

DEPARTMENTAL WORKERS

Interesting Gossip Gleaned Among Employees of Government Bureaus.

WHEN WASHINGTON WAS ONLY A VILLAGE

Veteran Employee Tells of the Coach and Omnibus Period of Its Development—Death of the First Woman Inventor in America.

Mr. James McGrath, of the War Department watch record, is a veteran of the regular army. He was for twenty years in the army and a non-commissioned officer for nearly all of that period, and for sixteen years a sergeant of ordnance. He remembers Washington as a large village, when a journey in a coach or omnibus from the Peace Monument to the Treasury was as bad as traveling through a mountain waste. He was a participant in several historic scenes, including the capture of John Brown, and the execution of the Surratt gang of conspirators. He also witnessed the terrible struggle for life at the Arsenal cartridge factory.

Mr. McGrath was born in County Down, near Belfast, Ireland, and he came to America early in life. He enlisted in the artillery service and was transferred to the ordnance corps. Shortly after joining the artillery he was placed in the expedition to Harper's Ferry, under command of Col. R. E. Lee, afterward commander of the Confederacy. The expedition was a famous one and lasted fourteen days. McGrath was captured in the engine house. After the execution of the artillery part of the Fourth, returned to Fort Monroe. When the civil war broke out, he was kept in Washington until he was promoted to be in charge of the old penitentiary magazine, on the Arsenal point. He had one of the old storehouses cleaned out for the hanging of Mr. Surratt and his fellow-conspirators. McGrath was present at the execution. He says that he has had lots of kinds of feelings in his life but the sight of that execution was about the worst.

Mr. McGrath was a witness to the terrible tragedy of June 17, 1864, when twenty-two girls were killed at the cartridge factory. A fire broke out in the building and the girls were making stars for the illuminations. The heat of the sun ignited some of the work and there was a general explosion. Not half of the girls got out alive. He was one of the first in helping to care for the injured and the dead.

In February, 1880, the Washington state in west Pennsylvania Avenue was unveiled. Statues were scarce in the city then and the demonstration on the occasion was great. A large body of artillery was ordered out and several of the men to help get the light pieces to the circle and put them in place. The artillery marched by the Treasury and before getting to the site of the statue one of the guns got stuck in the mud and the proceedings were thereby somewhat delayed. Omnibuses rolled over the rough cobblestones between the Capitol and the Treasury and made a noise worse than thunder. The mule carts came later and were a great improvement. Washington of those days was a rather rough place and traveling was worse than in the Virginia hills.

Mr. McGrath was transferred to Columbus, Ohio, where he remained for several years. Columbus, like Washington, has improved vastly since the war. The place was then a town of 50,000 people. Mr. McGrath was appointed to a position in the ordnance department, twenty years ago, and was for several years in the Winder Building. He has been in the main building since its completion. He is a good watchman and an intelligent man. He was appointed to the position he now holds a few weeks before the expiration of his enlistment, and a short while before the time for his retirement.

The news of the death of Mrs. Bridget French, of Rochester, N. Y., occasioned deep regret at the Patent Office. Mrs. French, who is believed to have been the premier woman inventor, has been the holder of patents on thirty-six articles, some of them being on articles of universal utility. Her most important invention was the French burglar proof lock. She was seventy-two years of age, and was a native of Ireland. She was frequently in Washington, and often appeared in behalf of her patents. She obtained a large amount of money for her lock patent.

Mr. Max Noble, who came to the Government Printing Office a few months ago, has taken rank as one of the favorites of the office. He is a fine looking Arkansan, and is as genial and popular as he is patriotic and intelligent. The Arkansan people have a very fine representation in the office. Several of the young men have made records as students in the night schools of the city.

