Shoes A-Sailing Out at Edmonston's $8,000 Shoe Sale.

WE never do anything by halves. When we inaugurate a shoe sale look out for startling bargains. We've determined on certain changes in our business that must be made. In order to do this $8,000 worth of shoes must be closed out. These prices will make quick work of the closing-out process:

$2.50 Shoes, $1.95.
Ladies' $2.50 Button and Lace Shoes, made of vici kid, medium toe, tip of same, flexible sole. A $2.50 Shoe. Now $1.95

$3.50 and $4.00 Shoes, $2.55.
Women's Shoes, 15 different styles, in button, lace, box calf, vici kid, cork or plain soles, also the new "widespread" last. $3.50 and $4 values. To close..... $2.55

$3.50 Shoes, $2.55.
Women's $3.50 Dull Kangaroo-skin Cork-sole Boots, lace only, all sizes and widths. During this sale.. $2.55

Broken lines of $2 and $2.50 Men's Slippers cut to. $1.30

Misses' and Children's $2 and $1.50 Ironclads—comfort last. Reduced to $1.45 and $1.20

EDMONSTON'S,
1334 F St. South side, between 13th and 14th, Next to Ebbitt House.
1t

Chas. A. Muddiman., Double Store 12th and G Streets. Fred'k W. Buddecke.

Choice **Presents** Select.

These goods are not only useful and ornamental, but are durable, and as a Christmas present will be appreciative a good portion of the next century.

Brass Andirons, $2.75, etc.—Loving Cup Lamps only $4.00—Cozy Corner Lanterns, 98c.—Coal Grates, $3.00—Iron Andirons, $1.10—Fireplace Folding Screens, $1.75—Onyx Top Tables—Chandeliers—Jewel Gas Ranges—Hall Lanterns—Banquet Globes, etc.—Gas Logs—Mechanical work executed to suit.

Lamps
—to give light on any subject:
Banquets, complete, $1.75 up.
B. & H., complete, $1.30.
Reading style, only $1.75.
Too many to mention all. We invite inspection.

Drop Lights.
The Beacon has double burners and reflector shade to match. Very handy—will hang on any gas jet; increase the illumination and bring it closer. Prices, complete, 74c., 84c., 94c.—(see Portables).

Welsbach Lt., Portable, Complete, $2.00, $2.25, &c.

Oil Stoves.
Offer you the Fine B. & H. Heater only $2.90—Drums, 90c. An elegant Stove for large room, only $4.50, &c., &c.

Gas Stoves.
These are made to heat and give you satisfactory results—$1.00, $1.20, $1.25. Gas Radiators, 4 tube, $2.75 and $3.25.

Portable Gas Lights,
With 2 yards best tubing, choice of Argand or Beacon burners, and complete, only $1.50.
Fancy Figure Portables, complete, $1.94, &c.

Welsbach Lights, put on, 70c. Electric Portables.

C. A. Muddiman & Co.,
616 12th. 'Phone 140. 1204 G.
1t OPEN EVENINGS.

Chas. R. Edmonston.

Rich and Exquisite Gift Suggestions.

French China—Articles and sets of Genuine French China, in the most beautiful and exclusive decorations, embracing Chocolate Pots, Condensed Milk Jar Holders, Comb and Brush Trays, Celery Trays, Ice Cream Sets, Game Sets, Fish Sets, Salad Bowls, Mayonnaise Dishes, Ring Trays, Broth Bowls and Stands, Tea Caddies and dozens of others.

French China Pudding Dishes, consisting of bowl, lining and stand, for $3.50.

Cut Glass—Only the very highest grade of American Cut Glass and all hand-polished—sparkling, brilliant and deep, perfect cutting. Of special suitability for giving in cut glass are the Salad Bowls, Punch Bowls, Celery Dishes, Bonbon Dishes, Vases, Decanters, Sugars and Creams, &c.—all elegant presents sure to be appreciated.

Dinner Sets—a variety which is wellnigh inexhaustive—in French and Austrian China, English and American Porcelain. Immense variety in sets as well as in "open-stock" patterns. If you've a friend who has an incomplete set of any of the patterns we show, a splendid present to make her would be a few articles to help complete it. All our 100-piece sets include soup tureen. $8.50 up.

Steins—to delight the lord of the household. As useful for decorative purposes as for their actual use. All sizes here—all shapes and a big variety of decorations—with mottoes and without—with music box attachment and without. 50c. up.

