

SAMUEL AYMAR'S DEFALCATION

His Counsel Charges the Firm With Having Broken Faith.

NEW YORK, April 22.—Samuel E. Aymar, the defunct clerk of the Shos and Leather National bank, who was arrested on a warrant charging him with the theft of \$50,000 during a period covering 20 years, was arraigned in the Tombs police court before Judge Voorhis and remanded to police headquarters.

Mr. Angel said the bank officials had broken faith with him. He said that on last Monday Aymar came to him of his own free will and told him that he had robbed the bank of \$50,000. Aymar, said the lawyer, was for going at once to United States Commissioner Shields and giving himself up.

"I advised him not to do so, but that I would go to the bank officials and tell them about it. I went and saw President John M. (name and said to him what Aymar had told me. I also saw Vice President Hillier. They assured me that they would not cause the arrest of Aymar immediately, but would look into the matter and would notify me before the arrest was made. Instead of doing this President Crane went immediately and secured a warrant and had Aymar arrested without letting me know a thing about it. I suppose they thought Aymar would run away and that the bond would have to be forfeited."

Embodied Big Money.

CHICAGO, April 22.—George C. Lowell, for the past three years confidential man and bookkeeper for the real estate firm of Meade & Co., is in the custody of officers of the American Surety company, charged with embezzlement. The shortage was discovered Friday. A detective agency was notified and Lowell taken in charge. Meade & Co. place the amount at \$18,000, while Lowell is alleged to have confessed he embezzled \$58,000. Lowell possessed the implicit confidence of his employers and had full control of the finances of the concern.

CHINKS IN COFFINS.

Sharp Method of Smuggling Uncarried by Customs Officials.

MONTREAL, April 22.—A novel mode of smuggling has just been brought to light by the shrewd work of the United States customs officials in this city.

About a year ago an organized gang of smugglers were frightened off by the same officials, their chief point of operation being Richmond, Vt.

Not to be outwitted, the leaders of the gang put their heads together and last month devised another means of getting the Celestials across the line.

This time the wily Chinamen were consigned to rude coffins with concealed air holes and with the aid of forged death certificates, were safely shipped from St. John, N. B., to Vancouver, B. C., where the supposed corpses would be claimed by one of the smugglers.

After staying in hiding for several days the "corpses," attired as a female, would be spirited away under cover of night and before morning dawned the "corpses" were safely landed either in Boston, Springfield or New York.

BALD BREAKS A RECORD.

The Fast Buffalo Cyclist Rides Two Miles in 4:15.1-5.

SAN JOSE, Cal., April 21.—San Jose has justified her claim that she has the fastest track in the world. The city celebrated the opening of the Garden City cyclists' new 8-lap cement track in good style. Not less than 4,000 people were present, among them wheelmen from all over the state.

Eddie Bird of Buffalo again demonstrated that he is a champion bicyclist in the way he won the 10-mile scratch, class B.

It was a race from the crack of the starter's gun until Bird passed the tape with another world's record to his credit—4:15.1 for two miles, the former record being 4:21.3 made by Zwiggler in Denver.

Held took the lead for the first mile. On the second mile Edwards took the lead, with Foster second and the others close.

Mrs. Parnell's Condition Critical.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., April 22.—Mrs. Parnell passed a good night and seemed brighter in the morning but as the day advanced she grew weaker. She recognized her Shipp and shook hands with Mrs. Casey and a daughter of Farmer John Casey. It is doubtful, however, whether she will survive the shock of the assault. No sign has yet developed to throw any light upon the case, although the detectives are still at work. The theory that the crime was committed by tramps is not believed. George R. Cavanaugh, who was arrested with another tramp named Patrick Ragon on the Ironsides property, was released after Justice Steel had questioned them concerning the affair.

Mrs. Parnell's Life Despaired Of.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., April 24.—The condition of Mrs. Parnell is most critical. The convulsions continued throughout the day and at night Mrs. Parnell was so much worse that the physicians in attendance despaired of her life. They say now that they have little if any hope of her ultimate recovery, but that they would not be surprised if she did not live through the night.