Many of the Government employees who have come from the States in which moonshiners have operated, have a rather poor opinion of the valor, endurance, and nerve of the late Col. Harry Tracy, and other turbulent gentlemen, who have received liberal press notices and infinite obituary mention. Those who have come from the courthouse towns of nearby rural districts in counties where moonshiners have operated, know a great deal about the outlaw business, and almost any one of them can tell stories of actual encounters and intricate fights of the Jesse James chroniclers. Truth is stranger than fiction, and no morphia-eating writer of detective stories has ever been able to get up a tale which will stand in comparison with the actual occurrences in the mountains of the Carolinas, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

Mr. James McKinley of the Government Printing Office is one of the opportunity to get down to facts in regard to "life's other side." He came from Greenville county, S. C., the county in which the famous "Dark Corner" is situated. The Dark Corner has been for 100 years the home of the moonshiners, but it is fast losing its prestige. The humble potato and cabbage have succeeded the seductive juice of the corn, and the people of the section are fast subsiding into merely peaceable and commonplace citizenship. They are and always have been loyal citizens of the State, and county, but for a time were irreconcilable enemies of the Government of the United States. Unlike their mountain brethren in other States, they were Confederates in the great civil war, and refrained from plundering the homes

BOY OF FIVE YEARS ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

Crazed With Grief Over Accident to His Mother.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 25.—While Mrs. Leon Spariolo was out driving along Bayou St. Johns with her two children, aged five and three years, respectively, the horse attached to her buggy became frightened by a raphtha launch on the bayou and ran away. The vehicle was overturned, but Mrs. Spariolo, gathering her children in her arms, protected them from any harm, although in doing so she sacrificed herself, the horse and buggy going over her, fracturing her skull.

The children were unhurt and even unscathed, but Mrs. Spariolo was so badly injured that the doctors pronounced her case hopeless.

The boy of five became wildly excited and crazed with grief when he saw his mother lying apparently dead on the road, and, running to the bayou, jumped in and tried to drown himself. He was rescued with difficulty and expressed a desire to die, and asked his rescuers to kill him or let him kill himself, so that he could go to heaven with his mother.

RELEASE OF THE BOER PRISONERS OF WAR

Official Copy of Terms to Burgbers at Ceylon.

Consul W. Morey has sent to the State Department from Colombo, Ceylon, July 3, 1902, the following copy of the official announcement in regard to the release of Boer prisoners of war:

"Burgbers of the late South African Republic and the late Orange Free State may proceed to South Africa at once at their own expense, on declaring their allegiance and furnishing proofs of possessing means of subsistence.

"Burgbers may go elsewhere than South Africa at their own expense, but they will thereby forfeit all claim to eventual repatriation at the expense of his majesty's government, and without declaring their allegiance, they elect to proceed elsewhere than to South Africa, they will hereafter be prevented from returning to South Africa.

"Burgbers unable to proceed to South Africa at their own expense will be repatriated by his majesty's government on their declaring allegiance, and as soon as arrangements can be made for their transport and reception in South Africa.

"Foreign prisoners of war, who do not claim to be burgbers, will not be allowed to return to South Africa. Such foreigners may at once leave at their own expense if they wish to do so. The others may be handed over to their consuls, if their governments wish to make special arrangements for removal; otherwise, they must wait till his majesty's government finds it convenient to repatriate them. Prisoners of war of foreign origin who were naturalized as burgbers of the late South African Republic or of the late Orange Free State on or after the 23rd of September, 1899, are to be treated as foreigners and not as burgbers. Prisoners of foreign origin who can produce satisfactory evidence that they were naturalized as burgbers of the late South African Republic on or after the 23rd of September, 1899, will be treated as burgbers.

"Rebels will be forwarded to South Africa under the charge of the captain of the transports by which they are sent, and on arrival will be handed over, according as they belong to the Cape or Natal, to the authorities whom the governors of the Cape or Natal, respectively, may appoint to receive them.

"It must be understood that the repatriation of prisoners must depend on the readiness of the colonial governments to receive them, as the circumstances of the new colonies do not admit of the return of unlimited numbers at one time."

KENTUCKY JUDGE GROWS TIRED OF LAWLESSNESS

Comments in Strang Words on the Deplorable State of Affairs in State.