Cloisonne Ware—Ours come to us direct from the foreign producers, and articles of it range in price from 50c. to $16, embracing Tea Pots, Bonbon Boxes, Vases and the like. Vases start in price at 75c.

Plated Ware—Only the best makes of Plated Ware and, of course, all of it guaranteed. Tea Sets, Water Pitchers, Vegetable Dishes, Soup Tureens, Candelabras, Waiters, Cheese Holders, etc. Plated Pudding Dishes from $3.50 up.

Tobacco Jars—an elegant gift for men. So many sorts of earthenware that the choosing will be remarkably easy. Grotesque heads and attractive and amusing figures at 40c. up.

Bric-a-brac—some here from all countries in which it is produced—immense assortment, including Hungarian, Faience, Royal Bonn, Crown Derby, Royal Worcester, Teplitz, &c.

Charles R. Edmonston,
China, Glass and Housefurnishings,
1205 Pa. Avenue.

HAULING OF FREIGHT.

Practice Discontinued on Georgetown and Tenleytown Road.

The attention of Mr. George Truesdell, president of the Georgetown and Tenleytown Railway Company, was called a few days ago by the District Commissioners to an opinion of their attorney, rendered several months ago, to the effect that the company is not authorized by law to run freight cars over its line. This action of the Commissioners was the result of a communication received by them, in which it was charged that recently a car loaded with brick was run over the line.

In reply to their communication they have received a letter from Mr. Truesdell, in which he states that before the receipt of a copy of their attorney's opinion he had given directions to have the practice of hauling coal and other freight on the company's road discontinued. "The car load of brick referred to," wrote Mr. Truesdell, "was hauled over the line for the purpose of erecting a small station for the accommodation of a transformer, but was done, however, in violation of the order. I have directed that no more freight of any character be hauled on this line inside of the boundary line of the District."

A Long Way Round.

From the London Chronicle.

What is the most roundabout journey that the absence of proper steamship communication entails on the inhabitants of any country? Surely it must be that described by our consul at Loanda, Portuguese West Africa. If one of the 6,000 whites of Angola or 1,700 Europeans in the Congo Independent State, who so frequently need change of climate, wishes to spend a week or two in Cape Town—which should lie, even by slow steamer, only six days distant—he has to travel 3,000 miles from Loanda to Madeira, catch there a Cape steamer and journey for another fortnight the 4,800 miles to Cape Town. It thus needs fully a month's continuous traveling and 7,000 miles of it to reach a point only 1,600 miles from the starting point.

Original and Eccentric.

From the Chicago Times Herald.

"She's one of the most original and eccentric girls in society."

"In what way?"

"Why, she actually goes to the opera to hear the singing."

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Various Organizations Hold Their Annual Sessions.

The Names of Those Who Will Hold Office for the Ensuing Year.

National Conclave, No. 661, Improved Order of Heptasophs, held its annual election on Tuesday evening last, resulting in the choice of the following officers: Archon, Howard Perry; provost, V. B. Jackson, M. D.; secretary, Claude S. Frost; treasurer, F. L. Carswell; financier, N. E. Webster, jr.; prelate, George W. Cox; inspector, Wm. J. Bacon; warder, H. C. Robinson; sentinel, Ed. S. Ransdell; trustees, E. B. Moore, Dr. J. K. Halley and C. W. Gesner; auditors, J. C. Jemison, John R. Wright, jr., and John S. Kistler.

Frederick Koehler, district deputy supreme archon, and Robert Brooks, alternate, both of Baltimore, were present. The conclave voted to have a public installation of officers on the 23d of January, and a committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

Harmony Lodge, No. 17, F. A. A. M., elected officers Wednesday evening, the 13th instant, as follows: Worshipful master, Henry E. Tripp; senior warden, J. Louis Willige; junior warden, Charles E. Gross; secretary (tenth term), W. Hamilton Smith; treasurer (sixteenth term), Orange T. Firmin; senior deacon, Louis D. Carman; junior deacon, M. D. Rosenberg; senior steward, Clarence A. Weaver; junior steward, R. S. C. Caldwell.

The following appointments were made: Master of ceremonies (nineteenth term), Samuel Baxter; chaplain, Rev. F. Duncan Jandon; tiler, Isaac S. Gray; organist, Jas. W. Cheney.

