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PUBLICITY COMMISSION

Room 12, The Arcade. Saratoga Springs, New York.

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Two and Two.

ECKINGTON has a fire mystery, as yet unsolved, but a local druggist thinks he can put his finger on the bug under the chip. Meantime a certain small Bobbie of that suburb is lying low and speaking only upon irrelevant matters.

Last week an alarm of fire was turned in and the nearest engine responded to find a dwelling house from whose open rear windows volumes of smoke were pouring. No one was in the house, the alarm having been given by a passing stranger. The firemen got a three-inch hose into swift commission and deluged the dining room, whence the smoke poured thickest. A search failed to reveal the cause of the fire or evidence of anything burned or even charred.

Half an hour later another alarm was turned in from the same district and the returning firemen found the house again enveloped in smoke. Pursuing the same tactics, they swamped the dining room and were again making a search for the cause of all this smoke when Bobbie, the twelve-year-old scion of the house, returned. The rest of the family, it seems, had gone down the river for a day. There was no recurrence of the smoke, and firemen and neighbors are still wondering how there could have been such energetic evidences of conflagration without anything burning or burned being discovered. The family also is in the dark as to the cause.

"I think I can guess a few," said the druggist in question. "Bobbie, whose real name isn't Bobbie, however, has quite a turn for chemical experiments. He told me not long ago that he had gotten a big stick of phosphorus and was going to try to make an illuminated doorplate the first chance he got. Now, phosphorus when not kept in water burns at a very low temperature, setting nothing afire, but creating great clouds of dense smoke. The family went away for the day, leaving Bobbie and the phosphorus in full possession.

"There was a ball game that afternoon on the lot back here, and Bobbie never missed a game in his life. It wasn't over until after the second alarm of fire, soon after which Bobbie returned and helped the firemen search for the cause. After that there was no more fire. The first drenching had, I suspect, smothered the phosphorus for a half hour or so, Bobbie, returning, secretly removed it to the water bucket—and there were no more alarms of fire.

"No, I wouldn't swear to this," concluded the druggist to The Star man, "but when you put two and two together it very often makes twenty-two. Anyhow, I know the smoke had a powerful smell of phosphorus!"

Former Commissioner a Visitor.

Lewis A. Groff, former commissioner of the general land office, who is in Washington on business, visited the general land office yesterday morning and renewed acquaintances with many of the clerks who were employes during his administration as commissioner. Judge Groff was appointed commissioner from the state of Nebraska by the late President Harrison, and served from September, 1889, until March, 1901. He is now a resident of Los Angeles, Cal., where he is engaged in the practice of law.

WHEN IN LONDON

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Washington Star

TELL your friends to write you there, and on your arrival call and register. Make the acquaintance of our London representative; he will advise you where to stay, where to shop and what to see. He will redirect your mail and facilitate your arrangements in any possible way. You will find The Star on file and obtain copies for your own use. A bureau service instituted for your benefit. Don't fail to avail yourself of it. The address is:

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Below Piccadilly Circus---Close to Trafalgar Square.

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ARMY and NAVY NEWS

Capt. Julian De Court of the Philippine Scouts recently was convicted by court-martial at Palawan, P. I., of behaving with disrespect toward his commanding officer. He was sentenced to be suspended from command for three months, to forfeit $50 of his pay per month for six months, and to be reprimanded.

Brig. Gen. Potts, commanding the Department of Luzon, approved the sentence of the court. "Capt. De Court," said he, "has been guilty of a deliberate defiance of the laws enacted by his country for the government of its officers and soldiers. In spite of what his years of service have taught him that regard for the twentieth article of war is necessary to the existence of a military force, he has struck a grievous blow at the cause of discipline and good administration. The department commander rebukes Capt. De Court for his failure to subordinate himself to the law and the requirements of discipline, and for his unwillingness to trust to the existing machinery of orderly administration, to correct possible evils in the regular way. His course in this case is the manifestation of a tendency toward lynch law that has no place in the heart of an officer of the army. The suspension and forfeiture are remitted because his long arrest, much of it close, and the expenses of his defense have been sufficient to satisfy these requirements of the sentence. Capt. De Court will be released from arrest."

Relieved of Their Posts.

The orders relieving Col. C. H. Lauchheimer, adjutant and inspector of the Marine Corps, and Col. F. L. Denny, quartermaster, from charge of their respective departments in this city have already become effective. Lieut. Col. Haines is now in charge of the office of the adjutant and inspector, and Lieut. Col. McCawley of the quartermaster's department. Col. Lauchheimer left Washington for Baltimore yesterday, and will leave the latter place on the 27th instant for San Francisco en route to Manila.

