

IN THE REAL WEST.

Old Theatrical Man Tells of Conditions Years Ago.

"In my younger days," remarked "Jack" Flaherty, "I was directing the destinies of a small troupe of trained amateurs through the West. And when I say West I do not mean Ohio. I mean I was so far West that Denver was regarded as an effete Eastern city.

"The stores out there are more versatile than any comedian who ever played Hamlet at a matinee, Uncle



Tom at night, and doubled in brass' in an intervening parade. You simply could not feaze the proprietor of a store by asking for unexpected articles. Hardware, groceries, ammunition, patent medicines, boots and shoes, dry goods, mining implements, toilet articles — all these were the stock in trade of the merchants.

In one little Arizona town I was in the leading store, when a solemn man entered and said: 'Have you got any crackers?'

"The proprietor of the store answered: 'Sure thing! What kind do you want—whip, fire, or soup?'" — New York Times.

A Wonderful Tree.

Most people have heard of the polyp, that wonderful marine animal which, cut into a thousand pieces, grows into a thousand new animals. The same thing is true of the polyp tree, a species of cereus, which is abundant in Paraguay. The minutest piece of this tree, cut from whatever part, grows into a new plant. It is not necessary to plant it; all you have to do is to throw it on the ground, when it will strike root of its own accord. These plants, with their relatives, the cacti, have the remarkable habit of deriving their sustenance entirely from the rain and the atmosphere, for they will grow and thrive in clefts in the naked rock where there is not a particle of earth matter. Their succulent stems are full of a viscous matter which makes an excellent glue. Ridding a garden of the weird tree would probably be a difficult business.

A Remarkable Operation.

The left arm of Thomas Shay, Jr., which had been shattered with bird-shot, was saved by forcing the impoverished limb into his stomach for nourishment.

The operation ranks among the most skillful surgical feats performed at the New Orleans Charity Hospital. By nourishing the arm in the abdominal region the torn ligaments became reunited, a complete new skin grew, and after the parts had grown sufficiently the arm was removed from the stomach almost intact.

The operation obviated the necessity of amputation, and soon Shay will be able to use the arm.—New Orleans correspondence Philadelphia Press.

Spanish Professional Beggars.

There are 190,227 professional beggars in Spain. In some of the cities beggars are licensed to carry on their trade. Seeking alms is recognized as legitimate business, and the municipality demands a percentage upon the collections. Seville is the only city in the kingdom which forbids begging in the streets.

my brother twelve years ago." The pickpocket was secured, tried and condemned. The evidence showed that immediately after the murder he had enlisted and gone to India. He had but just landed in Liverpool when he went into the public house, and his first act in that city was to attempt to rob the brother of the man whom so long before he had killed.

PLOWS WITH MOOSE TEAM.

American in Alaska Profits by Ingenious Idea.

It is claimed by the Chicago Record-Herald that "Jack" McQuestion, who runs a farm at Forty Mile on the Yukon river in Alaska, has the most remarkable farm team on the American continent. It is a pair of four-year-old moose, captured while young, broken to the harness and trained to serve as draft animals. McQuestion was an early stamper in the Klondike, but he did not succeed in locating any valuable claims, and the high price of farm and garden produce in the country induced him to abandon prospecting and take to farming instead. So he located on the Yukon river in American territory and the first season raised a good crop of garden truck which brought him fancy prices. But he was considerably handicapped in his operations by not having any horses or other farm animals. He had heard that moose could be successfully tamed, so in the following spring he took to the hills and captured a pair of moose calves. When the calves were a year old they were quite tame, and he succeeded in getting them to work in harness, first singly and then together. That year he did some work with them, increasing the amount from year to year as they grew older, until now he has in them a valuable pair of farm animals. They are as strong as cattle and much more active, as well as more controllable.

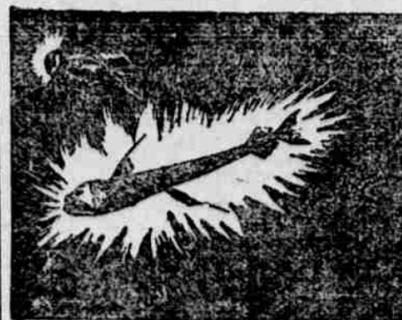
A Tibetan Monastery.

Nagar-tse Joig, in Tibet, is situated on the shores of Yamdok-tso, or Scorpion lake. On the summit of a conical hill stand Samding monastery, a well-known establishment, of both monks and nuns, presided over by a great abbess, the incarnation of the Goddess Dorje Phagmo. The hill on which the monastic buildings stand is ascended by numerous stone steps, now in a dilapidated condition. From the top there is a striking view, not only of the great lake and its mountainous peninsula, but also of a gloomy inner lake just below the southern cliff, known as the Dudmo-tso, or Female Demon lake. The abbess is a great lady and the only female in Tibet allowed to be carried in a Sedan chair. When she dies she is succeeded by a female infant in whom she is supposed to live again. The reincarnation of the goddess-abbess is now a child of 7 years of age.

To Avoid Seasickness.

Regarding seasickness a traveler says: "Before sailing it is just as well for a man not to take too many farewell dinners and not to start out 'with a head on him.' One of the worst cases of seasickness I ever saw was accumulated by a man who had never been seasick before and had sailed all over the world. But he was sailing from Honolulu and the day before had been to a farewell 'luau,' where he had eaten poi and raw fish, mixed with a great deal of frapped champagne. His friends came down to see him off and hung many floral leis about his neck. They also poured more champagne into his neck. As a result the acute case of seasickness which he developed alarmed even the ship's surgeon."