Washington Council, No. 84, Loyal Additional Benefit Association, has elected the following officers to serve during the year 1900: Councillor, Benjamin Franklin; vice councillor, S. A. Hoffingshead; orator, D. O. Drennan; recorder, H. C. Scott; collector, T. M. Hayes; treasurer, S. I. Bessehevre; chaplain, Henry Baum; marshal, M. A. Lynch; guardian, F. R. Whitney; sentry, C. G. Robinson; trustees, B. F. Peters, W. W. Karr, and C. H. James.

Officers of the George Washington Memorial Association have been chosen for the ensuing year. Before the balloting began Mrs. L. D. M. Sweat of Portland, Me., was nominated for the office of president and elected by acclamation.

The complete list of officers elected is as follows: President, Mrs. D. M. Sweat, Maine; vice presidents, Mrs. Archibald Hopkins, Washington; Mrs. Washington A. Roebling, New Jersey; Mrs. Henry R. Malloy, New York; Mrs. Frank Northrop, New York; Mrs. Lawrence Maxwell, jr., Ohio; Miss Elizabeth T. King, Maryland; Mrs. William Tod Helmuth, New York; trustees, Mrs. Phebe A. Hearst, California; Mrs. Calvin S. Brice, Ohio; Mrs. H. H. Adams, Connecticut; Mrs. William T. Carter, Pennsylvania; Mrs. Leslie C. Wead, Massachusetts; Mrs. John L. Routt, Colorado; recording secretary, Mrs. Susanna P. Page, New York; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Arthur Elkins Lee, West Virginia; national treasurer, Charles J. Bell.

The following advisory council will continue: Dr. John Clark Ridpath, historian, Boston; Dr. David Starr Jordan, Colonel H. H. Adams, director of civic study in American schools for the American Institute of Civics, New York; Mrs. Phebe A. Hearst, regent of the University of California, and Mrs. Calvin S. Brice, trustee of the Western College of Oxford, Ohio.

Mrs. Ellen Richardson was, on motion of Miss Helen La Ditte Potter, made honorary president of the association for life in recognition of her services for the National University and Memorial Hall causes.

Burnside Post, No. 8, G. A. R., has elected officers as follows: Commander, I. G. Kimball; senior vice commander, B. F. Brockett; junior vice commander, A. P. Tasker; quartermaster, Geo. T. Carter; surgeon, Joseph Jouy, M.D.; chaplain, T. W. Tallmadge; officer of the day, E. R. Campbell; officer of the guard, I. E. Kirk. Representatives to department encampment, A. J. Huntoon, Geo. P. Davis, Silas W. Hastings, Geo. C. Ross, Joseph E. Hart, E. S. Woog, L. K. Brown, L. Vanderhoef, W. W. Brown, F. J. Young.

The annual election of officers for Takoma Park Lodge, No. 29, F.A.A.M., held December 12, resulted as follows: H. M. Camp, W.M.; O. D. Summy, S.W.; E. J. Perry, J.W.; J. K. Depue, secretary; C. M. Heaton, treasurer; H. M. Bennett, M. of C.; Rev. Luther B. Wilson, chaplain; O. J. Eddy, S.D.; W. T. Andrews, J.D.; Wm. Mehn, S.S.; James W. Wilson, J.S.; L. F. Dudley, tiler.

At the annual election of officers of the Women's Relief Union, Hancock No. 1, Union Veteran Union, the following were elected: President, Mrs. Jennie Dyrenforth; senior vice president, Mrs. Sarah E. Beach; junior vice president, Mrs. Carrie G. Miller; treasurer, Miss Rose Dyrenforth; chaplain, Miss Emma Milans; conductress, Mrs. Carrie R. Middleton; inside guard, Mrs. Laura Beach; outside guard, Mrs. Cathrine Garvey; secretary, Miss Elinor Middleton; delegate, Mrs. Ella C. Plunkett; alternate, Mrs. Elsie Fenton.

John A. Logan Post, No. 13, Grand Army of the Republic, of Anacostia, has elected the following officers to serve during the ensuing term: Commander, James H. Dony; senior vice commander, Adolph S. Gertman; junior vice commander, John H. Anderson; surgeon, Dr. E. H. Grant; chaplain, Rev. Nelson H. Miller; quartermaster, Alpheus Davison; officer of the day, Henry W. Eno; officer of the guard, William H. Peck; delegate to department encampment, Henry W. Eno; alternate, Jasper E. Snow.

