98.2); Kischineff, 49,257 (68.3); Minsk, 45,000; Lemberg, 44,253 (25.6); and Bucharest, 40,533 (40.7).