

THE INDEX.

AZTEC. NEW MEXICO.

The individual who stands still is sure to lose ground.

When a man loses faith in humanity he hits himself a solar-plexus blow.

Beauty is but skin deep, but homeliness measures twelve inches to the foot.

Hobson has kissed a bride in Japan. The young man simply can't resist the temptation.

The name of the new president of France is pronounced as though it were spelled "Lobby."

Gen. Miles is acting in a way that justifies the national honor in regarding him as a bold, hardy man.

If the czar means business why does he not incorporate his disarmament scheme under the laws of New Jersey?

When Senator Billy Mason talks of a Lafayette for the Philippines he forgets that Lafayette was a friend of this country.

"What helped you over the great trials of life?" a successful man was once asked. "The other trials gave me a lift," he answered.

It did not, however, require an official note from Sampson to tell the world that Schley was there during the denazifying of Spain.

A prisoner escaped from the Toledo workhouse and took the bloodhound along with him. That man ought to be at the head of some trust.

Meat is worth \$1 a pound in Manila. This is probably due largely to the fact that most of the Manila butchers have recently gone into the saloon business.

Arthur Balfour is the latest Englishman to hint that John Bull is looking for a partner, preferably a tall man with a goatee and straps to his trousers.

Washington, it may be remarked, was enough of an expansionist to crowd the British invaders off the United States. We need a Washington right now.

One of the dogs entered for the Chicago bench show is the possessor of gold-filled teeth, and therefore has an intrinsic value which will remain even if he doesn't draw a prize.

The Sultan of Sulu is to be offered home rule under the American flag, but he will never be able to realize the full extent of his good luck until he hears from the dime museum managers.

The burdens of taxation laid upon liquor saloons are regarded with equanimity by the average citizen. The decision of the commissioner of internal revenue requiring the payment of a special tax by proprietors of rum saloons who may employ an orchestra to attract customers will be accepted as justifiable and exemplary. The performance is held to be a musical entertainment liable to taxation. A source of misery may be protected by law, but its maintenance ought to be discouraged in all legal ways.

An application has been made by S. I. Hutchins, John E. Patton and other leading colored citizens of Chattanooga, Tenn., for a charter for the National American Colonization Association, the object being to organize branches in the southern states. The association is formed with a view to colonizing negroes in the west and securing from congress a concession to allow the colonies so formed the right of state government and representatives in congress, etc. The plan was organized by S. I. Hutchins, a negro lawyer, who has given the question of "What to do with the negro?" a great deal of study. Hutchins was a circuit judge in North Carolina during the reconstruction days, and it is said of him that he came nearer to giving satisfaction to the whites in his circuit than any negro who ever held a like office. Hutchins gives a reason for his proposed colony that "the people of the United States should be given an opportunity to see whether the negro is capable of governing and holding office." The application for charter says that "it is not fair to judge of the negro's ability to conduct public affairs, to judge him by the failures he has made in office in the south. Given an opportunity when they are altogether dependent upon themselves, the negro will solve the question speedily as to whether he is worthy of citizenship and to be an integral part of the governing people." Hutchins claims that a number of the leading negroes of the south are in sympathy with him in the movement.

At the dedication of an immense convention hall in Kansas City the other afternoon, somebody uttered a loud call for "Fryer," one of the soloists with the Sousa band, which had been engaged for the occasion. The crowd of people present mistook the enthusiastic call for an alarm of fire and it was with great difficulty that a panic was prevented. As our civilization advances and things become systematized it will, no doubt, be necessary even to suppress old and honorable family names in the interests of public safety.

England, Germany and the United States constitute perhaps the greatest trio of nations that could be formed—greatest in power, greatest in wealth and greatest in enlightenment. But it seems impossible for them to get together even when such a little doughnut as Samoa is under consideration.

It is reported that the people on the island of Negro, which belongs to the Philippine group, have accepted American rule. They may prepare to be read out of the Malay party as soon as Aguinaldo hears about it.

JOSEPH H. CHOATE'S NEW AND HARD JOB

For the American Ambassador to England Really Has to Work—He Also Has to Spend More Than His Salary.

[LONDON LETTER.]

One or two bows to the Queen, a public dinner or two, an occasional hobnobbing with Lord Salisbury and an occasional communication to the Secretary of State—that to the minds of many persons is the chief end of the United States Ambassador to the Court of St. James; and they picture Joseph Hodges Choate as crowning his long years of hard work with a nice little period of recreation in London.

