

# Some Coming Changes In the Diplomatic Service

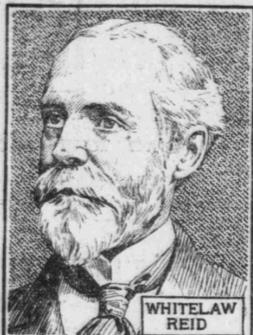
AMONG the more important changes which will be made in the diplomatic corps immediately after President Roosevelt's inauguration will be the retirement from the service of Joseph H. Choate, present ambassador to the court of St. James, and the appointment of Whitelaw Reid as his successor. About a year ago Powell Clayton, present ambassador to Mexico, signified to the president his desire to be relieved, and it is in conformity with Mr. Clayton's wish to retire that Edwin H. Conger, now minister to China, will be transferred to the Mexican mission. Mr. Conger's successor will be found in David E. Thompson of Nebraska, present envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Brazil. Mr. Conger intends to become a candidate for gubernatorial honors in his state of Iowa and does not expect to remain in Mexico longer than a year. It is also decided that General Horace Porter will return from France after the inauguration and either George von Lengerke Meyer, present ambassador to Italy, or Seth Low will go to Paris. It is understood that Henry White, who has been for many years the secretary of the American legation at London, will succeed Mr. Meyer at Rome.

Joseph Hodges Choate, the most picturesque figure in American politics, has a personality which baffles curiosity, but rewards acquaintance. He has maintained a lifelong aloofness from the cheap though effective machinery which builds up a political reputation and stands today as a living example of the politician who has no special champion of his methods, no follower of his ways of doing. Statesman he is undoubtedly, but no politician. Qualified to fill acceptably any office within the gift of the American people, it is questionable whether or not he could be elected to the legislature of his own state. He might receive the nomination, but his utter want of political tact and disregard for political methods would be certain to bring defeat at the polls. The truth of that statement has been demonstrated more than once.

Born in Salem, Mass., in 1832, Mr. Choate was an alumnus of the classical department of Harvard at the age of twenty and two years later a graduate of the law school. At that time his distinguished kinsman, Rufus Choate, was at the zenith of his fame, and the young man realized that the Bay State, having given all its admiration to its favorite son, had nothing left to bestow upon another Choate. Armed with a letter of introduction from the great Rufus to William M. Everts, he presented himself at the New York office of that famous metropolitan lawyer.

Mr. Everts read the letter and, after folding it with the nicest precision, returned it to its envelope. Then he re-

moved his eyeglasses and looked critically at the young man. "Have you read Mr. Choate's letter?" he asked. Joseph confessed that he had. "Mr.



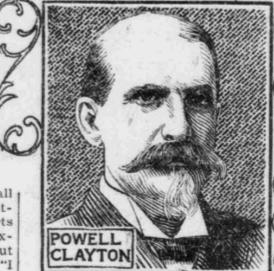
WHELAW REID



HENRY WHITE



JOSEPH H. CHOATE



POWELL CLAYTON



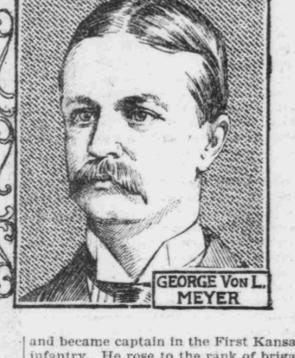
E. H. CONGER



HORACE PORTER



D. E. THOMPSON



GEORGE VON L. MEYER

He has been member of congress, minister to Brazil and since 1893 minister to China.

David E. Thompson has had a peculiarly interesting career. A native of Michigan, he went to Nebraska about thirty years ago and became a railroad truckman at the Lincoln station. Nine years later he was division superintendent of the entire Burlington system. Later he bought a practically defunct insurance company and in ten years made millions out of it. He turned his attention to politics and soon became a dominant factor in Nebraska. He was given the mission to Brazil in 1892.

George von Lengerke Meyer was born in Boston in 1858. He is a Harvard man, but has had a non-professional career, having been markedly successful as a merchant and promoter of many industrial enterprises. He is a member of the Republican national committee and has served two terms in the state legislature.

Seth Low was born in Brooklyn in 1850 and became an alumnus of Columbia university at the age of twenty. He soon became a partner in his father's tea importing house and in 1881 was elected mayor of Brooklyn on an independent ticket. Mr. Low was president of Columbia from 1890 to 1901 and was afterward elected mayor of New York. He has been the recipient of honorary degrees from many institutions and has been president of numerous scientific bodies.