Secretary Morton Amused.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Secretary Morton appeared greatly amused at some of the sensational stories printed in some of the Eastern papers alleging a quarrel between the president and himself growing out of his interview on the money question, which led to the president's denial of his connection with it. "I was never on better terms with the president in my life," said Secretary Morton.

Funeral of James W. Scott.

CHICAGO, April 19.—The funeral services of the late James W. Scott, proprietor of the Chicago Evening Post and Times-Herald, were held in St. James' Episcopal church. The funeral was one of the largest in attendance ever held in Chicago, the streets in the vicinity of the church being thronged long before the hour set for service arrived. The burial at Graceland cemetery was private.

Carl Browne Gets a Scolding.

MARILLON, O., April 24.—Carl Browne, the commonwealer, refused to testify against Policeman Seaman and Councilman Grazi, whom he had charged with riotous conduct a few days ago. Other witnesses excoriated them and they were discharged. Browne was roundly scolded.

Wealthy Citizen Murdered.

MIDDLETOWN, N. Y., April 23.—Daniel Sanders, aged 80, a wealthy resident of Youngville, Sullivan county, was found dead with a bullet hole in his head. He lived alone, and in the absence of any weapon, is believed to have been murdered.

THE EXPRESSIVE HUMAN HAND.

Strength of the Fingers is an Index to Mental Balance.

Much has been written about the hand. Artists have depicted its perfection, physiologists have interpreted its shape and expression, chirologists and the kypsy queens have tried to prophesy from its markings. But a study of its peculiarities by the inductive method takes one into entirely new fields and shows that to interpret the significance of the hand one must start on quite new lines. There is something new in the fact that the artist's hand has somewhat tapering fingers, but beyond this one deals with uncertainties, and I recollect an idiot youth whose extremities had the contour of a genius or a tribby.

If one examines the hands of a large number of persons with a nervous endowment, he will find curious defects in the length and relative proportions of the fingers. The length of the finger is determined by that of the middle one. If the index and medius are closed upon the palm, the ring and little finger being left extended, the middle finger will reach close to the place where the so-called life line runs down, between the ball of the thumb and that of the little finger. It will touch the palm just below the highest part of the ball of the thumb. The middle finger is taken as the standard of length by which to gauge that of others. In a normal hand the forefinger reaches just to the root of the middle finger, the ring finger is longer and should reach nearly to the middle of the nail of the medius, while the little finger should reach to the last joint of the third finger. Now, in idiots, epileptics, neurotics and, the degenerative generally these proportions are often not observed. The most common defect is shortness, especially of the third and little fingers, though sometimes a disproportionate length occurs. Sometimes these fingers are unnaturally slender, or the little finger is slightly bent. The most common abnormality of the thumb is excessive shortness, with a defective mobility. These peculiarities, well accentuated, from what we may call the "decadent hand"—the hand that writes our sensational novels, the Hauptmann drama, painterly pictures and exploits pure atheism. Such hands may be well formed to the ordinary eye and may be attached to slender and graceful limbs, but this kind of beautiful hand and arm is found quite as often among the children of alcoholics and among those highly cultivated families which have become degenerated by vicious vices and vicious crossing.—Medical Record.

A Unique Coat of Arms.

There was one Philadelphian who not only invented arms for himself, but new and republican arms, after discarding the ancestral arms of his family. This was Peter Brown, at one time an eminent citizen of Philadelphia.

In 1794 William Priest, an English musician, became attached to the theater in Philadelphia in his professional capacity. In 1803 Mr. Priest printed in London a book entitled "Priest's Travels in the United States," which is now exceedingly rare. The frontispiece to this book is a strange and curious design, entitled "Peter Brown's Arms." In explanation of this frontispiece Mr. Priest says: "Peter Brown, a blacksmith of this city, having made his fortune, set up his coach, but so far from being ashamed of the means by which he acquired his riches, he caused a large anvil to be painted on each side of his carriage, with two pairs of naked arms in the act of striking. The motto, 'By this I got ye.'"

What a Blessing Is Education!

These are some answers to examination questions given in an eighth grade school not a thousand miles from Chicago:

"Liberia was established in 1822 as a colony for aspirated negroes."

