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**GET THEIR TIPS FROM CROOKS**

Bank Officials Take Means to Protect Their Treasure from Thieves.

It is said by a police official at city hall headquarters that some of the city banks, whose hoard of surplus cash has been increasing largely of late, have been experimenting with an expedient long in use by the Bank of England officials of paying known crooks for information of any contemplated raid upon their vaults. The Bank of England's first experiment of this kind dates from 1850, when the directors of the bank listened to a startling proposition made by a "ditch digger." The laborer told the directors that he had discovered a new and unsuspected method of getting into the cellar vaults, where the gold and silver bars were kept, and that he would sell his secret to them for money. The directors hesitated, believing that they had taken every precaution against loss from the vaults in putting up heavy masonry, with plenty of iron bars, and by manning the building with armed watchmen. But finally they granted the man, who seemed to talk fairly, a chance to try his plan, and a night was named for the undertaking. At the appointed time a committee of the directors descended to the cellar and heard a peculiar scratching sound under their feet. Two hours later the floor opened and the ditch digger bobbed up serenely, like the evil spirits in the spectacular drama. All around them lay bars of precious metal, totaling in value £3,000,000. The man explained satisfactorily how it was done and as a reward the directors assured him an income from life on an investment of \$10,000. The crook was content and it is believed he remained honest ever afterward. But other cracksmen were tempted by his luck to try the same game and the directors were inundated with suggestions and tips on new methods of burglary and how to prevent them. Among other things, they paid \$20,000 for a process, invented by a young chemist, for copying the ink, paper, watermarks and designs of the bank notes so perfectly as to defy detection. The directors found they could use his system more satisfactorily and more profitably than their own in the production of their currency. Despite the fact that these expenditures have run up into big figures in the last half century the directors of today say that all the money was well invested.

**OYSTER FISHING IN FUTURE.**

Submarine Boats Will Make the Bivalve More Accessible.

The submarine boat will revolutionize the oyster industry. When in Chesapeake bay cruising the old Argonaut frequently settled down on oyster beds and, with the permission of the owners, procured all the oysters desired by reaching down through the sea door. The new Argonaut can employ this method of gathering oysters, rising to the surface when her diving-room is full, or send out divers, who can place the oysters collected in buckets or receptacles, which those on the surface can haul up. When bays and rivers are frozen over and oystermen cannot ply their trade the Argonaut can go under the ice. Fishing can also be carried on easily on the bottom with nets, for the fish have no fear of the object they evidently consider a whale, and swim from every direction toward the glare of the electric lights shining through the ports. Sponge fishing will engage the attention of the first successful submarine voyagers. Good sponges are becoming dearer, for the supply in shallow water is running short. The divers cannot go deeper than twenty-five feet, and the best sponges are found in deep water. To this deep water the Argonaut will go and, gathering the finest sponges, put them on the market at a price no greater than that paid for the common varieties. She will also try pearl fishing, now conducted at an enormous expense of life, for by a strange freak of nature pearl oysters are generally found in localities where bad weather prevails and hurricanes and typhoons are frequent. These the Argonaut, under the water, need not fear, and her divers, instead of gathering up the oysters by the single handful, can gather them by the bushel.—Lippincott's.

**RHEUMATISM CATARRH ARE BLOOD DISEASES—FREE!**

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**A Refused Income.**

The Italian government, for twenty-seven years, has guaranteed to the pope an annual income of about £150,000, which he has steadily refused to accept. The arrears of this annuity amount now to over £4,000,000.

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**PRICES FOR SKELETONS.**

Latest Quotations from the European Markets for Teeth.

