

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications for this paper should be accompanied by the name of the author, and, if possible, by the address. Write only on one side of the paper. Be particularly careful in giving names and dates, to have the letters and figures plain and distinct.

The Gosses seem to be the Smiths of tropical America.

A London paper publishes an article entitled: "Why Cleave 'Gins Don't Marry?" They frequently do.

A Michigan man has been sent to jail for stealing a 2-cent stamp. How that man must be despised in Pittsburg!

The girls who get married this year will be able to hold their heads up proudly, knowing that they are free from suspicion.

Champ Clark says the average price of a woman's hair is \$1.00. And yet it would never do to refer to any woman's hat as an average one.

Now that Mark Twain is a trust he should have himself investigated and show Henry Rogers what a real humorist can do on the witness stand.

Count Boni de Castellane declares that he doesn't want any more gold money. Can it be possible that he had the foresight to save up some of it for the rainy day?

It's all right for Boni to withdraw his demand for \$50,000, but if he gets the custody of his sons without an allowance we're afraid there will be a new child-labor scandal in France.

Another country has gone dry and Emperor William announces he will never drink again during the remainder of his life. The temperance movement is making some mighty strides.

Some of the prophets are predicting that the Atlantic will be crossed by balloon during the present year. If John W. Gates can be induced to bet a million on it the matter will be settled.

An organization has been formed to teach farmers' wives how to cook. What farmers' wives would really like to know is how they can get out of about half of the cooking they have to do now.

A married couple in Montclair, N. J., separated because of incompatibility. He was an inveterate tobacco-chewer and she had a habit of kissing the cat. Outraged persons will be careful in bestowing their sympathy in this case.

The girl who has neglected to propose during leap year and finds herself still alone and unsuspected may be expected to begin agreeing with the poet that "of all sad words of tongue or pen the saddest are these, 'It might have been.'"

Can the proposition that the minimum salary for an unmarried Episcopalian clergyman in the diocese of New York should be \$1,200 and for a married clergyman \$1,500, with a suitable place to live in, or \$1,500 in money, be taken as an official statement of the exact cost of a wife?

Mme. Curie, co-discoverer with her husband of radium, has been promoted to full professorship in the University of Paris. A woman who can discover new truth is certainly qualified to teach it, and the young men in the university can afford to sit with respect at the feet of this remarkable woman of science.

The general express business of the country is controlled by six companies, although the Bureau of Census reports thirty-four such companies in operation. This is largely owing to the fact that the six big companies are all that do business in more than ten States. Nineteen companies do business in one State only. The companies operate on friendly terms with the railroads, and agree to charge at least 50 per cent more than the freight rate on all articles. Indeed, the railroads are part owners of some of the independent express companies. This partnership arrangement may ultimately result in the absorption of the express companies by the railroads themselves.

There is more and more recognition among enterprising church denominations of the fact that mere doctrinal abstractions or dogmatic discussions do not deeply interest young folks. The imaginative and luminous mind of youth needs the poetry of things, something that is not to be included in the curriculum. Mrs. Anna C. Tillingshast of Titusville brought down the house by exclaiming tragically: "What effects, think you, will an endless round of cleaning and scrubbing, washing and ironing have upon a human soul? How far toward the ideal in permanent development will such a soul be able to advance?" It was thought best not to include the scrub brush in the resolution, and some of the more calm members, after due deliberation, presented the following resolution, which was passed: "Whereas, Believing that the safety and comfort of our country rest upon the sanctity and comfort of our homemaker, and that for the accomplishment of these desired conditions we must act in sincerity and cooperation; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Federation of Pennsylvania Women raises \$15,000 for a permanent domestic science scholarship at State College, this fund to be properly invested in good securities as fast as accumulated, the interest accruing thereon each year to be used for the purpose aforesaid, this scholarship to be known as the Kate Cassatt McKnight memorial."

No Doubt a Reader of "Punch." A hearty laugh had gone almost around over the story of the fisherman who, to locate the place on the lake where he had good luck, cut a nick in the side of his boat. "All most around," for the Englishman sat solemn and silent about five minutes before he answered the question of building a fast cutter, but two could do more work than one, and there could later be another for the north coast, and later another for the east coast—Manila Times.