"Nine-tenths of all the plants not found in any other part of the world are found in Australia."

"Salem Witchcraft was neither a soldier nor a sailor, but he discovered some cities."—Great Divide.

WARSHIPS AT NICARAGUA.

Great Britain About to Enforce Her Recent Demands.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The Nicaraguan minister here has received a cable from his government announcing the arrival at Corinto, Nicaragua, of two British warships with the expressed purpose of enforcing the demands contained in the British ultimatum.

Just how this is to be done the minister was not informed. The indications now are that Nicaragua will offer a passive resistance to the British demands for some time at least, and meanwhile the United States will do nothing but await the development of events unless the British take some action that affects our purely selfish interests, such as interfering with our shipping or other interests of American citizens.

This attitude is assumed in the full confidence that no attempt will be made by the British to secure any Nicaraguan territory, no matter what course she may be obliged to pursue to accomplish her purpose of settling the smart money demanded for the expulsion of Vice Consul Hatch.

Convicted Out of Their Own Mouths. WASHINGTON, April 24.—Secretary Morton, when shown the resolutions adopted by the St. Louis Live Stock exchange deprecating the "agitation" about the alleged packer's combine and attributing the reduction in the price of live cattle of 1 per cent per pound in the last two weeks to such agitation, said that the very statement of the St. Louis Live Stock exchange would lead to the belief that the alleged combine among the dressed beef concerns existed.

Buchanan Gets a Respite.

ALBANY, April 24.—The tears and pleadings of Mrs. Buchanan have prevailed and Governor Morton decided to grant a respite of one week to Dr. Robert Buchanan, the convicted wife murderer now awaiting execution at Sing Sing. A respite will not be necessary and he will be electrocuted Wednesday, May 1.

DON'T TUB TOO MUCH.

Professor Checkly Advises the Idea That It Is Injurious.

"Bathing and the use of soap," says Professor Checkly, "is 40 per cent more injurious to the human race than any other form of stimulation to which people are addicted. If I should bathe a man in proportion as much as he drank, I'd kill him in one-half the time. This is called the age of hurry and feverish excitement; critics complain that people are unwilling to take time for anything. As a matter of fact, hours of precious time are wasted each day in the bathroom. If men would preserve their health, there are three things they must do—first, leave soap alone; second, get the skin loose from the tissues of the body; third, get rid of the idea that regularity in the matter of sleep and meals is necessary to physical well being."

"What are the objections to the use of soap?" asked a reporter to whom the professor's original views were a revelation.

"There are several objections," was the reply. "The skin, it is acknowledged, bears a most important relation to the body. First, it acts as a protective agent, covering the sensitive tissues of the flesh. Second, it acts as the agent of the mind, conveying all sensations of heat, cold, friction and the like. Third, it directly adds all the other organs of the body, taking up the work of each in turn when for any reason they become unable to perform their functions. The skin assists all the organs of secretion and excretion in the entire system, and for that reason great attention should be paid to keeping it in a healthy condition. Although realizing its important functions, people, instead of protecting this wonderful covering of theirs, try by every means in their power to destroy it. Soap does not cleanse the skin. When the skin is dirty, it is unhealthy, and the organs within the body can never be cleansed by all the soap in the world. The only stains, blotches, etc., on the surface of the skin that people need to get rid of cannot be removed by soap. Some other chemical ointment or fluid has to be resorted to to obliterate them. As far as regards the dust and dirt which naturally adhere to the body, dust and dirt, being earthly and material, are much better brushed off than washed off, and soap does not aid in the process."—Philadelphia Press.

MUTILATION OF DOGS.

Ear and Tail Cropping and the Operation Known as "Worming."

The fashionable mutilations to which the dog has been subjected are three in number—ear and tail cropping, and the strange operation known as "worming." Though the law prohibits the performance of the operations which lead to these mutilations, yet at least two of them are still carried out surreptitiously, and the third, "worming," may also be practiced. At any rate I have seen it done in my young days. It and the tail cropping can boast of a venerable antiquity, and they also had their raison d'être in a superstitious belief in their efficacy in preventing madness or rabies. So long as the time of Columella, the Roman writer on agriculture, the mutilation of the dog's tail was a popular and favorite procedure. As he tells us in his "De Re Rustica" that the shepherds believe that if, on the fortieth day after the birth of a pup, the last bone of its tail were bitten off, the sinew (believed to be a worm) would follow the piece, after this the tail would not grow and the dog would not become rabid.