Pauper Europe has caused an outcry from a new line of American industry, says the Philadelphia Times. American articulators of skeletons are up in arms against the importation of the pauper skeletons of Europe. Native bones, in consequence of recent importations, are quiet and depressed, while the demand is for the products of the French and German markets. First-class American skeletons are a drug in the market at \$8@12.50, while the Gallic or Teutonic article, not one whit more serviceable, brings a fancy price. A recent Frenchman, who happened to depart this life with a full set of teeth, is offered at \$35, ordinarily imported skeletons going from \$20 to \$27.50, according to the number of teeth they were shy. Purchasers cannot be fooled by false teeth. The only superiority in the foreign article is in the matter of complexion. Frenchmen and Germans who have shed all of themselves except their bones bleach better, or their survivors are able to bleach them better. In the matter of articulation the American workman is perhaps the superior of the European artist, but he cannot get in the tints and the refreshing shades of complexion so much admired by skeleton experts, or those who desire such articles for household ornamentation. Skulls are \$2.50@3.25, varying according to size and the skill displayed in preparation. A skull that was prepared for the market with a brick is not in as much favor as one that found its way in by the natural channels. The demand for pelvises is light, at \$1.40@2.65; tibia, in slight call at 45@55c. Feet articulated are quoted: Lefts, \$2@2.75; rights, \$2.10@2.85; west sides (by weight only), \$4.30. Hands are slow and generally unsatisfactory at \$1@4.50, although a fancy price, \$68.40, was paid for one recently just before the close of the market, or rather an inspection was secured of it for that sum. Wooden legs are heavy and slow, but continue moving up and down a peg. In teeth it's the same old grind. Full sets are moving up and down at \$3@125; bicuspids, by the brace, are steady at \$2@2.75; molars, dull at 75c @86. Wisdom are dear.

A curious case is reported by a German dentist, Dr. Muhl Kuhner. One of his patients was a woman of 24, whose right arm and right side of the neck had been paralyzed for two years and a half as a result, it was supposed, of a fall and broken arm, and he filed several of her teeth and extracted the much decayed third molar or wisdom tooth of the right side. The patient returned next day to state that her paralysis had disappeared.

**FAMOUS OLD CLOCK.**

That for 510 Years Has Regulated the City of Rouen.

Rouen, one of the principal cities of France, and the great seat of its cotton manufacture, possesses the oldest public clock in the world. The great Rouen clock has held its place in that city for 510 years and is the pride of its citizens. Placed in 1389, it has been running without interruption from that day to this, requiring nothing except cleaning and a few trifling repairs of its accessory parts. The great clock had so accustomed the citizens of Rouen to look upon its exactitude as a matter of course, that when, in 1572, the breaking of a wire prevented its sounding 5 o'clock one morning, the population was in a state of consternation. The magistrates summoned the custodian—Guillaume Petit—and remonstrated gravely with him. Until 1712 the great clock had no pendulum. For 323 years it had no other regulator than a "foliot," an apparatus unknown to the majority of modern clockmakers. The pendulum in clockwork was introduced in 1659, but so well satisfied were the people of Rouen with the time-keeping qualities of their famous old clock that 53 years were allowed to pass before a pendulum was substituted for the "foliot." Equipped with this new apparatus it has continued to this day to strike the hours and chime the quarters.

**MANY WEEDS GOOD TO EAT.**

Certain Kinds Are Often Used for Food by Families.

Go out on any farm and see the farmer hoeing away at the weeds that threaten to choke his crop. You may hear him say things that wouldn't sound nice about the weeds. The dandelion isn't the only weed eaten by people who know what's good to eat. Take wild chicory, the plague of the farmer. It makes one of the finest salads served, piquant, tender and wholesome. Charlock or wild mustard is another bane of the farmer. He doesn't know that as a pot herb it can give a soup a delightful flavor. The dock-weeds—how annoying the whole family are! Yet the broad leaf variety and the curly leaf are used all over Europe as table vegetables. There's pokeweed, commonest of all. In France it is cultivated. It takes its place. Sorrel, fetteric and chevril are looked on as a flavoring for soup. Everybody in American hates a nettle and can't see what use it is. In Scotland Poland and Germany tender young nettle leaves are used as greens. The Germans boil them with other vegetables to give them a piquant flavor. Purslane is another weed that can be treated in the same way. Most people think milkweed poisonous. It is a medicinal vegetable, with a delightful flavor all its own. The young leaves, when they are in just the right condition, are a cross between spinach and asparagus, and in a salad are delicious. Sorrel, fetteric and chevril are looked on as field pests by ninety-nine out of every hundred farmers. The hundredth one picks the choicest leaves from these weeds and sends them to market, where they find a ready sale for salads to be eaten with game and for flavoring herbs—for herbs they are, and not weeds.—New York World.

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