A Queer Test. The grocer said to the applicant: "Your references are good. Show me your style of weighing out five pounds of sugar. There's the scales." The applicant weighed his face in the amiable smile all salesman wear and weighed out the sugar with dispatch and accuracy. He put on too little sugar at first; he added gently a

PHOSPHATE IN SOUTH SEAS.

Largest Known Deposits of High Grade Phosphate. The islands of the Pacific ocean contain the largest known deposits of high grade phosphate. A London company controls the deposits in Ocean and Pleasant Islands, in the Gilbert group. The deposits on these islands are estimated at 50,000,000 tons, of which scarcely 1,000,000 tons have been marketed. By the employment of a large number of Chinese, Japanese and natives the company is now marketing 200,000 tons to Japan, 80,000 to Australia and the remainder to Europe. Europe also receives yearly 100,000 tons of high grade phosphates from Christmas Island and more than 100,000 tons of lower grade phosphates from Tunis and Algeria.

Notwithstanding the very large deposits owned by the London company, the mining of phosphates pays so well that not only that company, but various other investors, have been, and are, making constant efforts to discover other phosphate deposits, and in many islands, besides in quantity and poor in quality, have been discovered, as in the Fiji's. Recently, however, phosphate of good quality has been discovered on three islands in the French colony of Tahiti and dependencies. These islands—Makatea, Matahiva and Niau—are in the northwestern part of the Tuamotu archipelago of eight and still islands. It is also probable that deposits exist on other islands of this group. The deposits in Matahiva and Niau are small, but the high grade deposits in Makatea are estimated at 10,000,000 tons, with many million more tons of an inferior quality. The quality of this deposit ranges from 75 to 80 per cent. The island has an elevation of 230 feet—the highest of the group—and an area of six to eight square miles. Although many others are interested in these deposits, they will be worked by a French company, just formed in Paris for that purpose. Makatea is surrounded by coral reefs and has no harbor, the phosphate will have to be loaded at deep sea moorings outside the reefs. An account of the expense incident thereto it will be some time before the company can make any considerable shipment. It is considered that the cost of the works will be 200,000 tons per annum.

As Makatea is so near Papeete, the commercial center of this colony, the working of the phosphate deposits on that island will add largely to the business and prosperity of the colony.—Philadelphia Record.

WOMEN WAR ON DRUGGERY.

Endless Scrubbing and Housecleaning Declared Bad for the Soul. Although the Bureau of Census reports thirty-four such companies in operation. This is largely owing to the fact that the six big companies are all that do business in more than ten States. Nineteen companies do business in one State only. The companies operate on friendly terms with the railroads, and agree to charge at least 50 per cent more than the freight rate on all articles. Indeed, the railroads are part owners of some of the independent express companies. This partnership arrangement may ultimately result in the absorption of the express companies by the railroads themselves.

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SMUGGLING IN PHILIPPINES.

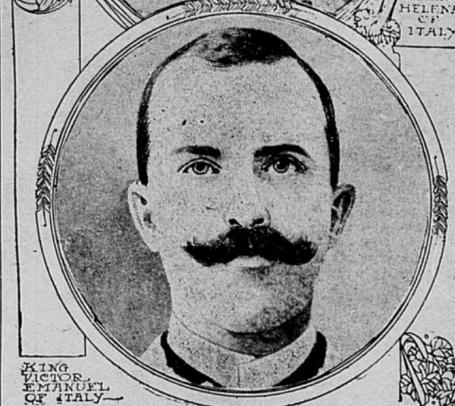
Swift Boat Brings Contraband Goods from Oriental Ports to Islands. Smuggling in the Philippine Islands is assuming proportions that make it a menace to Insular revenues, says the Manila Times. It will surprise the ordinary and law-abiding citizen to know that only a few days ago a cargo of khaki, smuggled into the country by way of the east coast of Luzon, was floated down Laguna de Bay and the Pasig for distribution in Manila, yet such is the fact.

