MACKAY MAUSOLEUM

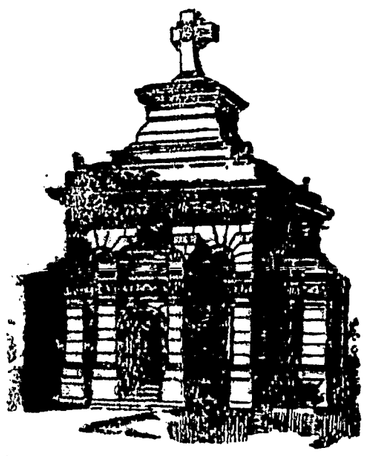
THE BONANZA MILLIONAIRE ERECTS A SPLENDID FAMILY TOMB.

Placed in Greenwood Cemetery and Overlooks the Sea—Heated and Lighted by Electricity—Topped by a Fifty-Ton Granite Slab, the Largest Ever Quarried.

John W. Mackay's prodigious mausoleum, near the Ninth avenue entrance to Greenwood, Brooklyn, is rapidly nearly completion. Recently the largest slab of granite ever quarried in this country was lifted from the schooner Davenport, which had brought the stone nearly all the way from the Hallowell, Me., quarry, and then the work of putting it in place as the roof-stone of the mausoleum began.

This magnificent tomb, where some day will repose the body of Millionaire Mackay, will cost about $300,000. Mrs. Mackay, wife of the millionaire, selected the design herself, which is the work of John R. Lowe, a sculptor of note, of Louisville, Ky. In the altar is a reproduction in marble of a madonna painting over 100 years old, which was also selected by Mrs. Mackay while traveling in Europe.

This mausoleum possesses many original ideas. The interior looks very like a miniature church auditorium, with all evidences of the tomb con-



THE MACKAY MAUSOLEUM.

cealed. It is lighted and heated by electricity, and it will be large enough for a priest to say mass before at least fifty persons. There are just twenty-two crypts for bodies.

The interior is entirely lined with marble, with wainscoting of black Belgian capped with Connemara green. The walls are of Sienna, and window casings, columns, altar and entablature of Italian marble. Elaborate mosaic work is seen both on the ceiling and floor.

All the way from Hallowell, Me., this stone attracted unusual attention, because of its great dimensions and the difficulties encountered in quarrying and moving it.

Four weeks were consumed in getting it from the quarry into position for the workmen. After being detached from its bed it was jacked and blocked up till it nearly stood on edge. Then when it was to fall a bed of excelsior and cordwood was prepared. All the men in the quarry, 150 in number, were then called to pull the monolith over.

The original block was 22 feet square and 16 inches thick, and as granite measures about 12 cubic feet to the ton a little figuring will show that when the stone was pulled over more than fifty tons of granite plumped down on the cushion of wood and shavings.

Of course no ordinary wagon could carry such a load to the wharf, so a huge cart, one used for transporting locomotives from the shops to the tracks was procured from Boston. The big stone was blocked up and the cart run under. Then thirty-six horses with twenty drivers started off with it. The distance to the wharf was only several miles, but it consumed several days to make the trip with the stone. Several times the wheels sank so deep into the roads that they had to be dug out.

This stone is valued at $3,500. On top of it on the Mackay tomb will rest another granite slab sixteen feet square, then another still smaller and so on till thirteen tapering slabs surmount the work. And over all will tower a beautiful granite cross of size to match the edifice, and huge vases will stand on the four corners.

Mr. Mackay and wife have selected a beautiful spot for this stately sepulchral monument. It stands on a hillside, near the Ninth avenue entrance to Greenwood, and overlooks the ocean.

One Thing Lacking.

It is not likely that there will ever be another town built and managed after the manner of the town of Pullman. Its founder gave his tenants all the comforts of a comfortable home, but he declined to permit them to become the owners of their homes. The first ambition of the thrifty, industrious workingman is to own the home where he lives, and it is unwise to ignore that sentiment.

How He Took Iron Tonic.

A young man with lung trouble began working in a Kansas City hardware house some years ago, and now he explains his robust condition by saying that it's due to the iron in his blood, which he inhaled in minute particles during his daily duties.

