THE NEW MILLION-KEEPER

Thomas F. Ryan's Successful Rise in Financial Affairs.

HIS HUMBLE BEGINNING.

Career Contains no Records of Destruction of Property or Railroads—Details of Negotiations Never Published—Remarkable Inventive Capacity.

Thomas Faulkner Ryan, who in a day persuaded James Hazen Hyde to do what other financiers and good counsellors had been unable for months to convince Mr. Hyde should be done, has sometimes been called the greatest "opportunist" that ever came to Wall Street. His persuasion of Mr. Hyde to sell a majority of the stock of the Equitable Life Assurance corporation will surely be accepted as a good explanation of what is meant by the complimentary term "the great opportunist." Mr. Ryan is regarded by financiers as having acted not only opportunely, but at exactly what is sometimes called the psychological moment. He and those who are with him have already received a majority of the capital stock of this institution—one of the largest in the world, in assets, business and surplus and have given to Mr Hyde their check for this stock.

Mr. Ryan is of that race of North of Ireland pioneers who settled along and upon the slopes of the Blue Mountains.

Unlike many of the youth of those mountain districts, who, when they were old enough to venture away from the boyhood home, turned

Thomas F. Ryan.

their faces to the West, young Ryan made his way to the East. Baltimore just after the close of the civil war seemed to the young men of the South to offer the best chance.

He was self-taught, self-contained, self-confident and tremendously in earnest, so greatly in earnest that he was never self-conscious; and to this day one of the most striking of the characteristics of Mr. Ryan is utter lack of self-consciousness. He must have inspired the confidence of his employer, Mr. John D. Barry, and probably was brought into close touch with many men of Southern birth engaged in business in the South who had set to work vigorously to repair the fortunes that were impaired by the civil war. The understanding has always been that when Mr. Ryan came to New York he brought with him assurances of business, of financial trusts, given him by some of the Southern merchants and financiers, and it has always been presumed that much of his earlier successes and some of his later triumphs were made possible by the association with him of Southern financiers and the intrusting to him of Southern capital. He was a Wall Street broker when only twenty-one years of age, having opened an office here in the spring of 1872. That very act is typical of Mr. Ryan's entire business career.

Mr. Ryan was also one of the first to understand the possibilities that were in the transportation of passengers in such cities as New York and Chicago, and it was doubtless through his early comprehension of the magnificent opportunities that New York city offered that he was brought into association with the late William C. Whitney and what afterward came to be known as the "Philadelphia syndicate." That was in the closing days of Mr. Cleveland's first administration as President, in which Mr. Whitney served as Secretary of the Navy. Just as Mr. Whitney and Mr. Ryan were perfecting their plans for the consolidation of the street railways of New York Mr. Frank L. Sprague was demonstrating the capacity of the electric current, operating through newly invented apparatus, to propel street cars.

Mr. Ryan saw the enormous possibility that was in that use of electricity, and with steady, always silent and secretive, but certain, progress, he, acting with Mr. Whitney and others, at last consolidated the various street railway systems of New York.

Mr. Ryan has been spoken of as a taciturn man. It has sometimes been thought strange that he had not the volubility, the excitable temperament which are sometimes thought to be characteristic of the race from which Mr. Ryan sprang. But he is taciturn only in the sense that he is a much thinking man, deeply absorbed, not given to triviality, although he has a delightful sense of humor. He is sometimes [illegible] of [illegible] the hardest working men in New York; but there is no sense of drudgery with him, no labored and perfunctory approach to his task, for his work in a sense is a recreation, since he finds his highest gratification in the working out of problems and in the record of success. It is a sense of achievement with him that is his reward for all that he does. He is singularly free from the small jealousy of others who have also succeeded, not having any envy for those exploits that are constantly brought before the public. His habits of life are correct to the utmost; his family, his farm, his Holstein cattle and his kennels give him all the recreation that he desires or needs.

THE DEADLY "KALA AZAR."

Mortality in this Disease Reaches 90 Per Cent.

Interesting particulars of the Kala azar and its newly-discovered but at present nameless parasite were given recently in an address by Major W. B Leishman, M B, professor of pathology at the Royal Army Medical College, Russell Square, W. C.

"Kala azar" signifies black sickness, and was given to it by the natives because of a darkening of the skin which it induces.

The disease, said Major Leishman, has been known in India since 1869, but it was first met with in epidemic form in 1882. The parasite has also been met with in Northern Africa, Tunis, Algiers and Arabia.

The symptoms include an enlargement of the liver and spleen, a shriveling up of the legs, a corpse-like appearance of the skin, fever, an enormous reduction of the white corpuscles in the blood and dysentery of an intractable kind.

Women are as liable to attack as men, and the parasite has been found in a baby a year old. For some time white men were thought to be immune but recently the parasite was discovered in a soldier at Netley.