And you couldn't get much further from the truth. Mr. Choate has about as hard a job ahead of him as he had when he came to New York to make his fortune, with nothing but a letter from Rufus Choate to William M. Everts as a starter.

More calls are made upon the American Ambassador in London than upon all the other Ambassadors here put together, and a large proportion of these calls he has to attend to in person. The chief reason for this extraordinary demand on his time is that the average American citizen comes along feeling called upon to drop in at the Embassy and see how his country's business is being done there.

The chances are that he is a little homesick and wants to set foot again on American soil. He may not have anything in particular to say, but he just wants to shake hands with the representative of the stars and stripes. And so for five or six months in each year there is a constant succession of callers at the Embassy, whereas the ordinary French or German citizen who happens to be in London would think no more of calling on his Ambassador except on business than one would think of offering to shake hands with Kaiser Wilhelm.

"Busted" Americans. Sad to say, a fair proportion of the visiting Americans have about them, "the outward and visible sign of an inward want of money"—unlucky folk who have received from home checks on some American bank instead of sterling drafts on London which should have been sent, and who want to know if the Ambassador won't please cash those checks; women whose husbands have left them penniless, travelers who haven't even enough money to cable home for funds, and citizens who have been robbed.

Usually the visitor of this sort says he wants to see the Ambassador on business of a private nature, but he rarely gets past the second secretary, for whenever the Ambassador does extend such aid, the money comes out of his own pocket, or the pockets of his friends, and if he contributed even a moderate amount to each applicant for charity he would spend more than his salary twice over every year.

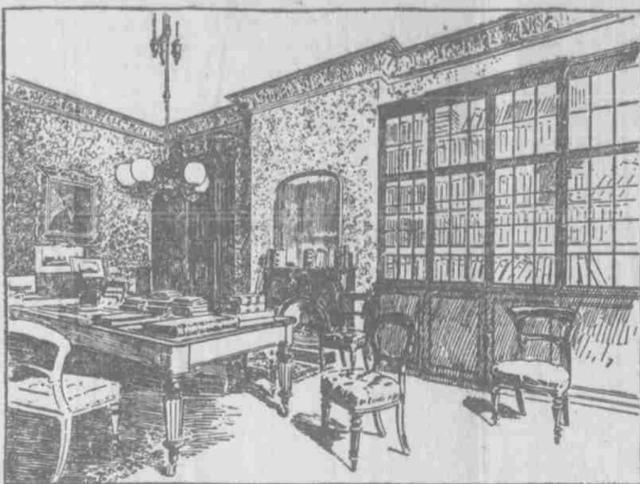
The Ambassador's correspondence is almost overwhelming, and if Mr. Choate follows the rule of the others of every letter addressed to him, and will answer a good many more of them himself than he would if he were at the head of a private firm. It will seem to him on some days that the whole population of the United States has relatives in England who are imprisoned wrongfully, who have run away to join the British army, or who have died in years gone by, and left vast estates of which the correspondent has just heard—and would the Ambassador please step out and attend to the matter?

Requests of the last-named sort usually come from the victims of scoundrels, who make a business of discovering vast estates and wringing money out of imagined heirs across the Atlantic. The nuisance became so great a while ago that the Embassy collected evidence against some of the scoundrels and made an example of them, but the mythical estate and the hungry heirs seem to be about as plentiful as ever. Most of the victims kindly offer the Ambassador a commission on the sums he shall recover for them, but this fact does not add materially to the ailments of the office.

Duty Disasters. As in calls, so in invitations to parties, and all sorts of public bodies, want him, and think the friendship of the two nations is somewhat impaired if he doesn't come. And there is one dinner neglect of which really would cause a breach—that is the dinner all given by the British Foreign Minister on the Queen's birthday. It is also his bounden duty to attend all of the drawing rooms and levees given by the Queen or her royal representatives, and he has to be attended thither by his secretaries and military and naval attaches. Furthermore, a place is always assigned to the Ambassadors at every great public function, where they sit next to the royal family and take precedence of the English dukes. He is not thought particularly good for to be absent from one of these affairs, except for sufficient reason, however much of a bore they may be, for international courtesy has to be dangled everlastingly, like a spoiled child.

legation is that when the thermometer was 10 degrees below zero, before the Nestles were out of bed, Mrs. Marsunek came into the back yard from her own and dashed water against the kitchen door. The water froze. A number of buckets of water are alleged to have been poured on the door until a coating of ice froze the door tight shut. The same thing was done to the front door, the water having been carried out through the alley way. When the Nestles wanted to get into their back yard it was impossible to open the kitchen door. Then the butcher came, and they could not get out the front door. A hatchet was passed out the front window and the ice was chopped away. The kitchen door was opened in the same way.