Where Buttons Are Made.

Nearly all of the buttons used in the United States are manufactured in Western Massachusetts towns.

BULL FIGHT IN WYOMING.

This Victor Smith Considers the Greatest Sight He Ever Witnessed.

What is the greatest sight I ever saw? exclaims Victor Smith, in the New York Press. A bull fight in Wyoming. Two monsters, at the head of a herd of eighty or eighty-five cows, met on a plain near Fort Laramie, and their respective consorts formed in semi-circles to witness the contest. If such a thing were possible the cows were madder than the bulls. They pawed the earth, lowed, tossed their heads and waved their tails on high. Each side egged on its champion. It seemed to be understood that the bull that conquered became the prince of two herds. The battle was to the death. Life and an enlarged harem depended on the issue. In company of Colonel Frederick A. Larkin, I sat on a horse half a mile off and watched the strange encounter through field glasses. In twenty minutes one of the bulls lay upon the ground in a death agony, and the other, streaming from many a gore, was proudly leading both herds from the field. The dying monarch was left deserted and alone. Not a cow ministered unto him. His consorts dropped their flags in acknowledgment of a new sovereign, and meekly joined his band. The conflict was magnificent, and it was war!

The Strangest Sight.

The strangest sight I ever saw, says Victor Smith, in the New York Press, was a sand-hill crane dance on the shore of the Indian river, in Florida. There were ten birds of the average size and one over-grown fellow. The latter acted as master of ceremonies. In fact, he led the dance, even as 'Lish Dyer leads it in New York. Eight formed into a square, making four couples, and all the figures of the quadrill were presented. They went forward and back, swung partners, crossed over, "chassed" in superb style, bowed to partners, right-and-left to places, and, indeed, went through the entire performance in a weird and ghostlike manner. Once in a while the two odd chaps would slip into the center and execute a flourish, which the master of ceremonies suddenly terminated with a vicious slap of the wings, driving the intruders back to their places as wall flowers. Could anything funnier be imagined? The sand-hill crane is four feet long, with a wing-spread of 70 or 72 inches. Its legs are like pipe stems, three feet in length, and loosely jointed about the middle. It was a dance never to be forgotten, and was worth going all the way to Florida to see. The birds wore uniforms of leaden-gray.

Killed by His Collar.

High standing collars are now exclusively in vogue. The laws of health, however, require that the neck shall be left bare, or nearly so, and unrestrained in its movements. Hence the collar should be loose and turned down. More than one case has been recorded in which tight collars have almost caused suffocation, the victims being revived with difficulty. Some two years ago, on the arrival of the train from Nice at Paris, a rich American traveler was found dead in one of the compartments—strangled, as the inquest disclosed, by his high collar, whose button had left its mark up on his skin. Nor is this at all an unlikely accident, since there is a point in the throat close to the "Adam's apple," pressure upon which will stop respiration at once, and bring about asphyxia. Moreover, a collar which hardly feels uncomfortable while the wearer is standing may draw much tighter when he sits down, and should he fall asleep in it, may produce congestion, coma and a fatal termination.

Gander Trips a Lively Measure.

Geese have music in their toes—or their souls, or somewhere. Start a violin and a flock of wild geese will almost invariably prance to its strains.

But not every goose will dance to the music of a commonplace accordion, and when one is found who will perform a jig to its measure his doings should be duly chronicled.

In Lanesboro, Pa., one was discovered one day recently which became fairly intoxicated with glee at the sound of an accordion. He danced a jig, keeping admirable time to the music.

After the experiment had been tried two or three times his taste for the pleasure became so pronounced that he would venture up to the piazza of the house with the evident intention of inviting further music.

Automatic Massage Machine.

A massage machine that can be applied by the patient himself is in use in London. It consists of 12 pairs of polished hard-wood balls, arranged on a jointed chain, with a handle at each end, and is 32 inches long. Its effect is said to be equal to that of massage by hand, as it kneads the muscles evenly.

To Disperse Sea Fog.

Sea fogs may be dispersed for some distance ahead of a vessel by means of a new invention, consisting of an arched distributing pipe with jet tubes set in one side. From these tubes is discharged water or other liquid in spray against the fog.