Col. Denny is scheduled to leave Washington for San Francisco August 2. However, it is understood that he may be ordered before a retiring board before his departure. He has not complied with the requirements of the physical test order, there having been postponements in the case, on the advice of the physicians. He was recently directed to take the test, but upon the usual preliminary physical examination made prior to taking the ride the surgeons reported against his compliance with the requirements. It is for that reason that he may be examined by a retiring board. The board will probably consist of Col. William P. Biddle, Col. Littleton W. T. Waller and Col. George Richards, of the Marine Corps, and two members of the naval medical corps.

Inspection of Guns Ordered.

To prevent any possibility of another such explosion as killed ten artillerymen at Fort Monroe, Thursday, when a safety appliance failed to do its full duty, Acting Secretary of War Oliver has ordered that the mechanisms of all ordnance in the army be inspected at once and be subjected to the most rigid tests of efficiency.

Corp. Albert J. Myer of the Signal Corps, who, with six other candidates for appointment as assistant paymasters of the navy, passed the mental examination, has failed in the physical examination. He has been found by the medical board to be under weight, turning the scales at 140 pounds, while, according to the requirements, he should weigh 170. All of the other six candidates passed the physical examination, and the announcement of their appointment is expected soon. There are at present only five vacancies in the grade of assistant paymasters of the navy, but there will be sufficient vacancies to take care of the six successful candidates at the mental examination, and Corp. Myer's as well, if his appeal from the medical board should be sustained by the higher authorities. On account of the services of his distinguished grandfather, Gen. Myer, and his earnest desire to enter the service, notwithstanding his wealth, there is a probability that the requirements of the physical examination in the case of Corp. Myer may be waived.

Prison for Would-Be Suicide.

For attempting to commit suicide by hanging himself by the neck in a cell, at Fort Slocum, New York, "to the prejudice of good order and military discipline," John L. Guyer, a private in the 4th United States Recruit Company, must serve one and one-half years in the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

The record in the case sets forth that Guyer attempted to deceive the officers by concealing the fact that he had once been arrested and sentenced to imprisonment at Dennamora, N. Y., and that when he was placed in jail at Fort Slocum he made two attempts to end his life, once by hanging and then by endeavoring to cut his throat with a knife.

An additional charge placed against him alleged that he "did mutilate the following articles of uniform clothing issued to him: One olive drab blanket, valued at $3.98."

This blanket was used by the prisoner to make a rope with which he endeavored to hang himself. Guyer was convicted by court-martial and sentenced to serve three years in prison. The term was reduced to one half by the reviewing authority.

The Navy Department has arranged to spend about $250,000 in the purchase of several million gallons of fuel oil. This is the first purchase of the material for ships which will carry liquid fuel, either as an adjunct to coal or to use exclusively. It will be necessary ultimately to build one or more tank ships in order to keep torpedo boat destroyers and battleships supplied with the oil when they are not convenient to a base of supply. It will also be necessary to erect steel tanks at various places, including Bradford, R. I.; Guantanamo, Cuba; San Juan, P. R.; and probably Charleston, S. C., where ships may replenish their exhausted stocks of oil.

Ships Going to Chile.

The first division of the Pacific fleet, consisting of the California, Colorado, Pennsylvania and Washington, will leave San Francisco August 14 for Valparaiso, Chile, where it is due to arrive September 10, to take part in the Chilean centennial. The division will stop at Chimbote, Peru, en route to coal. Upon the completion of the celebration, the California, Colorado and Pennsylvania will return to San Francisco, where they are due to arrive not later than October 22. The Washington will be detached from the Pacific fleet at Valparaiso and will proceed to Hampton roads, via the Strait of Magellan. The Glacier will accompany the division as far as Chimbote.

The itinerary of the cruise of the Atlantic battleship fleet to European ports this fall has been announced at the War Department.

The sixteen battleships of the fleet will leave their respective home navy yards about November 1, and mobilize at a convenient point in midocean from which the cruise will be begun. The fleet will cruise until it becomes necessary for the divisions to separate to visit the various ports included in the itinerary.

The policy of the Navy Department is to divide the fleet into divisions in order to afford division commanders as much experience in handing their vessels as possible. After visting Mediterranean ports the battleships will mobilize at Gibraltar, December 20. Christmas day will be spent there. December 31 the fleet will leave for Guantanamo, where it will arrive about January 16.