WHAT LONDON DRINKS. Half as Much Beer as Water is Consumed. Some curious particulars are given in the Home Magazine concerning what London drinks every year. No less



THE RECEPTION ROOM.

than 275,000,000 gallons of water find their way annually down the throats of Londoners. But Londoners don't drink of water only. The beer consumed amounts to 153,000,000 gallons every year—a quantity which is placed in four and one-half gallon casks end to end would make a line long enough to go more than a third of the way round the equator. If this beer were put into a colossal barrel, 100 yards in diameter, the top of our barrel (if cylindrical) would be on a level with the top of Nelson's hat, if the Nelson column were perched on the top of the monument, while 150 lifeguardsmen could not join hands around its base. In fact, our sea of beer would float the entire fleet of the United States, and would allow a distribution of it to every man, woman, and child in the world. Of neat spirits, London demands about 4,000,000 gallons a year, or sufficient bottles (24, 400,000), if placed five feet apart, to throw a spirituous girdle round the earth at the equator. If we add water or aerated waters in the ratio of two to one, who have diluted spirits sufficient to allow ten girls to every man, woman and child in the United Kingdom. But we are still far from exhausting London's drinking capacity. Our tea drinkers are an army of millions, and call for 25,000,000 pounds of tea, which, when reduced to liquid, means something like 1,250,000,000 pints, or nearly a pint for every inhabitant of the world. Our teapot, if properly shaped, would comfortably take in the whole of St. Paul's cathedral, for it contains over 928,000 cubic yards. To convey the coffee for London's yearly consumption would require a train half a mile long for a burden of nearly 1,370 tons; and the canister would be 14 yards in diameter, and as high as the monument. Of aerated waters London drinks 50,000,000 gallons every year.

Success in Literature. The style of a writer is the faithful production of his mind; therefore, if any man wishes to write a clear style, let him first be clear in his thoughts; and if any would write in a noble style, let him first possess a noble soul and live a noble life. Very few of our recent young poets write good prose. This is very easily explained. To write good prose one must have something to say, but he who has nothing to say can still twirl verses and find rhymes, where one word suggests the other, and at last something comes out, which in fact is nothing, but which looks as if it were something.

How England Sees Us. Our British cousins have some queer notions about our customs and manners. Here is a sample, clipped from a recent issue of a London paper: "The Americans, business-like and practical, have reduced present-giving to the minimum of simplicity. On birthdays and other festive occasions the heads of rich families merely hand to each of their relations a slip of paper in which you read 'Good for a hat (or a dress, or any other article the recipient wants), at such and such a place.' This word suggests the other, and there the trouble ends until the bill comes in."

A Town Without Dogs. Pisek, Bohemia, is probably the only dogless town in the world. In consequence of a death from hydrophobia, the authorities ordered every dog in the place killed.

From Her Neighbor's In. Reading (Pa.) Cor. New York Sun: Mrs. Michael Marsunek was taken into custody today by Constable Wise on the charge of freeing in her neighbor, Mrs. John Nestle. The al-



AMBASSADOR'S PRIVATE OFFICE.

legation is that when the thermometer was 10 degrees below zero, before the Nestles were out of bed, Mrs. Marsunek came into the back yard from her own and dashed water against the kitchen door. The water froze. A number of buckets of water are alleged to have been poured on the door until a coating of ice froze the door tight shut. The same thing was done to the front door, the water having been carried out through the alley way. When the Nestles wanted to get into their back yard it was impossible to open the kitchen door. Then the butcher came, and they could not get out the front door. A hatchet was passed out the front window and the ice was chopped away. The kitchen door was opened in the same way.

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SCIENTIFIC TOPICS

CURRENT NOTES OF DISCOVERY AND INVENTION.

Making Old Men Young—Method of Applying Electricity is Said to Have Remarkable Results—Wild Beasts Tamed by Tobacco.