Commemorating Chief Oshkosh.

Oshkosh, Wis., owes its fame to its name, and the Old Settlers' Club of that place purposes to erect a monument to Chief Oshkosh, from whom the city received its name.

Long Time in One Place.

Deacon David E. Cushing, of Cambridgeport, Vt., has kept the same store in the same place for 54 years, and plans to make it 60 years.

GIGANTIC NESTS.

WONDERFUL MOUNDS BUILT BY THE MALLEE BIRD OF AUSTRALIA.

They Are as Big as a City Block and Are Occupied by Vast Numbers of Feathered Families—The Young Scramble Out of Their Shells as Best They May.

The mallee hen of Australia lays its eggs in a huge nest. The nest is really an artificial mound of gigantic proportions for the size of its maker, and the purpose it is to serve. The artificial mound is a co-operation incubator. It is built by many pairs of birds, male and female working alike to construct it. These same pairs or flocks of birds annually repair and enlarge the queer looking cone which rises up like a turret dome from the level prairie.

Sometimes these tunnels attain a height of fully fifteen in the perpendicular, with a radius of equal measurement. Many of these nests have

A NEST AS BIG AS A CITY LOT.

measured as much as 50 yards, or 150 feet around their base. That would give the largest one measured a diameter of about fifty feet. These mound nests are entered through a sort of tunnel cavity at the top of the cone.

The hens of all the building and repairing pairs lay in this immense nest. The eggs are deposited about six feet below the surface. While each hen lays her egg in the family mound, no hen drops her egg closer than twenty inches of that of her neighbor. These eggs are deposited in a cavity made for it wherein it is placed in a vertical position, carefully covered, and the surface as carefully smoothed over by the hen before she quits the nest. Contrary to the usual practice of the bird and fowl species, these mallee hens lay at night instead of in the day. Several days elapse also between the dropping of two eggs.

The eggs of the mallee hen are out of all proportion to her size. They are as large as those of a goose, and of large hens, are very much larger.

The eggs thus laid and covered in this great sand oven in the hot districts are never again disturbed by the hens. The eggs are hatched by the heat the sun bakes into the soil where they lay. It has never been known how the young chicks are excavated from their egg grave, for the eggs are deposited fully six inches below the surface, and the hardening rains do not aid their exit very much.

The hen is so very shy and vigilant that no one is able to study her maternal and domestic habits with satisfaction. As she lays her egg at night, and transacts most of her affairs in the night watch so that no naturalist or curious individual can ferret her out, possible she steals to her expected brood under cover of night also, and gives them the parental unearthing which they must surely need after the chipping of the eggshell.

Bush naturalists have been curious to know how this peculiar fowl builds its nest. The birds have been seen working at it, and the mounds have been inspected, but the piling of the dirt is not from the immediate vicinity, for that is undisturbed. Small springs and the like enter into the plastic masonry, which stands storms and heavy rains, when they do fall, without serious injury.

These huge cones stand for years, to be annually nested in by the same flock which originally constructed the family incubator. When detected the hens emit a pitiful little cackle, and flutter away like a wounded innocent. The young of a covey either root under the sand or hide behind some mound or object of a friendly color.

Victoria's Oldest Subject.

In a little cabin at Owen Sound, Canada, lives Queen Victoria's oldest subject. He is "Daddy" Hall, and he claims 114 years. He is a half-breed negro and Indian. He was a scout in the war of 1812. He is remarkable as the man to whom nature vouchsafed a new set of teeth and a new growth of hair at the age of ninety-five, when his first supply left him. He has been married four times, and is the father of nineteen children.

Bold Burglars.

Burglars recently robbed the general store of John D. Davis, near the Ohio line, at Jamestown, Penn., of about $200 worth of goods. The thieves then retreated to the United Presbyterian Church, where they built a fire, using the Psalm Books for fuel, and then cooked a meal.

In Weston, W. Va., there is the youngest page in the world. He is Robert Chidister, and he is five years old. He has been appointed page to the Circuit Court.

COWBELLS.

One of the Few Things That the Hand of Improvement Has Neglected.