The Most Worshipful Eureka Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons (compast), District of Columbia, under the obedience of the National Grand Lodge of North America, held its annual grand communication last evening. Grand officers were present as follows: D. F. Seville, most worshipful grand master; Wm. C. Dennis, deputy grand master; K. A. Washington, senior grand warden; W. Tate, junior grand warden; Jas. T. Adams, grand treasurer; M. H. Hill, grand secretary; Rev. J. H. Watson, grand chaplain; Jos. Thornton, grand marshal; J. J. Schencks, grand lecturer; F. A. Jackson, grand senior deacon; J. T. Ridely, grand junior deacon; Jas. F. Johnson, grand senior steward; H. D. Newton, grand junior steward; Hiram Walker, grand sword bearer; W. Bell, grand standard bearer; Thomas Wade, grand pursuivant; Henry Schuler, grand tiler. The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

After the usual routine of business the Grand Lodge passed a resolution indorsing the most worshipful grand master, D. F. Seville. The Grand Lodge then closed in ample form.

The following named comrades were elected to fill the various offices of Henry Wilson Post, G. A. R., for the ensuing year, at the last meeting of the post: Commander, Jacob Moore; senior vice commander, Ed. Burns; junior vice commander, John H. Cole; quartermaster, James T. Thomas; officer of the day, James Adams; chaplain, William Turner; officer of the guard, William Moore; delegates to department encampment, Comrades Hoover, Thomas, Mitchell and Burne; alternates, Mansfield, Davenport, Adams and Anderson.

National Hive, No. 1, Ladies of the Maccabees, has elected the following officers for the ensuing year: Lady commander, Mary M. Frey; lady lieutenant commander, Ida J. Maxwell; lady record keeper, Lula S. Hammond; lady finance keeper, Lillie F. Hayes; lady chaplain, Mary E. Donahue; lady sergeant, Amanda Hungerford; lady mistress at arms, Dr. Edith Jewell; lady sentinel, Clara J. Moore; lady picket, Gertrude Herbert.

National Capital Council, No. 447, National Union, as its regular meeting, held December 8, 1899, elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, W. C. Nicholson; vice president, W. H. Harmer; speaker, Peter Hahn; ex-president, J. S. Briggs; secretary, R. L. Hunter; financial secretary, Maurice Otterback; treasurer, Adam P. Funk; chaplain, E. S. Clarkson; usher, Wm. Schlosser; S. at A., A. J. Cummings; doorkeeper, H. A. M. Weber; delegates to district cabinet, J. S. Briggs, R. L. Hunter, W. C. Nicholson; delegate to Immediate Relief, W. H. Harmer; delegates to the assembly, H. O. Simons, W. R. Hartley, J. S. Briggs.

The annual election of officers of George C. Whiting Lodge, No. 22, F. A. A. M., was held last evening, and the following were elected to serve for the ensuing year: W.M., B. F. Harper; S.W., Harry Becker; J.W., William N. Bornheim; S.D., George J. Geiger; J.D., J. E. Shoemaker; S.S., David L. Reynolds; J.S., E. H. L. Myers; Charles Becker, secretary; Samuel C. Palmer, treasurer; S. Norris Thorne, delegate to Masonic board of relief; Charles Becker, delegate to St. John's Mite Society; W. H. Elliott, tiler. Dr. Charles Becker was re-elected to the office of secretary, and also as delegate to the Mite Society.

Widow's Son Lodge, No. 7, F. A. A. M., held its regular election last evening, at which officers were elected as follows: S. C. Burnett, W.M.; J. N. Lomax, S.W.; W. A. Carter, J.W.; R. H. Moten, S.D.; Chas. Posey, J.D.; B. F. Dafley, treasurer; Wm. H. Patrick, S.M.C.; George Kent, J.M.C.; W. H. Parker, secretary.

PARKER, BRIDGET & CO. | PARKER, BRIDGET & CO. | PARKER, BRIDGET & CO. | PARKER, BRIDGET & CO.

Open Evenings Until Christmas.

Of Practical Christmas Things and Their Prices.

In the following lines only a few hints are offered; yet the re is everything in this store that can be desired in the form of wearing apparel, for almost all members of the family. Besides which we might also incidentally mention "Graphophones," which as a gift rank at the head of the list. Prices from $5.00 to $100.00.

Men's Smoking Jackets, $4.00, $5.00 and $6.00.

Special lots at these prices of Fancy Plaid Double-faced Cloths; neatly made and trimmed with fancy silk cord on pockets and around edge. Beautiful patterns and splendidly finished; worth from $5.00 to $10.00.