The cruise of the torpedo division, consisting of the new torpedo destroyers Preston, Reid, Flusser, Lamson and Smith, will be independent of the battleship cruise. The destroyers will leave New York November 1, and will visit Ponta Delgara, Leghorn, Algiers and Madeira, returning to San Juan, P. R., January 12. The cruiser Dixie will accompany them as tender.

The battleships will visit Mediterranean ports according to this schedule. The Connecticut and Michigan to Villefranche and Naples, the Delaware and North Dakota to Toulon and Genoa, the Louisiana and South Carolina to Phaleron Bay and Alexandria, the Kansas and New Hampshire to Alexandria and Phaleron Bay, the Georgia and Nebraska to Barcelona and Lisbon, the Rhode Island and Virginia to Marseillle and Lisbon, the Minnesota and Vermont to Naples and Villefranche, and the Idaho and Mississippi to Genoa and Toulon. The tender Yankton will go to Ponta Delgada, Villefranche, Naples and Medeira, the hospital ship Solace to Algiers, Lisbon and Gibraltar, and the supply ship Culgoa to Lisbon and Gibraltar.

Slow in Paying Debts.

Uncle Sam is sometimes very slow in liquidating his indebtedness. That fact is shown in the case of Brig. Gen. Harry R. Anderson, a retired artillery officer, who has just convinced the accounting officers of the Treasury that he is entitled to $240.10 for services rendered nearly forty years ago.

The record shows that Anderson served as captain's clerk in the navy from March, 1863, to August of that year, and also from October, 1863, to March, 1864. Then Anderson entered the army as a captain of the 6th Volunteer Infantry. He was made a second lieutenant in the regular establishment in May, 1867. Settlement was made by the accounting officers without knowledge of the fact that Anderson served as a cadet at West Point from July, 1864, to January, 1865—six months and eighteen days. Recognizing service as cadet as service in the army, the controller now holds that Gen. Anderson is entitled to $240.

This is the amount he will get at last. If interest were allowed it would run up to more than $800, but Uncle Sam allows no interest on such claims. Gen. Anderson is an Ohioan and was retired in the spring of 1907 on reaching the age of sixty-two years.

ACQUAINTED ONE DAY, COUPLE GET MARRIED

Miss Jewell of North Carolina and A. D. Thomas of Washington United.

After an acquaintance of a little over twenty-four hours, Miss Rena Gilmer Jewell, eighteen years of age, of Charlotte, N. C., and Arthur D. Thomas, of Washington, twenty-six years of age, went to Maryland's Gretna Green, Rockville, about 2 o'clock yesterday morning and were married.

Miss Jewell, accompanied by her mother, came to Washington Thursday afternoon to visit relatives at 1116 9th street northwest. Mr. Thomas, who is employed as a shipping clerk in the freight department of the Pennsylvania railroad is a boarder at the house.

Meet Thursday Night.

When he returned from work Thursday evening he was introduced to Miss Jewell. It was a case of love at first sight.

The couple went walking Thursday night and talked over their love affairs and later returned to their home. Yesterday Mr. Thomas, as usual, went to his work, but "little Cupid" troubled his efficiency all day.

As soon as his day's work was done he hurried home. Friday evening, accompanied by Miss Jewell and a young matron, also a boarder in the house, Mr. Thomas went to Luna Park. They returned later and strolled through Franklin Park.

Shortly after 2 o'clock yesterday morning the Federal Taxicab Company received a call for a cab from 14th and I streets northwest. When the machine reached that corner the trio entered and ordered the chauffeur to drive to Rockville.

When the machine reached Rockville the town was in bed. Mr. Thomas found out that J. Darby Bowman, deputy clerk of the circuit court, slept at the Montgomery Hotel, and the chauffeur was directed to drive there.

After some delay Mr. Bowman was aroused. Informed of the mission of the couple, he consented to go to the courthouse and issue the license.

Mr. Bowman directed the pair to the home of the Rev. W. D. Keene, pastor of the Southern Methodist Church. After repeated knocking on the front door, the clergyman appeared at a window and asked what was wanted.

Informed that he was needed to tie a matrimonial knot, he dressed and came down.

Soon Mr. Thomas and Miss Jewell were made man and wife. The young matron, who went to Rockville with them, acted as witness.

As soon as the ceremony was over the trio again entered the taxicab and were brought to this city and taken to the 9th street house.

Yesterday morning the couple ate breakfast at the house. Shortly afterward they broke the news to the mother of the bride.