The coast was dropped on the east coast somewhere near Baker, lugged across the mountains to a secluded inlet on the lake and boldly brought into Manila. Sleuths of the government got track of it before it was landed, but there was no way to stop it. There is smuggling, too, in the north country, but its greatest home is in the Sulu archipelago, with Borneo as its base. There in that back alleyway of the sea it has gone on for ages without let or hindrance. Hundreds of swift gullig vintas are engaged in the illicit trade, and heretofore they have carried to a fabulous price in Manila, Iloilo, Zamboanga and other cities, and there are riches for the fellow who can run it across the Sulu Sea. And there is money in other articles, as witness the innocent khaki cloth that circled Luzon and came in by way of the Laguna exclusion route. The government is planning to meet the Sulu situation by building a fast cutter, but two could do more work than one, and there could later be another for the north coast, and later another for the east coast—Manila Times.

A Queer Test.

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RULERS OF A STRICKEN COUNTRY.



THE CALAMITY IN ITALY.

The great earthquake zones of the earth lie generally in long lines of gradual curve, following mountain chains of volcanic rock. In the often-harassed Sicilian-Calabrian region the fanciful might upon the map a steeple of death, comparatively narrow, curving slowly from the east to the northeast. Its beginning is in the mountains of Central Sicily, its end in the narrow Instep of the boot of lower Italy.

In this stricken region Sicily and Calabria are joined. The mountain rock merely dips under water at the Messina straits. Etna, two miles high, the greatest volcano of Italy, is in modern periods the power-house of the un-governable force that kills men so pitilessly. The old fable held that Enceladus was here imprisoned, breathing flame and shaking the earth with his struggles to be free. Vesuvius to a slight extent only, Stromboli on its island between usually in a somewhat greater degree, sympathize with the giant's throes.

Messina is almost at the center of the earthquake zone, but its greater foe is the sea. Here are Scylla and Charybdis of the ancient navigators. The car ferry that connects Sicily with the mainland is often interrupted in winter. Three days of south wind, the dreaded "sirocco," and it must stop. The narrow funnel-like strait, that piles a winter storm into such dangerous waves, plucked up the tidal wave of the earthquake into the wall of water that overwhelmed Messina and Reggio. The water killed its scores where the earthquake had slain one; and fire and pillage followed, as if humane men were merely making war.

INLAND CITIES AS SEAPORTS.

A Proper Outlet on Internal Waters Would Bring Marvelous Returns. We are spending hundreds of millions of dollars upon Panama, partly as a military measure, partly to enable ships to save two transfers and a rail-haul in carrying between the east and west coasts, partly in a spirit of idealism—desiring to give a great free roadway to the world, says John L. Matthews in Success. If we spent an equal sum or even less upon our internal waters under a systematic plan of conservation we would make virtual seaports of Sioux City, Omaha, Kansas City, Pittsburg, Minneapolis, St. Louis and Chicago; would save all the transfers and overhaul rail haul which now burden the grain of the northwest and the iron of Pittsburg; would make it possible for gunboats of considerable size to hasten to points nearly everywhere in the interior of the country and to defend with equal force the shores of the great lakes and those of the gulf; and in the end we would have, not from tolls, but from the by-products of our industry, a net return of more than the original capital every year to nation, state and individual.

We know from long and careful observations, at what times water will fall—a vast amount in spring and very little in autumn and winter. Our task is so to conduct it that there shall be at all times a fairly standard amount in the great rivers; that it shall do, in capacity to agriculture, forestry, commerce and in the development of power; and that it shall be prevented from doing any damage by soil wash or by any other means.

Ambiguous.

"The baby has something the matter with his stomach." "How do you know?" "Because we had it taken out and examined."—Life.

THE FARMER'S BOY.

In Many Instances He Has a Mistaken Idea of City Life. The great trouble with country boys is that they are not aware of the circumstances under which the city boy is compelled to live and work if he has to earn his living by the sweat of his brow. The idea held up to the country boy is to go to town and get a nice, easy, soft snap such as So-and-so has. How many of them do it? Not one in a thousand. Far more go there to find work in some close, stagnant mill, to sweat amid the fumes of steam or tobacco smoke, or perhaps in some iron mill or foundry, surrounded by the curses of their fellow men, to toll out a weary day of eleven or thirteen hours and after the day is over go home—sweat and a house! Up some little back street in a handbox full of bricks and named a house more than likely our workman has his home, there to pass away the weary hours of the night amid the heat and stagnation of probably a filthy street only a few feet wide, hot, close and dirty. In any large city on some sultry night one may see the workman and his family in these little narrow city streets stretched about the steps and pavements in all conditions. These are not slums either, but fairly respectable neighborhoods.

