

HUMAN ODDITIES.

Doctor Dawson, the London preacher, who is holding a series of meetings in Seattle, says, "Years do not mean age." As long as a man has energy to keep up his interest in something he will not grow old. If the ladies, who seem to possess an inborn hatred for advancing years, could only be made to believe this they would become deeply interested at once. But the good thing about it is that it would call forth no small amount of energy from each one to ascertain what the other was really interested in.

Baltimore has rather an odd character in a man who is a rat hunter. This individual goes to the houses of his patrons, seeks rat holes and thrusts therein a small air rifle with which he shoots his prey, and with a long hooked wire he pulls his victim out. Now and then he strikes a nest of baby rats and out comes "babies, cradle and all." His is rather a strange calling, but answers better than the old way of poisoning them in the walls. The man is said to have applied himself to his business until he is able to locate rat holes and easily detect them scratching therein.

Fred Riff and Arthur Nutts, two harvest hands en route to their homes in California, reached Spokane and decided to visit a saloon and thereby hangs a tale. There were nine other men in the saloon when the two harvest heroes arrived, making eleven in all for two hold-up men, who came soon afterwards, to work upon. Riff and Nutts were relieved of \$135, every cent they had. Next morning they returned to the harvest fields instead of continuing their trip to California. They had that bad feeling "next morning" alright, and it was from visiting the saloon, too, but more than drink caused it that time.

Eva Moore, who is the 16 year old daughter of the late Dr. Frederick J. Moore of Roxbury, formerly a United States army surgeon, has created quite a stir in Boston by deciding to marry a well to do Mongolian. Lee San, is the Chinaman in question and is well appearing, wears American clothes and is said to have a tea store besides his laundry. The "engaged" couple went to Chelsea and were told that they could not obtain a marriage license there without they lived in that city. "Love will find a way" we are told, but in this case love will have to get his wits working and that, too, very fast, or there will be a shortage in clean linen if the laundry man is not soon relieved from the uncertain state in the affairs of his heart.

If Doctor Dawson eres not, we are all more or less living under a delusion or rather we are full of illusions. "We allow ourselves to believe what we want to believe," says the Doctor. He further tells us that we are not as philanthropic as we think we are and most likely we would not do half the good we believe we would if we

were really financially able to do so. Men's natures change with the coming of riches," says Dr. Dawson. And we must admit of some striking cases of sudden wealth and swollen heads. However, the illusion as to the good we would do is a happy one in as much as it gives us a good opinion of ourselves, and, in a way, keeps us on excellent terms with ourselves and we are thereby more magnanimous to others.

A New York doctor accompanied a wealthy American to Italy. The patient died and in seeking to avoid the trouble and formalities of carrying the body to the United States in a coffin he had the body cremated, which has raised a curious legal point. He had the corpse cremated, the ashes were placed in a small urn, which was packed and shipped as ordinary freight, on which he paid the usual tariff according to weight. When the doctor landed in America, however, his secret was discovered and the price for carrying a dead body in a coffin was demanded. That meant \$150 more than he had paid for the transportation for the urn. This he refused to pay. The case must be settled at Paris since it was a French port from which the urn was shipped. It is thought that the company will lose the case.

At the world's fair at Chicago the dead letter officials placed many articles which had gone astray and finally landed beneath their walls on exhibition which was a revelation to many. Such odds and ends as there were: things that the average person would least expect to see passing through the mails. Since that time the souvenir habit has struck the American people and great are the evils thereof. The mail men now often pause and wonder, if Uncle Sammy really is aware of what is going on in his own family. The very latest fad among the souvenir collectors is the souvenir postal cards. Every town of any size has them and the traveling citizens are "card mad" because they find it a good way to write their home neighbors without writing and the resident citizens are card mad because they wish to make card albums and of course must have a beautiful collection.

The officials of the Essex county hospital for the insane had two patients, Iglar and Ahlert in the same ward. Iglar had been ill for some time and his family had been notified to expect his demise daily. Ahlert died suddenly and a new attendant announced that Iglar was dead. The body was sent to Newark to Iglar's family. The two men were of a size and resembled each other, yet Iglar's family remarked that illness and death had wrought some changes in his features. The body was embalmed and all arrangements made for its interment. Iglar's daughter happened to remark in the presence of the undertaker how her father had lost a finger years ago, whereupon they discovered that they had the wrong body. There is no money which can pay for the sufferings of bereavement which this family underwent, but the institution should have been heavily fined just the same.

The University of Washington has made arrangements for its annual course of high class lecturers, musicians and entertainers. This year the management has made an effort to place the course above the usual standard. If some of the Eastern people, who are always bemoaning the fact that, "the West is not like it is back East," will attend some of these lectures they will find that, one of the very things they needed most is right here in their midst—a chance to hear some of the known world-wide lecturers. Perchance some might even realize that the East in some respects is not like it is "way out West" and cease their churlish complaining.

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