Mrs. Jewell was shocked. She said to a representative of The Star that she did not want her daughter to get married, as she had only known Mr. Thomas for a few hours.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas had left the house shortly afterward. Mrs. Jewell did not know where they had gone.

At the freight office, 4½ street and Virginia avenue southwest, where Mr. Thomas is employed, it was stated he had been at work yesterday.

Gen. Woodford Praises King George's Courtesy

Special Correspondence of the Star.

LONDON, July 11, 1910.

GEN. STEWART L. WOODFORD of New York, who has just been received by King George on the occasion of the presentation of the Hurson-Fulton memorial medal to his majesty, is enthusiastic over the king's courtesy.

"I was presented to the king," he said, "by our ambassador, Mr. Whitelaw Reid. His majesty was deeply touched at receiving an address which had been prepared for his father.

"We were with him for about an hour, and during that time he could not have been more considerate and cordial. He spoke especially of the kind hospitality Sir Edward Seymour, admiral of the English fleet, had received in New York when attending the Hudson-Fulton celebration.

"Besides the three gentlemen-in-waiting present at the interview there was Sir George Buchanan, the British ambassador to Holland, whom I was most delighted to meet again. The first medal I had the honor of presenting in Europe was to Queen Wilhelmina, and Sir George was also present when I was received by her majesty. It seemed to complete my errand abroad to have the pleasure of his company at my last presentation.

"During my official trip I have presented medals to the Queen of Holland, the kaiser, the president of the French republic, the King of Italy, and lastly to the King of England. Yes, the medals were prepared for the representative heads of all the governments that sent ships to our tercentenary."

Gen. Woodford has managed during his brilliant and crowded career to cross the Atlantic twenty-two times. During the last few months the general and his wife have been motoring on the continent. Before coming to London they motored from Berlin to Rome, to Oberammergau, and from there to Paris, a distance altogether of about 2,500 miles. The general has just left London for another extended tour on the continent.

SUMMER RESORTS INDEX

HOTEL BOOKLETS MAY BE HAD AT STAR RESORT BUREAU.

Free information about many hotels in the mountains and by the seashore may be had at The Star office.

For the convenience of every one desirous of information in regard to summer resorts "The Star has collected a quantity of booklets from the summer hotels. These have been classifid and conveniently arranged, and free copies may be had at The Star office for the asking.

It will be a great convenience for the people who have not already decided where they will go this summer to call at The Star office and get any of these booklets they desire.

Most of the booklets are beautifully illustrated and give full information in regard to the hotels and resorts.

All of the resort hotels indexed below are advertised from time to time in The Star, and from these advertisements much valuable information can be obtained.

MAINE.

The Acadian, Castine. Dome-of-the-Rock, Castine. Albee House, Monhegan Island. The Wesleyan Seminary, Kents Hill. The Everett, Old Orchard Beach. Ottawa House & Ctgs., Portland Harbor. Lake Auburn House, West Auburn. The Clayester, Willard, Portland Harbor. The Knickerbocker, Evergreen Landing, Peaks Island; Mrs. J. H. Anderson. Terrace Inn, Falmouth Foreside. Ocean House, York Beach. Inn, Dark Harbor. Menawarmet Hotel, Boothbay Harbor. Camp Abena, Belgrade Lakes. The Checkley, Prouts Neck. The Jocelyn, Prouts Neck. Mountain View House, Camden. Sampson Hall, Kents Hill. Passaconaway Inn, York Cliffs.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Pequawket Inn, Intervale. Maplewood Cottage, Lake Sunapee. The Appledore, Portsmouth. The Kearsarge, North Conway. The Waumbek, Jefferson. Crawford House, White Mountains. Hotel Wentworth, Portsmouth. Twin Mountain House, White Mountains. Fabyan House, White Mountains. Mount Lookoff, Sugar Hill. Profile House, White Mountains. Granliden Hotel, Lake Sunapee.

VERMONT.

The Woodstock Inn, Woodstock. Lake Raponda Hotel, Wilmington. Hotel Champlain, Swanton. Hotel Lenox, Vergennes.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The Fairfax Hotel, Beverly. Mountain House, Princeton. Wachusett House, Princeton. Beach House, Siasconset. The Leslie, Marblehead. Hotel Preston, Beach Bluff. Hotel Aspinwall, Lenox. The Hesperus, Magnolia. Nanepashemet, Marblehead Neck.

RHODE ISLAND.

Bay View Hotel, Jamestown. Gardner House, Jamestown. Hotel Thorndike, Jamestown. Kenyon House, Ononcontong Beach.