LOUISVILLE, Aug. 25.—At Jackson, Ky., in the case of Thomas Cockrill, charged with killing Benjamin Hargis, Special Judge Ira Julian granted a change of venue from Breathitt county to Wolfe county on the application of Cockrill, fortified by affidavits to the effect that he could not get a fair and impartial trial in Breathitt county.

On the granting of this motion, Judge James Hargis announced on the behalf of the prosecution that he would prosecute the case no further, and asked the court to dismiss the prosecution, which the court declined to do. In passing on the motion for change of venue, Judge Julian commented at length and strongly on the deplorable state of lawlessness prevailing in Breathitt county. The case will not be tried in Wolfe county before the latter part of October.

COLOR SCHEME OF THE ST. LOUIS EXPOSITION

Main Buildings to Be an "Old Ivory White."

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 25.—The popular names of three recent American expositions were based on the color of the buildings. The Columbian Exposition was held in the "White City," the Pan-American Exposition in the "Rainbow City," and the Charleston Exposition in the "Ivory City." Popular names always seize on the most salient characteristic. These facts show the importance of color in expositions.

The color of the buildings of the main picture of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, to be held in St. Louis in 1904, will be an "old ivory white." The commission of architects which planned the exposition decided this point early in its deliberations. Its subsequent work of design was greatly influenced by this decision.

The architects have maintained a certain dignity of style in designing the buildings, preserving a classical feeling throughout the main groups. This does not mean that the designs are not of a festive and decorated character or that they are lacking in fancy, originality or vigor. It means that they will be free from the vagaries, the wild flights of fancy, that have blemished some previous expositions.

The use of color and mural decoration at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition will be confined rather to the inner walls of loggias, to the interiors of courts, to vaulted ceilings and other portions of the architecture which will be in shadow or in shade. This will lend a richness of color without impairing the unity and dignity of the main (one of the exposition picture.

This assertion applies, of course, only to the main groups of buildings and not to the other structures which will fill the grounds. In these latter edifices the imaginative genius of the designer will have free play both as to architectural form and color.

In the building of the Liberal Arts the architects have applied color in the shaded walls of their loggias on both the main and the minor facades. They have provided for elaborate mural friezes in which the sinewy forms of the laborer and mechanic will be contrasted with the graceful lines of allegorical figures.

The subjects of these decorations will be the various divisions of the Liberal Arts. For example, one of the main friezes to the right of the entrance will symbolize the progress of printing from its infancy to its present development. Another frieze will represent photography, another the manufacture of musical instruments, going back to the patriarchs of the infant world in Egypt and Greece and blazing in colors a living, interesting outline of this art.

The great results of the hemicycle at the main entrance of the Liberal Arts Building will be frescoed in a manner to correspond with the loggias and to add warmth and wealth of color to these colossal portals.

The architects of the Liberal Arts Building have made architecture subservient in a sense to sculpture and painting, it being the desire that there shall be a perfect union of the three great allied arts; that on its completion the building shall be a harmonious development and blending of the three, each working with the other for the success of the whole. It is expected that there will be left memories as delightful as those that result from a pilgrimage to the picture galleries and halls of sculpture of Munich, Rome, Antwerp, Florence, Venice and Dresden.

The artistic success of the World's Fair at St. Louis depends largely on the unity and harmony in which the architects, sculptors and painters work. The architects will work to the attainment of the highest ideal, the result will be one of bewildering enchantment and everlasting glory to all who participate in the building of this great fair.

AWKWARD MISTAKE OF MARYLAND GENTLEMAN

Former Member of Congress Makes Bad Break at Ocean City.

SNOW HILL, Md., Aug. 25.—A former member of Congress from the First district of Maryland, for many years prominent in State politics, spends most of his time at Ocean City.