To such a condition of life many of our country boys have gone, and many more are to-day preparing to go. Fat pay and big pay envelopes? Not in these times. If our city laborer averages \$12 a week he is a lucky man. Tens of thousands get less rather than more. Country boys, before you make the change, in the name of that country you have been taught to hold in reverence, look and do not leap! If you understand farming there are just as many chances on the land to be worked out as there are in the city.

This is a great country, and if you do not like the kind of farming you are working at there are many others. If you belong to a family that follows the grind, grind system of all work and no play, when you reach your majority and start for yourself follow up an easier system. Do not condemn country life just because you have been unfortunate enough to be brought up in the home of a man who knows nothing but grind. Do not overlook the fact that if such a man was your boss in the city he would grind your life away. Long, long before you were 21 years old you would be occupying some six feet of green turf, where at last you would not hear the dreaded call and curse of the boss.

Country life may not be and probably is not what many would like to color it; but all things being equal, it is far preferable to city life. It is just where it comes in. City life is never compared with country life on an equal plane. Remember that if you must work in the country for a living you will have to work in the city for one, too, and if you possess the ability in yourself to rise above the ordinary workman in the city that same ability will carry out a home for you in the country. Look before you leap, consider all things, and if you are sure you can better yourself in the city go; if not, stay on the old farm.

ANOTHER ROMANTIC TRAGEDY.

Paris Excited by Sensation Equal to Dreyfus and Humbert Affairs. Paris has a real sensation, quite the biggest since the Dreyfus case, still so fresh in mind as to need no special mention, and the Humbert affair, which involved the obtaining of millions, loaned to a shrewd adventurer having a trunk full of alleged gold-edged securities that were afterward found to be only worthless paper. The excitement produced in those instances pales to insignificance by comparison with

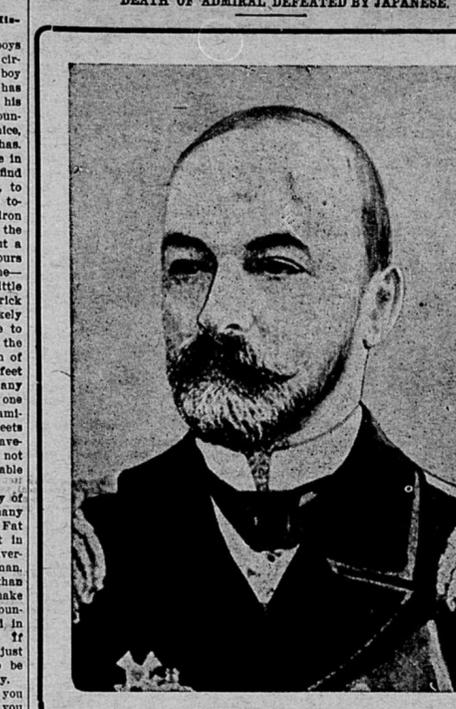


FATHER JOHN OF CRONSTADT.

Death Takes Russian Priest to Whom Many Miracles Are Credited. The once famous apostle of all the Russias, Father John of Cronstadt, whose death occurred recently in St. Petersburg after an illness of over two years' duration, was revered and adored not merely among the lowly but by royalty as well. Born Nov. 30, 1820, he achieved early fame, coming into prominence soon after taking a priesthood at the Andrej Church of Cronstadt. Although not a factor in the political life of his country, nor a leading dignitary of the church, Father John stood out conspicuously whenever Russia attracted the world's attention, whether because of national sorrow or rejoicing.

During her confession, Mme. Steinhel, who was in great distress of mind and gabbled out: "I hope to justify myself before a man whose love I have now lost forever." This man is said to be a French nobleman and in his identity is believed to lie the key to this romantic tragedy.

DEATH OF ADMIRAL DEFEATED BY JAPANESE.



ADMIRAL ROJESTVENSKY.