Handsome Jackets of medium weight golf cloths; plain outside with the fancy side showing on cuffs and collar. $8, $10 and $12. Positively unmatched at the prices.

Others of rich Matalasse Cloths, Velvets, Tricots, etc., at $12, $15, $18 and up to $30.00 for those from London, specially purchased by our representative while abroad.

Handkerchiefs for Christmas.

This tells of Women's Handkerchiefs only, which are in the little French room with other dress dainties. Handkerchiefs always prove favorite Christmas gifts and are, therefore, bought and sold by the millions around the holidays. We have a splendidly complete stock, although the cheapest handkerchiefs we sell are 25c., but wonders for the money; better than anything we've ever seen.

Plain white and fancy embroidered effects.

Then, at 35c. and 50c., we show better quality and richer sorts.

It's hard to do full justice to this Handkerchief stock, so let this mere hint stand for the whole.

All Handkerchiefs put up in neat boxes—just right for holiday gifts.

Leather Goods for Men.

A large and complete assortment of Gents' Pocket Books, Card Cases, Bill Book and Folds, Coin Purses, &c., in the best quality skins, at prices ranging from 50c. to $6.00.

Elegant Christmas gifts in Collar and Cuff Boxes of every description and quality, Dressing Cases, Toilet Sets, Military Brushes, and almost every kind of new and useful article in leather goods.

Men's Solid Leather Suit Cases at $5.50 and $6.

22-inch size for the $5.50, and 24-inch size for the $6.00.

Solid grain cowhide, and hand-sewed, built on a spring steel frame, lined with linen, have three hinges, riveted through metal burrs, with sole-leather corners. Straps or catches; russet or olive. An elegant and most acceptable Xmas gift.

Holiday Neckwear For Ladies.

Neckwear is beautiful, elegant and useful; therefore pleasant to give and most agreeable to accept. There is exceptional fitness for Christmas gifts in our great and handsome line. Each piece is unmatched in its sphere of price.

Surprisingly rich bits of Neckwear at 50c. and $1.00. Two-yard-long Chiffon Ties with two rows of plaiting at ends at either price, all shades, including white and black.

At $1, Ladies' Stocks, of satin, with velvet trimming, beautified with large bow of French organdy.

At $1.25, Ladies' Silk Tucked Stocks, with Liberty silk rosette edged with lace and ribbon.

At $1.50, Ladies' Fine Quality Satin Stocks, with turn-over collar of plaited chiffon; richly embellished with rosette of Liberty silk, edged with plaited chiffon.

A beautiful line of Ladies' Two-yard-long Corded Silk Imperials, richly hemstitched and finished on edge with delicate colors of Taffeta Silk; the price, $2.50, worth $3.50.

Extra Fine Lace Stole Ties at 75c.; delicately rich and inviting. Finer sorts at $1.50; these of pure cotton net, with real lace ends. Real value, $2.00.

Every latest Neckwear idea will here be found.

Umbrellas for Everybody

Elegant for Christmas Gift.

Our lines of Ladies' and Men's Umbrellas are comprehensively complete. All good sorts, from the substantial ones at 98c. to the elaborate sterling silver affairs at $15.00. We show a splendid line of Ladies' Umbrellas at $1.48. A score or more handle designs; covering of good grade silk gloria. Another special line at $1.98. This stock was especially selected for the present giving season, and none, no matter how rich the design, are exorbitantly priced. A special item in Men's Umbrellas is—

At $2 each, 28-inch; fine gloria silk, with case to match; steel rod; natural wood handles.

Pocket Books and Card Cases.

Any thought of these in your holiday planning? In so great and varied a stock as this choosing must be easy—as are the prices. These as an illustration of how low:

At 48c.—Special lot of Ladies' Solid Leather Pocket Books, in assorted shapes and colors; finished with sterling silver mountings; worth 69c.

At 75c. and $1—Special lot of Ladies' Grain Leather Pocket Books, in assorted colors, with more elaborate trimmings in sterling silver.

At $2, $2.50 and $3 we offer one of the finest and best quality assortments in choice skins and fine shade colorings, in Seal, Alligator, Monkey and Calf; better could not be bought at twice the price.

CHATELAINES and SHOPPING BAGS, in good qualities, from 50c. up to $5.