CONNECTICUT.

Hotel Berkshire, Litchfield. The Griswold, New London.

NEW YORK.

Orient Point Inn, Orient Point, L. I. Otesaga, Otsego Lake, Cooperstown. The Grand View, Lake Placid. Ye Wayside Inn, Lake Lucerne. The Maples, Upper Jay, Essex County. The Sagamore, Sagamore. Shanley's - by - the-Sea, Bay Shore, L. I. Manhattan Beach Htl. The Frontenac, Frontenac. Manhanset Hotel, Shelter Island. The Earlington, Richfield Springs. The Wawbeek, Wawbeek. White Sulphur Springs Hotel, Saratoga Lake. The Cornish House, Pine Hill. The Hallett House, Blue Point, L. I. The Munnatawket Hotel, Fishers Island.

NEW JERSEY.

The Leighton, Point Pleasant. The Gladstone, Point Pleasant. Allenhurst Club, Allenhurst. Curlew and Cottages, Allenhurst. Parker House, Seaglrt. The Tremont, Seaglrt. Beach House, Seaglrt. Hotel Lafayette, Cape May. The Chalfonte, Cape May City. Carlton House, Cape May Point. The Oceanic, Ocean City. Hotel Mayberry, Ocean City. The Biscayne, Ocean City. The Normandie, Ocean City. Wildwood Manor, Wildwood. The Arlington, Wildwood Crest. Pine Bluff Inn, Point Pleasant. Hotel Bon Air, Newfoundland. The Cary Lodges, Belmar. The Columbia, Belmar. The Manhasset, Seaside Park. The Allaire, Spring Lake. The New Philadelphia, Ocean Grove. The Spray View, Ocean Grove. The Avon, Ocean G've. The Llewellyn, Ocean Grove. Fountain House, Ocean Grove. The Waverly, Ocean Grove. The Forest, Lake Hopatcong. Boulevard Inn, Ocean Grove. The Engleside, Beach Haven. The Surf House, Asbury Park. The Victoria Hotel, Asbury Park. The Fenimore, Asbury Park. The Berwin, Asbury Park. The Madison, Asbury Park. The Lafayette, Asbury Park. The Regina, Asbury Pk. The Brunswick, Asbury Park. The Colonial, Asbury Park. The Maryland, Asbury Park. West End Hotel, Asbury Park. The New Magnolia, Asbury Park. Hotel Edgemere, Asbury Park. Coleman House, Asbury Park. Hotel Clarendon, Asbury Park. Hotel Columbia, Asbury Park.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

Marlborough-Blenheim. Hotel Netherland. Hotel Arlington. Hotel Rudolf. Hotel Islesworth. La Fontaine. New Belmont. New England. New Galen Hall. The Wilshire. Hotel Raleigh. Hotel Cornell. Hotel Dennis. The Frontenac. The Seaside. Hotel Imperial. Hotel Stickney. Bretton Hall. New Dunlap. The Lamborn. Hamilton Hall. Avon Inn. Home Cottage. New Berkeley Hotel. Chalfonte. The Lorraine. New Hotel Ostend. Ponce-de-Leon. Grand Atlantic. Hotel Barton. The Channell-Osborne. The Fredonia. The St. Charles. Hotel Majestic. Hotel Belleville. Hotel Shoreham. The New Princess. Haddon Hall. The Albemarle. Hotel Kenderton. Carisbrooke Inn. Ventnor. The Clifton. Rio Grande. Westminster. The Devonshire, Longport.

MARYLAND.

The Nibrah, Braddock Heights. New Avalon, Ocean City. The Gables, Ocean City. The Oceanic Hotel, Ocean City. The Plimhimmon, Ocean City. The Mt. Pleasant, Ocean City. Concord Farm (Miss R. B. Berry), Ritchie P. O. Recreation Camp-on-Potomac (Mrs. L. P. Percival, 2627 Garfield st., Wash., D.C.). The Mervue, Ocean City. The Breakers, Ocean City. Piney Point Hotel, Piney Point. Graystone Gables, Lutherville. Mtn. Lake Hotel, Mtn. Lake Park. Loch Lynn Hotel, Mtn. Lake Park. Hideaway, Georgetown, Cecil County. River Springs Hotel, River Springs. Colton's Hotel, St. Mary County. Casino Hotel, Love Pt. Fishermen's Inn, Chester P. O. Carrel Hall, Annapolis. The Atlantic, Ocean City. The Seaside, Ocean City.