Admiral Rojestvensky, who died at St. Petersburg recently, would have been more fortunate if he had gone down with his flagship on that fateful 27th of May when the Russian armada met the doom of the Spanish three centuries before. That is the feeling of men of the seafaring races, with their tradition that seaman and ship are one. Probably Rojestvensky did not feel so, for he endeavored to escape. He was not of a race born to the mastery of the sea. And in some measure that explains his failure and his country's, for it was his country's more than his.

Silovoi Petrovich Rojestvensky was about 60 years old, and for years bore the reputation of being the most cool-headed and scientific officer in the Russian navy. In the summer of 1904 he started with the second Russian Atlantic squadron from the Baltic for Vladivostok. Arriving in the Far East, Admiral Rojestvensky was joined by other Russian vessels, and then had fifty-six ships under his command. May 27-28, 1905, occurred the battle of the Sea of Japan, in which the Russian fleet was practically annihilated and its commander taken prisoner. A naval court of inquiry indicted Admiral Rojestvensky for surrendering to the Japanese, but he was acquitted on the plea that at the time the surrender was made he was unconscious from injuries received in the fight.

It is not given to the men of all races to say, with Hawke, when warned of the lee shore and the rising tempest: "Sir, you have done your duty. Now lay me alongside of the French Admiral." It is not given to all to say, with Farragut: "D—n the torpedoes! Full steam ahead!" Nor is it given to all to say, with Craven: "After you, pilot," and make of his sinking ship a tomb of immortal glory. Yet, says the Chicago Inter Ocean, though Rojestvensky lacked that marrow of tradition or that final touch of grace or fortune or so did not in the manner of his death give dignity to his share of a colossal failure, it must be remembered that to him was doubtless due the boldness of an enterprise which, had it succeeded, might have changed the course of history. A strong Russian fleet in the Pacific, with an almost impregnable harbor in which to retreat, and energetically operated, would have lifted the weight of the Japanese army in Manchuria for a time. One branch of the Russian service—the railway—had learned by experience to do its work well. Given a little more time and the Russian armies might have been reorganized for victory.

We know now that Japan consented to peace not merely because all that was immediately fought for had been won. There was also a consciousness that Japan could do but little more, and a possibility that Russia, if given breathing space, might do a great deal more. To give Russia time to make a new military machine to take power from the transportation machine was the mission of Rojestvensky and the armada. It was a bold design, and Admiral Togo knew what its success—what letting the Russian armada even get by—meant for Japan. There was a full realization of its meaning in Togo's battle signal: "The fate of the Empire depends on this effort. Let every man do his utmost!"

Rojestvensky failed, and with him Russia failed as a sea power. And with failure in sea power is accorded judgment against the Russian system as a producer of real national efficiency. There may be a new Russian navy, but not until Russia is made over and can breed men who know men who have the instinct for sea mastery and live and die in accordance with it—can Russia really count in the dominion of the seas.

making a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Seraphin to offer her most fervent prayer. In his church Father John was urged along the lines of missionary endeavor in foreign fields, and of this interest the Russian Orthodox Church of St. Nicholas in New York City has received ample share. Known to but few of his followers by his surname of Sergeff, he was Father John to all, and as Father John Russia mourns him.

One Use for "John." It was the boast of the "Incomparable Laundry Company" that it employed no Chinamen, that it did better work than Chinese laundries did, and did not wear out the clothes so quickly in washing. One unhappy day, however, the company's building—containing great exertion nearly all the contents were saved, but in a highly mixed and tangled-up condition. Drivers of the company's wagons were sent round to the various customers in washing. One unhappy day, however, the company's building—containing great exertion nearly all the contents were saved, but in a highly mixed and tangled-up condition.

WESTWARD OF POPULATION.

Its Migration Westward Remarkably Uniform in Rate and Direction. The center of population in 1900 was in the State of Indiana: in 1790 the center was twenty-three miles east of Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, or virtually on the Atlantic shore line. Its migration has been slow and remarkably uniform, both in rate and in direction. It has moved for 110 years along the thirty-ninth parallel of latitude, and its total variation in latitude has been less than one-third of one degree.

The westward movement has averaged less than a degree in a decade, notwithstanding the incredibly swift occupation of a vacant continent by a movement of population westward. The easterly position of the center of population is in part due to the fact that the eastern part of the continent was first settled and was settled from the east. The easterly position of the center of population is also due to the more evenly distributed and more abundant resources of the eastern half of the United States.