The largest assortment of Dog Collar Belts in the city; in better quality. Those marked at $1.25 will go at 98c. Those marked $1.50 will go at $1.23, and our $2 grade at $1.48. A very complete assortment.

Boys' Clothing as a Christmas Gift.

How the gift of a Suit or Overcoat will cheer the hearts of your boys, and how it will tend to teach them the practical side of money spending! Better put a few dollars in good clothing than a few pennies in some worthless gewgaw. Probably a new Hat would catch him, or Shoes, Neckwear, Gloves, Leggins, Suspenders, Fancy Shirt, or whatever it may be in wearables, you will here find it; and the charm of rare value is added to the givableness of our goods.

New Christmas Novelties in Sailor Blouse Suits and all the new juvenile dress-up and substantial styles.
$2.50 to $4.00.

Broken lots of Boys' Double-breasted $5.00 and $6.00 Suits are marked for quick selling at— sizes 8 to 16 years. **$3.85**

Boys' Kersey, Oxford Mixed and Irish Frieze Reefers. Regularly $7.00. Special at..... **$5.00**

Eleven new styles of Kilt Suits, worth regularly $4.00 to $6.00, are to be sold at the special prices of—
$3.00 and $4.00.

New lot of Boys' Chinchilla Reefers, with large storm collars—wool-lined. Actual value, $7.00, at..... **$5.00**

Boys' Chinchilla and Irish Frieze Reefers (not all sizes). Regular $5.00 and $5.50 values, at... **$3.95**

Boys' Furnishings, Hats and Shoes.

All-silk Suspenders in fancy designs, trimmed with fancy brass buckles; in a dainty box..... **50c.**

Full line of Boys' Gloves for everyday and dress-up wear; fleece lined kid, dogskin, mocha, Scotch wool, astrakhan, etc.—
25c. to $1.50.

Large line of Boys' Fancy Percale and Madras Shirts, in new stripes and plaids—
50c. to $1.50.

Boys' and Misses' Tams of fine blue, brown and red broadcloth, beautifully finished with quills and ribbon bows to match. Reduced from
$2.50 to $1.75.

Large line of Boys' Fancy Hats at
50c., 75c. and $1.

Boys' and Youths' Shoes of Calf, Box Calf and Russia, patented after the men's styles. Prices begin at $1.75 and advance to $3.00.

Gift Suggestions from the Men's Furnishing Store.

The following are mere suggestions:

Neckwear, 50c. to $3.00; all shapes and kinds.
Suspenders, 50c. to $3.00.
Full Dress Protectors, $1.00 to $3.00.
Gloves, dress-up sorts, $1.00 to $5.00.
Shirts, White and Colored, $1.00 to $2.00.
Hosiery, 12½c. to $3.00 for the all-silk kind.
Umbrellas, $1.00 to $15.00.
Handkerchiefs, 12½c. to $1.50.
Mufflers, $1.50 to $5.00.
Fancy Night Shirts and Pajamas, $1.00; higher and lower.

And many other good things that are likely to catch his fancy and will splendidly serve for holiday remembrance. All suitably boxed for presentation.

PARKER, BRIDGET & CO.,
Head-to-Foot Outfitters, 9th and Penna. Avenue.

THE DIAMOND DRUMMER.

He Doesn't Fear Thieves as Much as a Mistake in Prices.

From the Chicago Inter Ocean.

"I suppose my line of business is the most interesting on the road," said one of the party in the smoking room of the Pullman car.

"What is it?" asked another traveling man.

"Diamonds," said the first one. "I don't know of another drummer who carries his stock with him and delivers the goods as soon as they are bought. Of course, a man can carry a fortune in diamonds and put them all in a very small package; there is really no such thing as a sample case with a diamond drummer, because diamonds can't be sold by samples. I carry $150,000 worth of diamonds in two pocket books about the size of those used by bill collectors and about an inch thick. Carry them in my grip? No, indeed. When I am about to leave a town I send my stock ahead of me to the next town by express.

"The diamonds are kept in what the trade calls 'papers.' That is, they are sorted according to size and quality, and each lot is wrapped in paper. I show my paper to the jeweler, he makes his selections, and I deliver the gems to him on the spot, so he knows exactly what he is getting. Persons sometimes ask me whether I am not afraid to walk around a town with a fortune in diamonds in my hands. They say they should expect me to stay in my room at the hotel and get the jeweler to go there and look at my stock. When you get used to it you think no more of carrying around $150,000 worth of diamonds than you would of carrying so many cigars, but that is not the main reason why I go to the jeweler. If a jeweler should come to my room at a hotel he would be confused by losing his light. He gets accustomed to looking at diamonds in the light of his own store, and if he were to examine them in a strange light he might make some serious mistakes.