This superstitious notion has prevailed for ages, and may still be entertained in certain quarters. However this may be, the fashion of removing a portion of the tail of many breeds of dogs is quite common, and if it is done with a view to the prevention of madness, it is at any rate considered most desirable for these animals to have a short, blunt tail, because it improves their appearance. Some dogs have scarcely any tail left. I have seen grooms and dog fanciers bite off puppies' tails as a matter of business, and some of these people have shown me a fragment of sinew attached to the amputated portion as the "worm in the tail."

It should be noted, in speaking of this fashion, that a mongrel dog has been termed a "cur" (Latin curius, or croptail), because it usually had the tail shortened; and according to ancient forest laws, a man who had no right to the privilege of the chase was obliged to cut off the tail of his dog, on the plea that, if a dog has no tail to act as a rudder, he cannot hunt game.—Nineteenth Century.

Swordsmanship Against a Tiger.

Sir James Outram, known as the Bayard of India, was a "mighty hunter" and an accomplished swordsman. He once performed the hazardous feat of killing a tiger with his sword and from the back of his horse. General Nicholson performed a similar feat.

He rode round and round the tiger at a gallop, gradually narrowing the circle, until at last he was near enough to deliver his blow. He had only the one blow, and if he had failed to kill the tiger he himself would have been slain.

The explanation of the feat is that the tiger does not spring upon the horseman during the circling process, because he is watching his opportunity. As the circle draws closer and closer upon him, he becomes bewildered by the strange maneuver, so unlike that of any hunter he has ever encountered.—Youth's Companion.

Franklin's Tribute to Paul Jones.

From the beginning of his acquaintance with Franklin a mutual respect and a deep affection sprang up between them. The wise Franklin saw at a glance what manner of man Paul Jones was, and in one noble sentence described him better than many volumes could.

"For Captain Paul Jones ever loved close fighting."—Molly Elliot Seawell in Century.

A BAG OF MYSTERY.

IT UPSET THE EQUILIBRIUM OF A CAR-LOAD OF BROOKLYNITES.

The Faces of Kind Which the Student of Brooklyn Fate on With His Sunday Clothes Directly Disturbed by the Strangest Young Man's Actions.

There was an odd little episode in a Brooklyn trolley car of the Flatbush line on a recent Sunday afternoon, which gave rise to an amusing comedy of confusion between the natural curiosity of human nature and the civilized obligation to restrain it.

The Flatbush and Flatlands line runs away out into the region of cornfields, truck farms and forests, lately gathered into Brooklyn's municipal area. When the car started from the end of the route it had about one passenger, a pleasant looking young man who carried a large leather handbag. He was well dressed, but his clothes were covered with dust and his shoes with mud, suggesting that he had been roaming across lots in the rural wards. As the car approached and passed Prospect park it filled up with Sunday strollers.

The young man sat beside the stove, with his bag on his knees. After awhile he opened the bag a trifle, shook it gently and peered attentively inside. Then he put his hand in and seemed to be gently stirring up its contents. The passengers sitting directly opposite to him became interested in his doings, but he didn't look up. After shaking the bag from side to side for a little while he bent over and became interested in some mysterious business which for the rest of the trip absorbed his entire attention and also that of his fellow passengers.

He reached down into the bag with his right hand, lifted out something carefully in the hollow of his palm, weighed it carefully, held it to his ear, shook it, held it to his ear again and then decisively rubbed around and put it into his overcoat pocket. Then he reached into the bag again and went through the same motions, except that this time he placed the something carefully in one corner of the bag. First one and then another of the passengers became interested in the young man and his performance until very soon every one was peering closely, some almost painfully, over at him and his bag. But he never looked up. By and by the conductor came in and walked nervously the length of the car several times, peering into the young man's bag as he passed. But the bag was open only a trifle, and he could see nothing of its contents. However outside and discussed the matter with a man who stood on the platform.