It should not be forgotten that the geographical center of the United States lies some hundreds of miles west of the Mississippi river. The eastern half of the country, therefore, embraces the Atlantic lowlands, the prairies and Great Lake plains, the gulf lowlands and the forests and minerals of the Appalachian mountains and Appalachian plateau. Over against these are the arid and mountainous areas of the West.

SHORT METER SERMONS.

Love. Love is a tree whose branches grow in different directions.—Rev. Dr. Young, Methodist, Montreal.

Novelists. The church will fall that lives on novelties.—Rev. William Byron Forbush, Congregationalist, Detroit.

Bible Promises. The Bible contains 30,000 promises, all tested and found true.—Rev. Henry Hepburn, Presbyterian, Chicago.

Civilized Religion. The religion which is to influence our civilization must be a civilized religion.—Rev. C. S. Dutton, Unitarian, Brooklyn.

Lessons of the Past. We should take in everything that will inspire us to better living. We must not disregard the lessons of the past.—Rev. C. C. Buckner, Disciple, Aurora.

The Fountain Head. The soul of man needs God, and cannot get along scientifically without God, as all science points to that fountain head.—Rev. Dr. Duval, Presbyterian, Winnepeg.

Consciousness. There is no superiority like the superiority of conscious rectitude. It is the strength of righteousness.—Rev. E. P. Farnham, Baptist, Brooklyn.

The Common Man. This is an era of the common man. Slowly but surely he is coming to his own. He is fighting for industrial democracy and for the right to stop him from getting it.—Rev. Charles Steink, Apostle of Labor, Boston.

Ideals. Every man should have his ideal and should fight for it, as the color bearer is entrusted with the emblem of the army's success, and refuses to surrender it even at the cost of his life.—Rev. Charles F. Carter, Baptist, Lexington, Mass.

Men Wanted by God. God wants men who are single-hearted and not double-minded. He wants men who have the courage of conviction and who will do his work according to the laws as laid down by the Bible.—Rev. J. H. Little, Presbyterian, Wheeling, W. Va.

Heaven and Hell. Our heaven and hell are not the pictures of the Bible. Heaven is the condition that are within us. We may reach down and get into torment, or we may rise up to the serenity of heaven's peace.—Rev. Algernon S. Crapsey, Rationalist, Rochester.

Useful Manhood. Many men center all their energies in one effort to make a household word in the homes of the nation, but fame frequently becomes infamy. The man with a clear conscience and the desire and ability to live the right life may possess both fame and wealth to advantage to himself and those about him. Such an individual possesses power, character, serenity and poise, all of which go to make up a perfect and useful manhood.—Rev. W. S. Bovard, Presbyterian, Indianapolis.

A Wide Range. When the sunset happened to be spending a night at Bushy Inn, and set the broken leg of the weather-beaten stranger who was the chief victim of an automobile accident the patient looked up at him anxiously. "See here, doc," he said in a husky voice, "I haven't got much of any money. Would you care to buy my trade?" "Yes, I guess so," said the surgeon, cheerfully. "What is your trade?" "Well, I've got a number of things I can do soon as I'm on my feet again," said the patient. "I can hang window blinds, or I can put on light-blue robes, or I can put on the corset, or I can do 'em first rate if I've the one to say it, doc."—Youth's Companion.

The Secret of Happiness. The secret of happiness in every life is to be doing what you feel you can do best, and to have your own ingenuity. To do what you can do best includes the entire gamut, from housekeeper to society queen, though I should like to turn the gamut upside down by putting the housekeeper at the top instead of the bottom of the scale. Your own ingenuity you must have. Married or single, if you would take into your life all the happiness it offers, and give out of your life all the happiness it owes the community.—Pall Mall Magazine.

Expanding the Smile. "I, sir," said Mr. Dustin Stax, "am like the busy bee. I have industriously stored the good things of life." "Yes, and anybody who tried to stop you was very likely to get stung."—Washington Star.

Nature is always stronger than culture.

A man said to-day: "If I had the money I have paid out for canteenals that were worthless, I would be rich."