"Hazardous business? Yes, I suppose it's the most hazardous business you could find, though not for the reason people generally suppose. Persons often say I am in a risky business because I am likely to be robbed or to lose my diamonds in some other way. I have been with one house for twelve years and have never lost a single stone. My stock of diamonds is insured for $25,000, the maximum amount which the mutual insurance company run by the jewelers will take. The cost of this insurance is only one-half of 1 per cent, and you might naturally conclude from this figure that the company doesn't have to pay many losses, which is a fact. But worse than train robbers or other thieves in the diamond business is the danger of a salesman making a mistake in quoting prices or giving credit. I told you that I am a high-priced man, but really in the diamond business a house cannot afford to employ any other kind. The margin is awfully close and the competition is keen. I am just returning from the Pacific coast, and while out there I refused a $3,500 order from a jeweler because of a difference of $50 in the price of the whole order. That will give you an idea of how closely we have to figure. I telegraphed my house what I had done and it indorsed me. I am anxious to go in business for myself, and if I were in any other line than diamonds I would have struck out for myself long ago, but I fear there is no chance for me. I couldn't pay the high salary I would have to pay to the traveling men I want. I couldn't employ cheap men because a few mistakes would wipe out my capital and bankrupt me.

"Everybody asks me about the effect of hard times on my business. In 1894 the business of my firm fell off $600,000, but it is a great mistake to assume that the diamond business stops in hard times. Of course, everything is booming now and my sales are good, but they go right along all over the country, even in the hardest times. Diamonds will be sold in hard times just as long as men get married. Even when men are crying poverty we still have the 'married trade' to fall back on. Show a diamond to a man who is about to be married and wants a ring for his fiancee, and I don't care if the price is away above what he intended to pay, he will never falter. Diamonds simply sell themselves to men who are about to be married. But selling to a man after he is married—that's when the jeweler has to work."

AMERICA'S CROOKEDEST RIVER.

Notable Feature of the White River of Arkansas and Missouri.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

From its four heads in the Boston mountains to Batesville, where it leaves the Ozarks and enters the Arkansas lowlands, White river is a succession of astonishing curves. No other river on the continent so nearly and so frequently doubles upon itself. From the source to the flat country is a distance on a straight line of perhaps 150 miles. White river between these points has a course of over 600 miles; some estimates make it 1,000 miles.

The beginning is near the Indian territory border on the eastern part of Arkansas. The water runs toward all points of the compass in quick succession many times before it adopts a comparatively direct course to the Mississippi. From the Boston mountains the general course with many a bend and cure is northward and northeastward into Missouri. Probably the highest point in this direction is Forsyth, near the center of Taney county. From this place the White wriggles its way back into Arkansas and down through Marion county, to where the Buffalo joins it. But not until the Missouri-Arkansas border has been crossed seven times does the uncertain stream finally bear away to the southeastward to stay.

Adding to the marvels of White river's eccentric meanderings are the walls of rock which tower from 200 to 500 feet often from the water's edge. A bird's-eye view from above would show the river deep set in a canyon of continuous and often sharp curvatures. A mile of river in a straight line is unusual. The canyon-like valley of the White narrows in places almost to the channel's width. Over most of the course it is wide enough for a strip of fertile bottom land along the river. The water wanders from one side of the valley to the other. It washes the base of the towering palisades first on the right and then on the left. It maintains close relationship with a cliff for half a dozen miles. Then it suddenly crosses through the bottom lands and hugs the opposite frowning mass.

On a bright day a stretch of the winding river seen from the summit of the palisades shimmers like well-polished silver. "White" aptly describes the appearance. A nearby view from the banks reveals a degree of purity which is not equaled by any other western river. The contrast of comparison with the streams which flow through alluvial country is striking. White river has its origin in mountain springs. Numberless underground channels in the limestone strata help to swell the volume. Tributaries vary from tiny rivulets starting high up on the benches of the mountains to powerful streams which gush forth with a roar from beneath shelves of overhanging rock. Twenty miles below Forsyth, beside the White, is McGill spring, which pours out from the face of the cliff a body of water strong enough to run a large mill. It is a type of hundreds, while the smaller and unnamed springs can only be enumerated by tens of thousands. The Buffalo, the Crooked and the North Fork in like manner grow from the springs along their courses, and add to the White their contributions of the same, clear sparkling water.