To Lengthen Life.

Dr. Julius Althaus claims to have discovered the philosopher's stone of the physiological world; in other words, he says that by suitable electrical treatment old men can be made middle-aged, and middle-aged men can recover much of the flexibility, strength, and appearance of youth. His panacea is the galvanic current, which he applies to the brain in carefully regulated doses. He maintains that a week or two after the commencement of such a treatment the energy of the system is considerably enhanced.

The old man takes fresh interest in the affairs of daily life and resumes work with some amount of vigor. He can take more exercise, he walks and stands more erectly, and he has a quicker digestion and a healthier sleep. He is no longer a nuisance to his friends, as his peevishness and irritability have given place to an even and contented temper. Not less gratifying to those who are on the downward grade of life is Dr. Althaus' statement in regard to the treatment of the hair. He insists that the growth of the hair is stimulated and even when gray or white it resumes, to a greater or less extent, its former brown or black color. In 100 cases treated the results of 40 per cent were noted as "very good"; in another 30 per cent as "fair"; and in the last 30 per cent as insignificant. Dr. Althaus adds that in no case was the treatment entirely useless, and the function which was improved in every case was that of walking.

Dr. Althaus protests against the treatment being abandoned without a long and patient trial, for the longer it is maintained the better are the general results. He has come to the conclusion that if old people receive, about the sixtieth or sixty-fifth year, or indeed at any time when age has begun decidedly to tell upon them, proper and minutely carried out applications of electricity to the brain, either daily, or every other day, for some time, they may keep the faculties fairly well until the age of 80 or 90, unless the case should be complicated with serious organic disease of the nervous system, or other important organs, such as paralysis, agitations, insular sclerosis, cancer, contracted granular kidney, fatty degeneration of the heart, etc.

The letting loose upon the public of sensational stories as to the marvelous virtues of high tension currents, for instance, in the scouring of the body, and the casting out to the distance of four or five feet of the microbes of the system, which has of late not been infrequently, has created some incredulity in the average mind as to the therapeutic value of electrical treatment, and possibly Dr. Althaus' theories may come in for their share of this distrust.

At the same time, many of the physiological effects of the various kinds of electric current are not yet known, and some discoveries in electro-therapeutic application are now being made by a leading scientific worker in this country which are not in any degree less remarkable than the development attributed to Dr. Althaus.

New Egg Tester. For years it has been the custom of marketmen to determine whether eggs are fresh or not by the candle test. They would take the samples into the cellar or some dark closet and allow the light of the candle to shine through them. Thus they could tell the condition of each egg examined. No simpler test could be devised, but the method of applying it was crude and old-fashioned. Several electrical devices have been invented for the purpose, but they involve too many extra expenses for the marketman.

A simple lamp for "candleing" eggs has just been patented which enables a dealer to make the tests in any subdued light. An ordinary kerosene-burning lamp, backed by a strong reflector, furnishes the rays. The front of the lamp is shielded by an upright of black japanned tin, supplied with a broad, stubby spout, into the end of which the egg is laid. The light of

the lamp is concentrated through that spout and the egg becomes almost transparent.

Famed by Tobacco. We have all heard the old wheeze of taming a lion or tiger by steadily keeping your eye fixed on him. According to one of the keepers at Barnum's a more effective method is a cigar or cigarette.

"Nearly every wild beast that I have ever come across," said this official to the writer the other day, "is fond of tobacco in some shape or form. I made this discovery quite accidentally. One, when I was in America with this show, one of the visitors who was smoking a cigar puffed some of the smoke into the lion's face as he lay asleep in the cage. I expected to see a red riot, but instead of that the lion, after giving a couple of sneezes, moved quietly up to the bars and raised his nose sniffingly as if asking for a second dose. I have tried the experiment

on all sorts of wild animals since, and I have found that most of them enjoy thoroughly a big snuff of tobacco. We had a bear here once that used to rub his nose and back against the bars of his cage, just like a cat asking to be stroked, whenever any one smoking a cigar came near him. Antelopes and wild goats aren't satisfied with the mere whiff. If you give them a cigar or cigarette they will swallow it eagerly, and, what is more, seem to suffer no bad effects from their meal."