One of the comparatively few things that the hand of improvement has not touched is the cowbell, which is made now just as it was fifty, a hundred, and more years ago, and has now just the same peculiar, clanking sound as ever. Cowbells are made, some of copper and some of a composition metal; but most of them are made of iron and finished with a coating of bronze. The cowbell is not cast; it is cut from a sheet of metal which is molded into shape and riveted. The metal loop at the top, through which the strap is passed, is riveted into the bell. Cowbells are made of ten sizes, whose sounds range through an octave. Sometimes musical entertainers who play upon bells of one sort and another come to the manufacturer, and by selection among bells of the various sizes find eight bells that are accurate in scale.

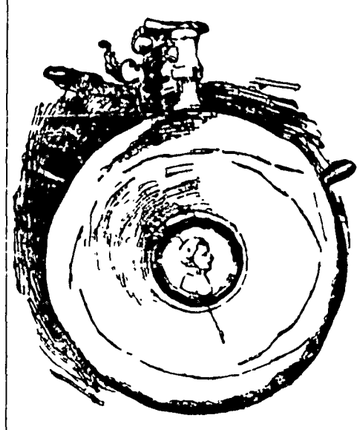
There are only four factories in the United States in which cowbells are made, and in each case the cowbell is only an item of production among many other things. Cowbells are sold all over the country, just the same as ever, but much the greater number are sold in the South, the Southwest and the West, where farms are larger, less likely to be under fence, and cattle are more likely to stray. There are sold in those parts of the country a hundred dozen cowbells to every ten dozen sold in the East. American cowbells are exported to the various countries of South America and to Australia.

Relic of Napoleon.

An ivory powder flask, once the property of Napoleon the Great—truly a memento of historic interest. The present owner is J. W. Bouton, of New York City, who has a large collection of relics. It was by a curious coincidence that the flask came into his possession.

It has been Mr. Bouton's custom to go abroad every summer, and during his travels he is ever on the alert to add to his already large collection. During a visit to London last summer he dropped in at Mme. Tussaud's museum, on Baker street, where are exhibited many relics of Napoleon and other famous men. Among the articles on exhibition which mostly interested Mr. Bouton were the carriage and pistols which were taken from Napoleon after the famous battle of Waterloo.

Seeing that Mr. Bouton was so much interested in the exhibit, he was approached by a well known collector, who informed him that he had in his possession an ivory powder flask which



NAPOLEON'S POWDER FLASK.

had been the property of the Little Corporal and which he was willing to part with for a fair sum. Accordingly, Mr. Bouton met the collector again, and after a little dickering purchased the relic, which he has now on exhibition.

This flask was also taken from the Emperor Napoleon after his defeat by Wellington, and presented by the Iron Duke to Dr. Gilbert, of Brighton, who bequeathed it to Mrs. Charlesley, of that city. The flask is a beautiful piece of workmanship, and has a medallion of Napoleon on each side in the centre. It is six and one-half inches in height and measures four and one-half inches in diameter. It weighs about fourteen ounces. The flask is made of pure ivory, with the exception of the metal spring clasp at the top, which permits the flow of the powder. Mr. Bouton places a value on it of $500. It is in very good condition, and its authenticity is unquestionable, and can be vouched for. It is possible that the great Emperor left the flask in his carriage, being in haste to escape his enemies, whom he feared would capture him.

Youngest Sea Captain.

The youngest skipper that ever sent a ship speeding through calm and storm is William Shotton, an English lad of sixteen years. His vessel, a four-masted bark of 1,700 tons, sailed for Australia. Before two weeks passed every officer and most of the crew succumbed to fever. The boy took charge. He commanded the vessel through a couple of hurricanes and finally brought her in safety to the Australian coast.

Russia the Home of Platinum.

Platinum is worth not quite half as much as gold, weight for weight, and the product of that metal comes almost entirely from Russia, where it is found in the southern Ural Mountains. At present the increasing demand for platinum has caused a sharp advance in the price of the metal and a corresponding increase in its production.

Postage Stamps.

The various countries of the world now use 13,400 different kinds of postage stamps.

DEFECTIVE HEARING.

Possibly the Cause of Many of the Railroad Accidents.