Only when heavy rainfall occurs in the watershed of the White does the water lose its distinctive character. Even then, while the rocky surface sends to the river a considerable portion of the rainfall stained by the vegetation and the soil, the greater part sinks into underground reservoirs and courses, and, slowly filtering and settling, reaches the river through the springs, which defy the longest drouth periods. White river booms for a few days with a mighty flow after protracted rains. A forty-foot rise is not extraordinary in the contracted parts of the valley. The water assumes a dirty whitish look. But the flood subsides quickly, the current clarifies even more rapidly, and the river runs steadily during the dry season. It is not want of water which causes the unnavigable stage. It is the character of the channel, a series of long levels and of short rapids. If the current was evenly distributed there would be depth enough for the light-draught stern-wheelers all the year.

Many years ago Forsyth was reached by steamboats on White river. The bold navigators pushed their sternwheelers to the foot of the rapids. Then they sent the roustabouts clambering over rocks and through the trees, dragging the towline its full length. The upper end was strongly fastened to stand the strain. The boat end of the hawser was wound around the capstan. With the paddle wheels driven by every pound of pressure available, and with the donkey engine winding in the towline, the boat dragged and pushed itself up foot by foot through the foaming rapids. After the passage was made a long reach of smooth, deep water made easy progress for perhaps twenty, perhaps fifty miles. In this way Forsyth was reached. And when the boat, "loaded to the guards" with lead and cotton and hogs and the various products of the White river country, turned prow down stream, there was little to do but to trust to Providence and the nerve of the man behind the pilot wheel. The current did the rest.

One day, in a spirit of daring, Capt. Bateman said he was going to take the Mary C. to Forsyth if it was her last trip. He made McBee's and the other landings above Buffalo City, and triumphantly awoke the echoes of the heights of Pine mountain as the boat came in sight of Forsyth. But pride went before the first fall that could happen to a steamboatman. In trying to turn the Mary C. to head downstream the captain failed to gauge the width of the channel. He "ran her nozzle ag'in the bank" on one side. The stern went around with a sweep and lodged against a gravel bar on the other side. The Mary C. lay for a few moments broadside in the channel, blocking it. There was a creaking and groaning. The hog chains parted. The Mary C.'s back was broken. The wreck lay there until the elements wore it to pieces. That was the end of navigation to Forsyth.

STRONG LIGHT FOR CHICAGO.

Beacon Equal to That on Morro Castle to Guide Vessels.

From the Chicago Chronicle.

Chicago's harbor will soon have a searchlight equal to the famous beacon on Morro castle at Havana. It will be located in the tower of Montgomery Ward's new building at Michigan avenue and Madison street and will flash over Lake Michigan for a distance of thirty miles. In clear weather it is thought it will be possible to see it against the sky at St. Joseph, Mich.

The tower on the new building going up on the lake front is a wonder in modern architecture. It will be 380 feet from the pavement to the peak, where the great light is to swing. This is eighty feet higher than the Masonic Temple, the tallest sky scraper in Chicago, and far above the weather signals that fly from the Auditorium. It runs up in severely straight and simple lines, ending in an octagonal summit. In shape and structure it will be unique. An eight-sided tower of any dimensions is unusual, but an eight-sided tower nearly 400 feet above the sidewalk and surmounted by a powerful searchlight is something unknown in the history of tall buildings.

Navigation will be materially benefited by the light. On the entire seaboard and coast line of the United States not a mariner's light under government control is higher than 130 feet. The red and white flash light from the lighthouse off Randolph street is sixty-seven and a half feet above the surface of the tower, while the light off Grosse Point is but 119 feet above Lake Michigan.

There is not a searchlight in a lighthouse on Lake Michigan, which comprises the ninth lighthouse district, and is the second largest district in the United States. Mariners are in the habit of looking out now for the lights on the Masonic Temple and the Ferris wheel. These and the flashing lights from the lighthouses on the breakwater can be sighted about twenty miles out on a clear night. The searchlight in the Montgomery Ward tower will be visible thirty miles, while on a clear night it will flash against the sky like the play of lightning and will be visible to pilots forty miles from shore.

"Do you remember what you said when you proposed?"

"Yes. I remember what I said well enough, but to this day I haven't figured out how I came to say it."—Indianapolis Journal.