Henry White was born in Baltimore in 1850. He received part of his educa-



SETH LOW

tion in France and has been secretary of legation at Vienna and at London for many years. At the latter mission he has often acted as charge d'affaires. He is one of the most accomplished diplomats in the American foreign field.

SAMUEL BRUSH

## ONE OF AMERICA'S FOREMOST SCULPTORS.

James Edward Kelly is one of America's foremost sculptors. His most recent achievement has been the beautiful bronze panel entitled "The Prayer of Washington at Valley Forge." This notable work of art represents the figure of Washington, in the familiar uniform of a Continental officer, kneeling in the attitude of prayer, his eyes lifted heavenward. In the thicket in the background his horse awaits impatiently by his master's coming. The bronze



JAMES EDWARD KELLY

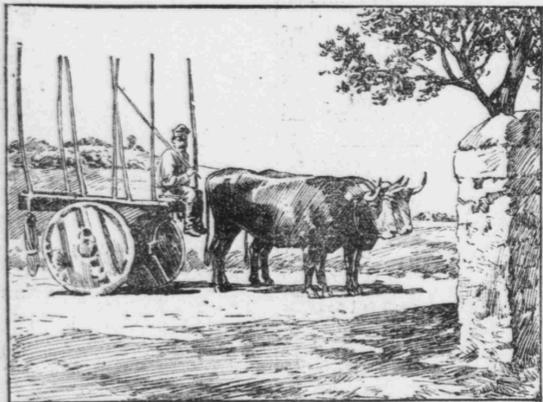
commemorates an actual incident in the life of Washington. Mr. Kelly, a native of New York city and was educated in the public schools. He studied art in the National Academy of Design and began his artistic career as a wood engraver, finding an excellent field in the magazines. When wood engraving was supplanted by the less expensive process illustration Mr. Kelly turned his attention to sculpture and soon made a reputation. He was one of the founders of the Art Students League.

## THE MIKADO A POET.

The most poetic sovereign in the world is probably the emperor of Japan. His love of poetry, it is asserted, increases with years. Scarcely an evening passes that his majesty does not compose from twenty-seven to thirty of the thirty-one syllable couplets called "Wa-ka." These are handed to Baron Takasaki for examination. Baron Takasaki has held his present position since 1892, and he declares that the number of couplets composed by his majesty from that time up to the end of November was 37,000. The emperor also is very fond of writing verses, but her majesty's penmanship is prolific as that of the emperor. She composes about two couplets twice a week.

# UNIQUE PHASES OF LIFE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

A PICTURE PAINTED BY A QUEEN.



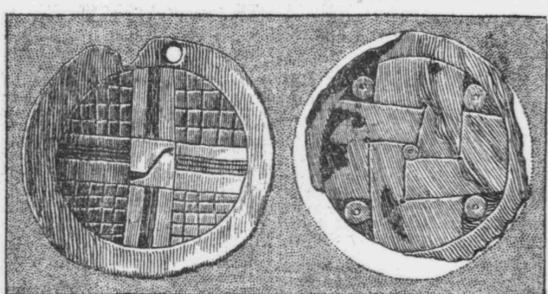
The cut is drawn from a painting recently finished by the queen of Portugal, who is devoted to the brush and palette and is far more proficient in their use than are most amateurs. The picture depicts a scene from peasant life in Portugal and shows a primitive cart with wooden wheels drawn by an ox team. The driver has halted the willing oxen before a roadside shrine in order that he may recite the noonday "Angelus," which he is doing without the formality of removing his goad from his shoulder. The drawing is remarkably correct, and competent critics have pronounced the coloring good enough for a professional artist. The royal artist, Queen Amelia, is also skilled in materia medica and seems to be an unusually talented woman.

TWO ROYAL CARPENTERS.



The cut represents two small boys engaged in the mysteries of carpentering. This of itself would hardly merit reproduction were it not for the fact that these bright looking little chaps are Hapsburgs of the royal house of Austria. They are the sons of Archduke Leopold, and, although they are not particularly near the throne, it is, of course, possible that either of them may some time become the ruler of the Austro-Hungarian empire. In the meantime, however, the lads do not seem to be exercised over the succession. How to shove a jack plane is the limit of one's present ambition and how to drive a nail properly requires the full attention of the other.

AN EXAMPLE OF PREHISTORIC AMERICAN ART.



The illustration shows one of the earliest and best examples of prehistoric American art. These designs are many centuries old and are excellent evidence that the early inhabitants of the continent, whoever they may have been, were not by any means destitute of artistic impulses. These mural tablets, found in the ruins of an ancient temple, bear a certain resemblance to designs known to be of antique Asiatic origin. Antiquarians who insist upon the theory that the original inhabitants of America were of Asiatic stock have been confirmed in their belief by the discovery from time to time of these evidences of an art which is manifestly distinct from all existing Indian remains.