He has a son, a professor in one of the large universities, who also spends much of his summer at Maryland's seaside resort. The son is a bachelor. Last season they had been staying at the same hotel for several weeks. The father occupied No. 19 and the son No. 35. The father is an early riser, but the son is not. One morning bright and early, the father went to No. 35, rapped on the door and, calling his son by name, said:

"Come, get out of there right away." There was no answer, so he gave another knock, even more peremptory than the other, and called to him again by name to get out at once. This time a sweet feminine voice gently answered:

"He isn't in here, sir."

The son had changed his room without telling his father, and it was occupied by a fair arrival of the night before.

SIGEL ONE OF ARMY'S BRILLIANT SOLDIERS

Tribute by Maj. Stine, Historian of Army of Potomac.

According to Major J. H. Stine, historian of the Army of the Potomac, the death of Gen. Franz Sigel during the past week removed one of the most brilliant soldiers of the American army. Major Stine, in talking of the life of the dead soldier, said last evening:

"Gen. Franz Sigel was one of the most remarkable men of his day and time. Like Franklin, two worlds lay claim to him, and the sorrow in Europe will be almost as intense as here over the demise of that pure citizen, ripe scholar, and great military genius.

"Although a native of Baden, receiving his whole education in a monarchial government, he soon exhibited his choice for a republican form of government. His flight from Germany was America's great gain, for the Germans followed him in battle with a zeal and enthusiasm that knew no bounds. His first act in the beginning of the war—swinging Missouri to the Union—was enough to endear him to the people of this country.

"He was a natural military genius. He was quick to take in the value of a situation, and prompt to act. I saw him after the battle of Cedar Mountain. Pope and several generals were sitting on their horses, as Pope's army was ready to move in the direction of Richmond. I saw the right wing of McClellan's army. I heard Pope say that in twenty-six miles we would be with McClellan. Just then an aide rode up and said Lee's army was only a few miles off, and pressing rapidly in our direction. Pope doubted his statement. Sigel was present. He quietly listened to what was said. He turned his horse and, addressing Pope, said:

"It was not long until he returned and said to Pope:

"General, march at once for the Rappahannock."

"Lee was in hopes to follow Pope's small army and destroy it; then, turning on McClellan's defeat that quickly march on Washington, take that; and save several of the leading powers of Europe recognize the Southern Confederacy. But Sigel's quick military insight took in the desperate situation, and we flew to the Rappahannock, and held that as a barrier to their advance until the Army of the Potomac could come to our assistance. Thus Sigel had rendered another valuable service to his adopted country. The Germans followed him with a rapid devotion, and his war-chief among them in every army was 'I fight with Sigel.' He was to the Eleventh Corps what Doubleday was to the First, Hancock to the Second, Sheridan to the Third, Burnside to the Ninth, Slocum to the Twelfth, and Pleasant to the cavalry.

"General Grant was Sigel's warm friend, which fixes the Baden general in the military history of the great war, and endears him to the American people forever for his great work. Place his statue by the side of Lafayette—the latter to represent the valor of the French, and Sigel to represent the former as a recognition of the heroism of the Germans in the civil war.

SAYS SOUTH IS NOW DEBATABLE GROUND

Grady Wants Southern Man for President.

PITTSBURG, Aug. 25.—State Senator Thomas W. Grady of New York, who arrived in Pittsburgh last night, said:

"Settlement of the race question in the South by constitutional amendments has made that part of the country debatable ground politically, and it will be such in the next Presidential campaign. For that reason Tammany Hall wants a Southerner nominated by the Democratic national convention for President and will support a good Southerner man."

Mr. Grady did not express himself in favor of Bryan, but intimated that New York Democrats had enough of him.

CHICKENS HATCHED IN OLD CROW'S NEST

Mother Hen Selected Home in Branches of a Tree.

HANOVER, Pa., Aug. 25.—On the farm of Elias Lindenmuth, in East Donag township, several small chicks were unexpectedly found beneath a locust tree.

Investigators proved that they had actually been hatched out up in the tree at a point about twenty feet from the ground. The hen had occupied an old nest doubtless built by crows, in which was found one egg unhatched.