DELAWARE.

Hotel Henlopen, Rehoboth Beach.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The Kittatinny, Delaware Water Gap. Water Gap House, Delaware Water Gap. Kramac Inn, Delaware Water Gap. Bedford Springs Hotel, Bedford Springs. Hotel Allegheny, Eagles Mere. Chapman Manor, Blue Ridge Summit. Hotel Essick, Essick Heights. Monterey Inn, Blue Ridge Summit. Montanesca, Mt. Pocono. Buena Vista Spring Hotel, Buena Vista Spring P. O. Doubling Gap White Sulphur Spgs. Hotel, Cumberland county.

VIRGINIA.

The Ferebee Hotel, Virginia Beach. The Intermont Hotel, Covington. Allegheny Inn, Goshen, Rockbridge County. Jordan White Sulphur, Stephensons. North Hill, Berryville. Queen Anne Cottage, Virginia Beach. The Althea, Colonial Beach. Gouldman's, Wilkerson's. Hotel Royal, Front Royal. Sherwood Inn, Old Pt. Orkney Springs, Orkney Springs. Irvington Beach Hotel, Irvington. The Loudoun, Bluemont. Hotel Wachapreague, Wachapreague. The Elkton, Elkton. Buckroe Beach Hotel, Hampton. Mountain View Inn, Zepp, Shenandoah Co. The Sea Breeze, Cape Henry. Hotel Massanetta, Massanetta Springs. Hotel Chamberlin, Old Point.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Capon Springs Hotel. Brookside Inn, Brookside. Hotel Washington, Berkeley Springs. Old Sweet Springs, Sweet Springs. Hill Top House, Harpers Ferry. Aurora Hotel, Aurora. Mt. Clifton, Hedgesville. Morrell House, Harpers Ferry. Lockwood House, Harpers Ferry. Greenbrier White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. Sparrow's Inn, Harpers Ferry.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Toxaway Inn, Toxaway. Southern Pines Hotel, Southern Pines. Lake Hotel Bon Air, Littleton.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Magnolia Inn, Aiken. Hotel Park-in-the-Pines, Aiken. The St. John, Charleston.

GEORGIA.

Hotel Bon Air, Augusta. Piney Woods Hotel, Thomasville.

FLORIDA.

Hotel St. George, St. Augustine.

SANITARIUMS.

Southern Pines, Southern Pines, N. C. The Jackson, Dansville, N. Y. Mount Clemens, Mount Clemens, Mich.

FOREIGN.

Hotel Bellevue, Dresden. Hotel Bristol, Berlin. Hotel Adlon, Berlin. Hotel Cecil, London.

CANADA.

The Pines, Digby, Nova Scotia. Abenakis Springs, Province of Quebec. The Welland, St. Catharines, Ont. Nova Manhattan, Digby, Nova Scotia. Lone Lodge, Digby, Nova Scotia. Royal Muskoka, Ontario.

What It Costs, Sometimes, to Get Married in England

Special Correspondence of the Star.

LONDON, July 11, 1910.

SOME of the fashionable weddings that have taken place lately would seem to indicate that the people concerned were anxious to see how much money could be spent on the affair. This would apply to members of the fashionable set on both sides of the Atlantic, but when one descends to ordinary everyday folk conditions are different. When an American boy and girl wish to marry they can without fuss or feathers.

In England it is much more complicated. The most usual form of marriage is by "banns." Notice is given to the clergyman of the church where the young couple desire to get married, the announcement is given out three Sundays running before the wedding day, and for this the bridegroom pays the clerk 50 cents. If neither of the parties lives in this parish, one or other of them must do so for three weeks before the ceremony takes place, but this condition is often filled by the bridegroom taking a room and putting a stick or bag in it for the required time.

* * *

Of course, you have to pay the clergyman something for performing the ceremony for you, and the legal fee is $1.25, with 50 cents to the clerk, and a further 50 cents for a copy of the certificate of marriage. But each clergyman asks what he chooses, and some of them place their services rather high, as the following incident will show:

Recently a young couple who live in the suburbs decided to get married at one of the churches in the Strand, in London, as this was a convenient center for all their friends, and also near Charing Cross station, from which they were starting for Paris immediately after the ceremony. It was to be a quiet affair, no bridesmaids, no bouquets, no carriages, no red carpet, etc.

So one fine morning the bride's father started off to find the incumbent of one of these London churches, an individual with a double-barreled name and incidentally a double-barreled loquacity as well. After a great effort the father got him to talk about the wedding, and finally inquired the fee.