Professor Burkuer, in his lectures in the clinic for ear diseases at Gottingen recently, referring to the numerous railroad accidents which have occurred in Germany of late, said that it is probable that many were due to imperfect hearing on the part of railroad employees. While large classes of employees have their vision tested periodically, and often also their hearing, yet deficiencies in hearing capacity occur among them frequently which are not detected by these examinations. Many who suppose their hearings to be perfectly good, by careful testing are found to have very serious defects. By reason of this general self-deception, no faith should be put in a man's own statement that he hears well with both ears.

The practical investigation of the sense of hearing demands such a mastery of the various methods used as can hardly be required from the ordinary physician. The professor said a great part of the trainmen, and particularly of the enginemen, after a relatively short term of service, no longer possess normal hearing, though many of them may still be fit for service. An adequate acuteness of hearing is of the greatest importance, not only among trainmen, but track guards and switchmen, these and others should have good hearing in both ears. A man hard of hearing in one ear has great difficulty in determining from what direction a sound comes. The safety of travelers and of the employees themselves, said the professor, requires that far more attention be paid to the ears of railroad men.

Dolls' Wardrobe.

Dolls' stockings are made of silk and cotton, some are of lace or open work. They are made in all colors and of many sizes, to fit any doll. They sell at prices ranging from 5 cents to 75 cents a pair. They are made in Germany, and in this country, more in Germany than here.

Many of these little stockings are put up in boxes just like big stockings for actual wear. Some of them are put up in dozens assorted in sizes and colors. Doll fashions follow the fashions for children. There are sold at present more doll stockings of black than of any other color. Many dolls come nowadays with shoes and stockings on, but there are sold nevertheless yearly many thousands of dolls' stockings.

Dolls' shoes are made in very great variety. The finest of them come from Paris, the greatest number from Germany, some are made in this country. Some of these shoes are made of paper which looks like leather. Some have pasteboard soles and cloth tops. There are some very cheap shoes that are all leather, and finer shoes for dolls are made of leather and of satin in various colors, among which pink, blue, white, and black are the standard. Dolls' shoes are made of patent leather, and there are bronze shoes, and russet shoes, and shoes that are part russet and part patent leather. There are shoes for all occasions.

Dolls' shoes are packed in dozens, alike, and in assorted boxes. The finest shoes are put up a single pair in a box. Dolls' shoes are made in as many sizes as there are dolls' feet, and they sell at prices ranging from 5 cents to a dollar a pair.

Objected to Old Dresses.

The death of Mrs. Barbara Offein at Belleville, Ill., at the advanced age of eighty-two, closed the life of a remarkable woman. For thirty years she has led the life of a recluse, and during all that time has spoken to no one but her husband, who also lived the life of a hermit. A high board fence inclosed their home, and she was never seen outside of that fence.

A curious story is related as the reason for her strange life. When she married her second husband thirty years ago she was a beautiful woman, fond of society. He insisted, it is alleged, that she wear out the dresses of his deceased wife before new ones were purchased.

She refused to do so. When her own gowns were worn out she made dresses of old rags and quilts. In summer she went without shoes, and in cold weather she wrapped rags about her feet. For twenty years she has rarely been outside of her house, and never beyond the high board fence.

Oldest Churchgoers in Scotland.

Mrs. Millar holds the record as the oldest church-goer in all Scotland. She was born in 1795, when Burns was writing songs and when George the Third was ruling England. She has never had a serious illness in her life, and as far back as she can remember she can recall no Sunday when she has not been to church. She has been a total abstainer always, but she smokes a clay pipe with great vigor and enjoyment.

An Amusing Prediction.

A letter written in 1830 is published, which a Buffalo man deplores the prospect that the completion of the first railroad would set "the whole world a-gadding at 20 miles an hour." He contended that the canal afforded the ideal travel, and that three miles an hour was fast enough for the good of the human race.

A Large Communion.

Ten gallons of wine were consumed at a communion service held in Tomlinson Hall, Indianapolis, on October 17, when the Christian Church Convention was in session. Thirty-two deacons distributed the bread and wine.

A FAMOUS POEM.

Mrs. Thorpe Tells How She Came to Write "Curfew Must Not Ring To-Night."