GRAY GOOSE'S CRAW FILLED WITH GOLD

Eighteen Dollars Worth of Precious Metal Taken From Nevada Fowl.

NEVADA CITY, Nev., Aug. 25.—Mrs. Lavinia Thomas, a widow, who resides on the Gold Flat, killed a large, fat goose from her flock.

While preparing the fowl for dinner she discovered several shining nuggets of gold. The gold was taken to the assay office and netted \$18.

There are many old placer claims in the vicinity of Mrs. Thomas' place, and it is presumed that the goose in its search for food among the old diggings at various times picked up the precious metal and carried it until discovered by the lucky woman.

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WOMAN NEARLY BLINDED IN FIGHT WITH ROOSTER

Neighbors Forced to Beat Off Fowl With Clubs.

LANCASTER, Pa., Aug. 25.—Mrs. Henry Schmidt figured in an encounter here with a savage game rooster, and after being badly scratched and pecked, came off second best.

Mrs. Schmidt went to the chicken yard to feed the poultry when the rooster flew at her repeatedly, striking at the almost blinded woman's face. Her screams summoned neighbors, who found it necessary to beat off the rooster with clubs.

MAN DIES FROM BITE OF LARGE BLACK SPIDER

Crawled on His Arm and Bit Him While at Work.

SUSQUEHANNA, Pa., Aug. 25.—Patrick Cudahy, a bluestone quarryman, while at work near Cocheton was stung by a big black spider. He suddenly felt the sting and turned in time to see the spider crawling off his arm. He quickly brushed it off and thought no more about it.

An hour later the arm began to swell and he sought medical aid. The doctors were unable to save him, and he died the next day.

GENERAL SIGEL'S WIDOW WILL ASK FOR PENSION

Old Fighter Left No Property Save War Relics and Letters.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—Major General Franz Sigel, who was buried yesterday, left his widow almost penniless.

A member of his family said that the will left all to the widow and named as executors Mrs. Sigel and his son Franz. The general left no property except a collection of war relics and letters from Lincoln and Grant and several of the generals of the Union side. These and his life insurance of \$1,000 are all the widow will receive.

Of late years Gen. Sigel has been drawing a pension of \$1,200, but his constant sickness ate into the amount and there was barely enough to support the family.

Mrs. Sigel says that she intends to petition Congress that she may be recognized and pensioned as are widows of other civil war generals. She said that one of her daughters had communicated with President Roosevelt on the subject and the President had promised to do what he could in her behalf.

WOMAN AWAKENED AFTER SLEEPING THREE DAYS

Doctors Now Fear That She Will Relapse Into a Trance.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., Aug. 25.—Physicians at this place are much mystified over the remarkable somnambulistic symptoms shown by Miss Mary Fitzpatrick, who is living with her sister, Mrs. John Higgins, in a suburb of this place. She had many long sleeps of late, and has just been awakened from a continuous sleep of seventy-two hours.

The doctors are afraid that she will relapse into a long trance, which may result fatally.

RUSSELL MARRIED TWICE IN TEN DAYS

Pennsylvanian Did Not Like to Live in Single Blessedness.

FRANKLIN, Pa., Aug. 25.—Married twice within the period of ten days is the record of Clyde L. Russell, of Grove City, and Miss Katherine Mulcahy, of Paderoe. They were legally married at Erie on August 13 by a Protestant clergyman.

Miss Mulcahy is a member of the Catholic Church, and it being against the laws of that church for a communicant to be married outside the same, the marriage was not recognized. They, therefore, decided to get another license and have the marriage performed again.

Recorder Doida issued a license to them today and the ceremony was performed again.

Jim Dumps would eat his noonday meal And afterward he'd always feel Unhappy, touchy, cross, depressed. He'd swear off eating—'twas no jest. But "Force" is now the lunch for him, And lunch agrees with "Sunny Jim."



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LOCAL MENTION.

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