The young man, intensely absorbed in his performance and seemingly altogether oblivious of the intense interest of the other passengers in him, kept steadily on, lifting out invisible something, weighing them, listening to them, shaking them and sorting them over. Once in awhile he lifted out bits of twigs and leaves and threw them on the floor. The passengers eyed them over attentively, but could make nothing of them. Soon they began whispering one to another about the mysterious doings of the young man, and the women moved nervously around, and one or two men looked at though they were determined to ask the young man for an explanation if he looked up. But he didn't look up. Once in awhile a passenger got out and tried hard to peer into the bag as he passed it, but uselessly. The situation was painful and was also intensely comical to one passenger who was almost as much interested in watching the ill concealed curiosity and strained nervousness of the passengers as in trying to fathom the mystery of the young man's performance. Probably if it had been any other day than Sunday some one would have plucked up courage to ask a simple although maybe impertinent question and so relieve the general strain. But the restraint imposed by Sunday clothes held every one back.

Finally when the car was entering Fulton street, the young man suddenly looked out of the window, closed the bag with a snap and hurried out of the car. There was a movement on the part of the other passengers, partly of alarm at the escape of the young man with the mystery unsolved and partly perhaps of relief at the end of the suspense. One man made a quick jump after the mysterious young man and caught him for a few seconds as he was about to leave the car.

"What're y' goin' to do?" he asked, regardless of all proprieties.

The young man looked surprised and then smiled and said:

"Oh, cocoons, chrysalides, moths, you know. I've been gathering them out in the country, and I sell them to the naturalists." Then he jumped off the car.

The impulsive, inquisitive man returned to his seat, and the remaining passengers were eagerly waiting for him. He explained that the young man was a naturalist or naturalist's collector. He evidently made a business of going around the country hunting over the fences and bushes for the chrysalides, or pupae, of moths, and butterflies. Some of these are attached to fence pickets, but perhaps the greater number are found on leaves or twigs. They look like balls of silk usually, but often are covered with dust, dead leaves and such material. The collector simply gathered everything into his bag and then sorted them out later. Some of the cocoons are empty, and these he could tell sometimes by their light weight, but more certainly by shaking them. The pupae are usually loose and rattle inside the cocoon. The empty shells he put into his coat pocket, the live pupae he sorted out according to size or perhaps by peculiarities which distinguished their characters.

It seemed a curious business, but yet it wasn't quite so odd as the comical perplexity in which it kept about a score of Brooklynites.—New York Sun.

Bought the Ship That Brought Him.

An Interesting Story is Told of the Late Captain Julius Jones.

Some time ago Captain Julius Jones came to a shipyard in Camden to take a look at the old peacocks, Tawnywings, which was being converted into a coal barge. The captain took a particular interest in the old ship, because of his having served as mate aboard her in the early sixties. While he stood watching the old vessel, a tall stranger approached him and asked, "Isn't your name Julius?"

The captain replied in the affirmative. "You were a mate on that ship in the summer of 1863?" "Yes," said the stranger. "You don't remember me?" continued the stranger, "but I remember you very well. I was a strange passenger on the Tawnywings at that time, being on my way to this country. I've been pretty prosperous, and I've just bought the old ship and am going to make a coal barge of her. Strange, isn't it, that I should come to own the ship that brought me to this country?"—Philadelphia Record.

The West Indies were so called by Columbus, he believing them to be a portion of the Indies which he had reached by sailing toward the west.

The "all" so often mentioned as a precisely garment, was a long gown, fastened with a belt.

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A fireless locomotive engine was recently used on the Aix-la-Chapelle-Sulzbach railway. The motor power is derived from soda. The invention is based on the principle that solutions of soda, which have high boiling points, liberate heat while absorbing steam. These engines eject neither smoke nor steam and work noiselessly. Compared with coal burning locomotives, soda engines show a capacity equal to the former, while they are worked with greater ease and simplicity.

How She Did It.

Trivial—Miss Flop claims to have made a thousand visits of mourning.

Discs—That's really explained. When young Callow asked her to marry him, she replied, "No; a thousand times no."—London Tit-Bits.