OLD HORSE CARS MADE INTO COTTAGES.



The cut represents a section of Revere Beach, Mass. It is really a suburb at the northern extremity of the town, and is called Streetcarville. A transportation company had some old horse cars on its hands and offered to sell them at the nominal price of \$10 apiece. A colony was formed by some enterprising citizens of small resources who were attracted by the opportunity to secure a residence, even though it were on wheels, for such a paltry sum. In a short time there were over two dozen cars arranged in regular street frontage, every one of which was occupied as a residence. In the course of time the wheels were added to the front platforms and kitchens were attached to the rear. The colony is now so prosperous that it boasts a restaurant, which was also a street car.

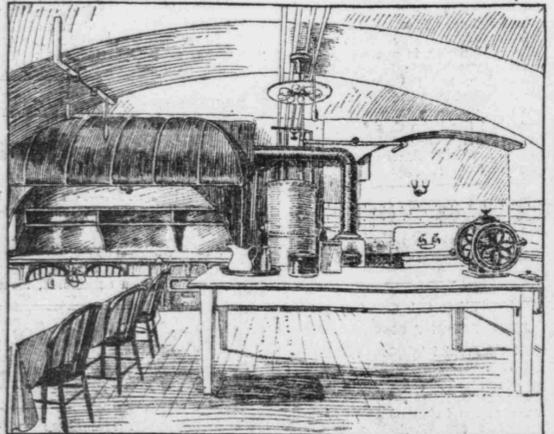
MAINE'S BEARDED GIANTESS.

Mrs. Emma Graves, born at Yarmouth, Me., was one of a pair of twins and at birth weighed but four pounds. Now, at the age of thirty-nine, she tips the scales at 567 pounds, measures twenty-two inches around the muscle of the



arm and five feet eight inches around the waist. At thirteen she weighed 180 pounds, and at the age of sixteen a beard began to develop. She cut it with the shears for awhile and then resorted to shaving. A few years ago she was brought into reduced circumstances by the continued illness of her husband and allowed her beard to grow for exhibition purposes.

MAIN KITCHEN OF THE WHITE HOUSE.



As may be seen from the cut, the principal kitchen of the executive mansion is amply provided with all of the modern contrivances which can in any way contribute to the successful maintenance of such a cuisine as should properly be furnished the chief citizen of such a country as the United States. There is no unnecessary elaboration of the premises, and that makes it easier for everything to be kept immaculately neat. Official entertaining has become such a feature at the White House that it requires a decided genius to conduct the culinary end of it.

A GIANT MAINE LOBSTER.

The lobster shown in the cut is the largest on record. It weighs thirty-seven pounds, and from the tip of the claws to the end of the tail it measures a fraction over forty-five inches. It is seven inches across the back, and the body measures the same in thickness. The claws are fifteen inches in length, and the joints that connect them with



the body are two inches. The large blunt claw measures eight inches from side to side, and when extended the two claws could embrace a fair sized man with more earnestness than he would desire. The feelers are twenty-one inches in length and are the size of a lead pencil at the base and taper to the size of the point of a needle. This mammoth crustacean was taken off the coast of Maine.

SMALLEST AUTOMOBILE IN THE WORLD.



The cut is a representation of what is claimed to be the tiniest fully equipped motor car in the world. It is the property of a little English boy named George Du Cros, who is five years of age and is the youngest motorist in the country. This clever youngster is really a skilled chauffeur, as was shown by his recent participation in a contest at Hastings, England. He had steered his tiny car through a variety of obstacles and stood a fair chance of winning when his father called out to him and so distracted him from the work in hand that he lost his nerve and slowed up. The car is only four feet six inches in length and is fitted with twenty inch wheels. It is of two and a half horsepower, and its speed is from four to fifteen miles an hour.

MIGHT HAVE BEEN A QUEEN.

Princess Louise of Saxony, who is the little daughter, the Princess Marie, is depicted in the cut, has been known recently to a realization of what she is capable of when she is not content with all the court society of Europe by visiting with the tutor of her children, the former husband, the crown prince of



PRINCESS LOUISE AND TUTOR.

Saxony, Frederick Augustus, her father, died of his father succeeded by the Saxon throne. The crown prince's unfortunate escapade will make it impossible for her to share the new dignity for she has been deprived legally of her right to such an elevation and is now in exile under the modest title of the Countess of Montignone. She has received much sympathy from those who could understand her motives.