Born to Shine.



Neither Chauliodus nor Medusa needs to drink "fluorescin." They were born with an "inner light of their own."

BOOK PLATE OF INTEREST.

Issued in New York by Society of Colonial Wars.

Credit must be given to the Society of Colonial Wars in the state of New York and not to the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the state of New York for being the first patriotic society to issue a book plate to be placed in the volumes of its library. The accompanying print is made from an original book plate of the Society of Colonial Wars. This artistic book plate was adopted in 1898, and it bears an honored place in a large



number of volumes that have been collected since that time by the society. The seal of the society naturally occupies the central place, the predominating feature of the seal, however, being the early seal of New York state, showing the beaver on the larger part of the shield, surmounted by the royal crown.

So far as is known, these two book plates are the only ones designed for and in actual use by the numerous patriotic or hereditary societies that have multiplied so rapidly within recent years. In view of the fact that some of the larger societies, as the Sons of the Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution, possess comfortable libraries, it is quite possible that the desire to possess distinctive book plates may result in several additions to the list of book plates already extant, thereby enlarging the field for the patient collector of these library plate marks.

Joseph's Well.

At Dothan, in upper Palestine, is a pool which has refreshed the traveler for centuries. It is the well of Joseph. Its environs form a dreary enough prospect—above it a low, insignificant hill, upon whose summit cluster a few miserable mud huts, and at the base is the sordid anachronism of a puffing steam mill, while away from it stretches in all directions the faint-toned, almost hueless, expanse of the Syrian landscape, long reaches of palest blue and gray and yellow, with only an occasional blotch of brilliant color in the foreground. Dreary and waste, and sad, indeed, is the scene to the eyes of the flesh; but, to the eyes of the spirit, that squat, bald hill becomes a veritable Mount of Visions—visions a thousand times more real and vivid than the spectacle of mud huts and steam mill, and rocky wastes.—N. W. Woodrow, in the Metropolitan.

Canceled Draft Came Back.

Last spring during high water E. A. Davis of Bethel, Vt., had a general cleaning out at the bank and dumped several barrels of old papers, among them being a batch of canceled Boston drafts, into the Connecticut river. In early April Frank Ladue went fishing in Lynn harbor. On his return he noticed a piece of paper near the shore. He poked it with his ear and saw the name of E. A. Davis on it. Knowing Mr. Davis, he was interested, and examining the paper, found that it was a Boston draft. He sent the paper back to Mr. Davis, who states positively that it was one of the canceled drafts that he had dumped in the river.

ABODE OF ETERNAL SILENCE.

Frightful Conditions Existing in Prison of Portugal.

Entombed in a grim castle on the outskirts of Lisbon are some of the most miserable men on earth. These are the inmates of Portugal's deadly prisons of silence. In this building everything that human ingenuity can suggest to render the lives of its prisoners a horrible, maddening torture is done. The corridors, piled tier on tier five stories high, extend from a common center like the spokes of a huge wheel. The cells are narrow—tomb-like—and within each stands a coffin. The prison garb is a shroud. The attendants creep about in felt slippers. No one is allowed to utter a word. The silence is that of the grave. Once a day the cell doors are unlocked, and the half a thousand wretches march out, clothed in shrouds and with faces covered with masks, for it is a part of this hideous punishment that none may look upon the countenances of his fellow-prisoners. Few of them endure this torture for more than ten years.

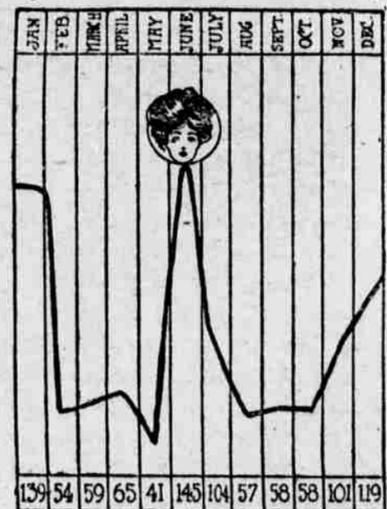
COW ADOPTS A COLT.

Watches With Equal Care Over It and Her Own Calf.

A cow owned by John Heffernan, who has a small farm near Danbury, Conn., has adopted a colt a few days old and is bringing it up along with a calf of about the same age. The mother of the colt, which was a valuable brood mare, fell a few days ago and broken one of its legs, with the result that it was necessary to shoot it.

The expedient of bringing the colt up on a bottle was adopted, but the little animal did not take kindly to this means of livelihood. Mr. Heffernan found the colt following one of his cows contentedly about the pasture lot with a calf, which is of its own age. The cow watched over the two with impartial motherliness and suckled them both when they notified her in their own way that they were hungry.

The Month of Roses.



The favorite month for weddings is June.

Old Jug Repaired a Church.

A church-warden of West Malling, Kent, (Eng.) parish church discovered in a lumber-room some time ago a peculiarly-shaped jug, which was subsequently identified as a rare old Elizabethan stoup. An offer of \$125 for it was refused, and the church authorities decided to send it to Christie's, where it was sold for \$5,700. With the proceeds the authorities have just completed several important improvements in the fine old church. Parts of the fabric have been restored, a new porch has been erected, and the seating accommodation has been greatly improved.

Overtaken by Retribution.

Lord Eldon records a strange coincidence. A man was murdered and his assailant escaped. Twelve years later the brother of the murdered man fell asleep in the bar of a Liverpool public house. He awoke, feeling somebody in the act of picking his pocket. The moment he opened his eyes he exclaimed: "Good God! That man killed