Mrs. Rose Hartwick Thorpe, who wrote Curfew Must Not Ring To-Night, lives in a pretty frame cottage at Pacific Beach, near San Diego, Cal. When asked recently to tell how she came to write the poem that has made her famous, she replied:

"I cannot remember when I did not write poetry. I have done it ever since I was a child. My mother did not approve of my writing. One day after school I went to my room. I had been studying the historic period of the poem, and the incident impressed itself so strongly on my mind that I felt impelled to write about it. I was about half way through when my mother came in, saying a young friend had come to spend the afternoon and take tea with me. In great distress I called out: 'Oh, mother, can't she wait a little while?' My mother, thinking I was solving a hard problem in arithmetic, said she would amuse my friend until I could leave. At last I finished it and put it away.

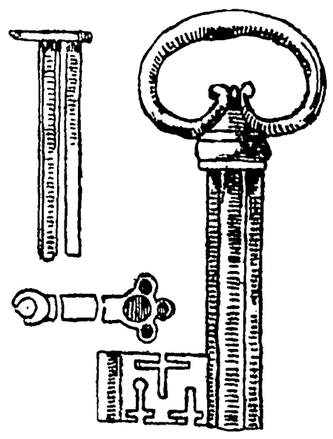
"Two or three years later I wanted a poem for publication in a Detroit paper, to which I had been in the habit of contributing short poems gratuitously. I was unable, at the time to write, as usual, and, on looking over my papers, found this one, which I decided to send, though doubting its acceptance, as it was too long. A day or two afterward I received a note from the editor, complimenting my last contribution highly, and prophecying for it great and immediate success.

Made His Word Good.

Perry Rushing, of Troy, Ala., a son of Mac Rushing, who gave his good right arm in the defence of his country, in the trying times from '61 to '65, and a good and honored citizen—while returning home from a neighbor's house near by, accompanied by his wife, and reaching the forks of the road, both of which led to their home, had a dispute as to which one they should take, when the wife said "Let's go this way." Perry replied "No, let's go this way," and she replied "No, I'll die first." Perry then said "Well, I'll die first," and setting his gun down on the ground, leaned his head over the barrel, pulled the trigger with his toe, when the gun discharged, the load taking nearly half of his head with it. He never spoke after the gun fired. What the cause may have been that led to this rash act, we did not learn. He leaves a widow to mourn his untimely death. She and the family relatives have the sympathy of the public.

A Key With a History.

According to The Strand this interesting key of Loch Leven Castle is still in existence. It was found in the lake and is supposed to have been the one thrown in by the young Douglas when Mary Queen of Scots made her escape. The key was originally in the possession of William Hamper, Esq., who presented it to Sir Walter Scott, having first had an engraving made of it. The Castle of Loch Leven is situated on an island of about two acres, near the northwest extremity of the lake. Queen Mary, when she dismissed Bothwell on Carberry Hill, and joined the insurgents, was carried captive into Edinburgh, and on the following day committed to Loch Lev-



KEY OF LOCH LEVEN CASTLE.

en Castle. On the 25th of March, 1567-8, she attempted to escape from thence in the disguise of a laundress, but was frustrated. On Monday, May 2, 1568, however, while the family were at supper, the boy, William Douglas, secured the keys of the castle, and gave egress to the Queen and her maid from the stronghold; then, locking the gates behind them to prevent pursuit, he placed the fugitives in a boat that lay near at hand, and rowed them to the appointed landing-place on the north side of the lake.

Wall Paper Oddity.

Zinc wall paper is the latest oddity. The zinc is attached to the wall by a cement invented for the purpose, and is made to imitate marble. The surface is enameled so as to render it permanent or washable. It is claimed for this new departure in decorative material that, while it is as permanent as tiles or marble, it is much cheaper, and can be as easily put on as ordinary wall paper.

A True Wind Flower.

It is said that a flower has been found in South America which is visible only when the wind is blowing. The shrub belongs to the cactus family, and is about three feet high, with a crook at the top. When the wind blows a number of beautiful flowers protrude from little lumps on the stalk.

A ton of oil has been obtained from a single whale.