"The fee would be $26," said his reverence. "And, of course, you would like some music? We supply that and it would be $5." The father was about to say something, when the padre broke in again:

"And you would like some red carpet put down, I suppose? We supply that for $5."

"Oh," began the man out of whose pocket the money was to come for all this.

* * *

"And, if it's a wet day, you would require an awning," interrupted the clergyman. "We supply the awning, and the fee would be $5."

"Yes," gasped the father, casting about in his mind for a way of escape, while the other went on:

"And, of course, you would have some flowers. My daughter always does the flowers, and I'm sure she would be delighted to do them for you." Before the astonished father could reply the clergyman rang the bell and requested the servant who answered it to ask "Miss Louie" to step in. "Miss Louie" duly arrived, and expressed herself enchanted at the prospect of doing the flowers for the wedding.

"And what do you think it would cost, dear?" asked her father. "Do you suppose you could do it for $25?"

This last straw was laid on the poor victim's back he roused himself and managed to stammer that he must consult his daughter before making final arrangements, and made for the door, trusting to escape. But the clergyman had reserved a parting shot. Taking up a small paper-covered book from the table, he said:

"This is a small book on the history of the church. I am sure your daughter will like to read all about it, as she is thinking of being married there."

"Thank you, I'll give it to her," said the innocent man.

"That'll be 25 cents," said his reverence, and the unfortunate father placed the money on the table and fled for his life. Needless to say, the marriage did not take place at his church.

Marine Engine Draftsman Wanted.

Applicants eighteen years of age and over, who have had ten years' experience are eligible to take the examination to be held by the civil service commission August 24 and 25 to secure a list of eligibles for a vacancy in the position of marine engine draftsman at $1,800 per annum in the office of the chief of engineers, War Department. The department reserves the right, however, to fill the vacancy by reinstatement, transfer or promotion. Graduation in mechanical engineering will be considered equivalent to four years' experience.

The foregoing announcement has been made by the commission.

Burt's Clearing Sale

Read these items carefully. They are worth while.

200 pairs Ladies' $4 and $5 Shoes. — $5 Patent Leather Oxfords and Slippers. $5 Calf and Kid Oxfords. $5 Tan Oxfords. $4 Canvas Ties. Sizes 3½ to 7AA—3 to 6A—2½ to 6B—a few pairs C and D. 1.50

Men's $5 and $6 Shoes. — All sizes. Many different styles in black, tan and patent leather, including some of the famous "Bannister" Oxfords. 3.90

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A Postal Inspector Tells His Experiences

HUNDREDS of complaints are daily coming to the Post Office Department for the losses of packages and money.

Mails are easy to rob, but few postal thieves ever escape final detection; they are sure to be entrapped and punished in the end. While speaking of these numerous complaints, an old detective, called inspector of the Post Office Department, said:

"No thief is harder to catch than the one who robs Uncle Sam's mail. His methods are ingenious; the plunder is easily hidden or destroyed, and his rascality is well masked by the honesty and integrity of associates.

"Post office thieves are not arrested every day, although valuable letters and other articles are stolen almost daily and an army of shrewd inspectors are on the alert. Positive proof of guilt must be in the possession of the inspector before an arrest is made. Circumstantial evidence does not go at any time with us. It is an established rule that the evidence must be positive and direct. In almost every case an arrest means conviction.

"A post office employe never knows when he is being shadowed. Even when not under suspicion of theft he may be watched outside of business hours to see if he is spending more money than his salary will permit. It sometimes happens that an inspector may not be able to prove his man a thief, and the fellow is turned loose with a verdict of 'not guilty' as his certificate of honesty, but he is not wanted by the department any more.

* * *

"From one point of view it is wonderful that there are so few thieves among the many thousands of clerks who handle the mails first and last, for great temptations surround them. They handle millions of valuable parcels. It is known that these clerks soon learn to tell by the very touch of a letter whether it contains money. If so inclined, it would be an easy matter for the dishonest clerk to slip letters into his pocket and open them in the privacy of his room. That the cases of dishonesty are comparatively few is a high tribute to the moral qualities of the post office clerks.

"Years ago on one of the old star routes out in New Mexico hundreds of letters containing money, drafts, checks and other valuables were stolen. At first letters and all disappeared, but the thieves changed their mode of operation and simply stole the contents, resealing the letters and sending them on.