Convenient Clothes-Driers. You need not have a back yard; neither will you need to mount to the roof to hang out your week's wash if you provide yourself with one of these convenient clothes-driers, which may be used indoors or out. It may be suspended outside a window, where it will easily take any ordinary wash. These driers weigh, according to their size, two, four or six pounds, carrying, respectively, twenty, forty and sixty feet of line.

Cocoa in Samoa. According to a British foreign office report (quoted in the Board of Trade Journal for January, 1899), it appears that a potential commercial feature has at length arisen for the Samoa group, after years of depression, owing to the fall in price of cocoa, and the apparent unsuitability of the climate for other cultivations, such as rice, sugar, tea, or cotton.

Small capitalists (\$2,500 to 10,000) going to Samoa and purchasing or leasing land for the purpose of cocoa planting, would stand a good chance of making a fair income after the first three or four years, provided they possess a practical knowledge of tropical planting or will take advice from those in Samoa who have experience in the matter. The number of small plantations is rapidly increasing, and it is estimated that 75 acres are now planted with cocoa trees. The tree is robust and hardy, growing luxuriantly in Samoa, and yielding abundant crops after trifling cultivation. The quality is considered good, the price varying, according to reports from Hamburg, San Francisco, and Sydney, between \$296 and \$330 per ton. A small plantation of six acres holds about 1,200 trees, and these in the third year produce some 140,000 pods; and it is apparent that, even with the liberal allowance of 15 pods to the pound of marketable bean, each tree would produce from six to eight pounds of prepared cocoa bean per annum. The trees are in full yield after the fifth year, and there is apparently no age limit to their bearing.

The cost of land near Apia, continues the British consular, is from \$7 to \$14 per acre if purchased from white, and from \$1 to \$2 per acre if leased from the natives on a 20 or 40 years' lease. The soil is rocky and volcanic. Although labor in large masses is practically unobtainable and the native Samoan is by no means energetic, sufficient floating labor for small plantations is to be had. The price is from \$5 to \$8 per month for a laborer, his food costing about \$4 per month. One man ought to look after six acres of well-grown cocoa in the dry season, but two are required during the wet season—from December to May.

Wages in Mexico. The scarcity of labor all over the republic is becoming a serious question to the railroad companies that are building new lines and extending old ones, and the contractors are getting very anxious, as there is no relief in sight. All the roads in the republic are complaining of the scarcity of labor, and one or two have been compelled to stop work completely, as they had no men to go on with construction. The International is feeling the scarcity in a marked degree, and work on their branch to Monterrey is being greatly delayed. The National is also experiencing difficulty in securing men on its Uruppan extension, and the Central cannot get enough men for its Tampico division, which is undergoing extensive repairs and betterments. The average amount per day paid for men is 75 cents, though in a number of places \$1 per day is offered and paid whenever men can be gotten to accept the price. The rate can be appreciated when it is known that any number of men can be got to work on farms and haciendas at 25 cents per day, and the same men will not work on a railroad for less than \$1 per day. The reason is that in the latter position they are required to work hard and steady—Mexican Financier.

The Power of a Cyclone. Careful estimates of the force of a cyclone and the energy required to keep a full fledged hurricane in active operation reveal the presence of a power that may appear as nothing in comparison with the force of a four horse-drawn and seventy-three million horsepower was estimated as developed in a West Indian cyclone. This is about fifteen times the power that is creatable by all means within the range of man's capabilities during the same time. Were steam, water, windmills and the strength of all men and all animals combined they could not at all approach the tremendous force exerted by this terrible storm.

"Out of Sight Out of Mind." In other months we forget the harsh winds of Spring. But they have their use, as some say, to blow out the bad air accumulated after Winter storms and Spring thaws. There is far more important accumulation of badness in the veins and arteries of humanity, which needs Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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Kidneys—My kidneys troubled me, and on advice I took Hood's Sarsaparilla, which gave prompt relief, better appetite. My sleep is refreshing. It cured my wife also." MICHAEL BOYLE, 3475 Denny Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dyspepsia—"Complicated with liver and kidney trouble, I suffered for years with dyspepsia, with severe pains. Hood's Sarsaparilla made me strong and healthy." J. B. KESTRON, Main Street, Auburn, Me.

Hip Disease—"Five running sores on my hip caused me to use crutches. Was confined to bed every winter. Hood's Sarsaparilla saved my life, as it cured me perfectly. Am strong and well." ANNE HOSKIN, 40 Fourth St., Fall River, Mass.

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