"As letters pass through the hands of many clerks, it is difficult to locate the thief. Months of faithful work resulted in nothing being discovered as to the identity of the thieves. Finally there was a happy solution of the trouble. One of the inspectors procured a quantity of different kinds of drugs and sent other inspectors over the entire route with instructions to make a tour of book investigations, and while thus engaged to place some of one kind of the drugs in the mucilage bottles at each office, taking care to make a memorandum which would show at what office the drug had been placed.

* * *

"It was not long before a registered letter came through with money gone. The inspector put his lips to the seal of the envelope, tasted the mucilage, referred to his book and at once named the office at which the particular drug had been placed in the mucilage. Then a lot of decoy letters went to the office, and the dishonest postmaster secured the contents and the inspector secured him.

"This, I think, was one of the cleverest pieces of work ever done by the department. The inspector who put the trap into execution was an experienced chemist and knew what he was doing.

"There are but two successful ways to catch a post office thief—constant watch and decoy letters. With these, and a large supply of patience, the game will be landed. It often requires months and sometimes years to accomplish this. It is one of the most annoying and difficult lines of detective work a man ever engaged in, and requires the most earnest application. Not a single circumstance or detail must be overlooked.

"Sometimes luck helps us out of our difficulties. I remember once in a city not very far from Washington things were in a fearful state in the distribution division of the office. It appeared as though we would never catch the fellow who was making way with valuable letters. One day there came up a terrific rainstorm, and with this came a happy thought to the inspector who had the case in hand.

"He carried a bucket of water into the loft and dashed it on the overhead plastering, just over the distributers. Naturally a leak was sprung, and a workman, who was taken into the confidence of the inspector, was sent into the loft to make an investigation. Accidentally his foot went through the wet plastering, leaving a hole.

* * *

"Of course to repair this it would have been necessary to do the work from the distribution room, and, as this was not done, the clerks went ahead with their work, while the inspector looked down at their every movement from the supposed accidentally made hole. Finally he was rewarded by seeing one of the oldest employes in the office slipping letters into his pocket. The inspector got out of his place of hiding, collared the clerk and found the letters, every one of them containing money. His confession was full, and he went up for a number of years.

"A German once gave the inspectors a world of trouble in the same city. Thousands of letters were missed, and goodness only knows how much money was stolen. It was a case which puzzled the department, and after weeks of the closest investigation it was decided that the crooked work was not done in the post office.

"Then an outside campaign was begun, and the German was arrested while stealing letters from one of the street boxes. He did not have a key, but used a wire for extracting the letters. His operations were confined to the boxes in the business sections, and he admitted he had stolen not less than 10,000 letters before he was caught. The amount of money he got could never be ascertained, but he must have secured a snug sum. His own confession sent him to the pen for a long term.

* * *

"Did you ever think about the fact that but few arrests have been made here in Washington? There's a powerful army of post office employes here, but they seldom go wrong, and yet inspectors are no more numerous here than in other cities.

"A few years ago we had an inspector who was regarded as a cracking good man. He went wrong, but, thank goodness, it was after he resigned from the service. His daughter received an appointment at a thriving town in Georgia as postmistress, and had been there six or eight months when the father suddenly concluded that he wanted to go to the same place and open up a real estate business.

"Well, he resigned as a post office inspector and moved to Georgia. He got the run of the post office of which his daughter was postmistress, and pretty soon the office was robbed of several hundred dollars. It was a bungled job and no difficulty to amount to anything was experienced in saddling the job on the young lady's father. He did time in the Columbus penitentiary.

"It always struck me that, if this man would steal from his own daughter's office he must have been guilty of crooked work while he was inspector. There are always plenty of chances to accept hush money from postmasters who are found short."

Photographing a Panther.

From Wide World Magazine.

A panther is not easily killed, and will often revive with very unpleasant results, as on a certain occasion in the Deccan. He appeared to be quite dead and one of the spectators rushed up with a camera on a stand to obtain a picture of the supreme moment. He got his photograph and, strange to say, it survived what followed; but no sooner had he taken it than the panther revived, tore himself loose, and went for the photographer. Somehow the man escaped, but the camera was sent flying and, disconcerted by his encounter with it, the panther turned and made for the nearest tree, up which he went as quickly as a monkey. Now the tree was crowded with interested spectators, and for three or four strenuous seconds (until the panther was shot) we enjoyed a spectacle of natives dropping to earth with loud thuds like ripe plums from a jungle plum tree as the panther approached them.

W. J. Dubbs, a Baltimore and Ohio brakeman, who was injured two weeks ago while on duty by the bursting of a blood vessel in his lungs, is dead at his home in Keyser, W. Va.

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