"We do not know how the parasite gets out of the body or into the body, but we know that infection runs along the trade routes and clings to a house in which patients have had the disease. It will probably be found that the parasite lives in the soil through the aid of an intermediate host of cold blooded habit, such as a reptile."—London Mail.

Character in Shoes.

A certain shoemaker is a firm believer in "shoeology." He says: "Worn shoes go ahead of the art of fortune telling from the lines of the hand. In one shoe, for instance, I see irresolution, changeableness, inclination to slovenliness and occasional fits of ill humor.

Show me any person's footgear after two months' wear and I will describe the character of the person.

If the soles and heels are worn evenly, then the wearer is a resolute, able business man, with a clear head, a trustworthy official or an excellent wife and mother. If the sole is worn on the outside, the wearer is inclined to adventurous, uncertain, fitful deeds, or, if a woman, to bold, self-willed, capricious tricks.

The sole being worn on the inner side shows hesitation and weakness in a man and modesty in a woman.

Leader of Salvationists.

To the world outside the Salvation Army Mrs. Bramwell-Booth is but little known, for she has few of those oratorical gifts of the Booth family. Yet all who have followed the Army's social work know that Mrs. Bramwell-Booth is the very soul of the movement, and the desire among those interested in the social efforts of the Army to meet her was gratified yesterday at the International Headquarters in Queen Victoria Street. Calm eyed, quiet, almost timid in manner, the fair hair smoothed in bands from the forehead, the complexion of a healthy child, the simple dark blue dress of the Salvation Army—that is Mrs. Bramwell-Booth.

Official Papers in Russia.

In Russia you must have papers of some sort, but outside the cities it matters little what they are. A high official some time ago started from St. Petersburg with a view of showing the absburdity of the system. He had his papers. Having crossed into Roumania, he returned at once, handed out his pass, and reached home without question. Then he exhibited his passport in triumph. You may not bring live stock across the frontier without a permit. And this was to "pass one pig."

Land of Jewels.

A recent auction in Calcutta which attracted buyers from all parts of the world serves to illustrate the large amount of wealth that must be buried in jewels in India, says the Englishman of Calcutta. Precious stones form a considerable portion of the heritage of every princely house in this country. Every respectable Indian family lays out some of its riches in this direction. Silver ornaments decorate the wives of all laborers not absolutely on the verge of starvation.

Cigar Fallacies.

The thorn in the side of the cigar manufacturers of to-day is the existing craze for light colors. The desired result is to convince the smoker that a light colored cigar is not necessarily a mild one. In fact, it has less reason to be so than one with a dark or medium shaded wrapper.—Tobacco.

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THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL, ROCHESTER, N. Y

TO PAY $35,000,000 TO INDIANS.

Disbursements Made When the Tribal Organizations Cease.

Government payments in excess of $1,000,000 will, within the ensuing year, be made to certain Indians of the five civilized tribes.

This year will be but the beginning, however, of the disbursements that will follow the year after tribal governments cease in 1906, provided the Government can close up accounts of the five tribes in that time.

With the funds on hand, the sale of town sites, royalties and the sale of surplus land the total amount of property to be given to the Indians, not including their allotments, will amount to about $35,000,000. If all these funds are disbursed during the year 1906 and each Indian in the five civilized tribes got an equal share it would amount to about $500 per capita, but they will not share equally, as there will be a difference in the amount of money received by the different tribes.

In the Osage nation they have nearly $8,000,000 to their credit in the United States Treasury, drawing interest sufficient to pay each Indian an annual income of $164. They have 1,600,000 acres of land which is easily worth $16,000,000, which sum added to the funds on deposit would average each of the 1,913 Osages $6,722.85.

Despite these figures the fact remains that many Indians are very poor. It is also true that these disbursements may and probably will be dragged out to cover months of time in the payment. Indian payments usually are. By the time all the land and property is sold and the funds disbursed among the Indians, some of the thrifty ones will have absorbed a great deal not due them and others will have become very poor.

The Sham Death of Spiders.

An investigation has been carried out by an Australian scientist on the phenomenon of the sham death of spiders. Certain of the spiders, when their web is jarred or torn, will always pull their legs up under them and feign death. In this rigid condition they are readily overlooked and many times escape destruction on this account. A study of the behavior of these animals after the removal of certain portions of their nervous systems shows that the action is a reflex one. That is to say, the spider assumes the immobile condition, not as the result of any intelligent action of an animal seeking to save itself, but as the result of the nature of its nervous system. The act is performed after the spider is decapitated. We must believe, therefore, that this trick is not the result of intelligence, but is carried out because the animal is built that way and can not help himself. This, of course, may have absolutely no bearing on the "playing possum" of the higher animals, their action may be due to an intelligent volition.—Collier's.

Japanese Smokeless Powder.

Shimose, the smokeless powder, is a Japanese invention, and is acknowledged far more powerful than the English [illegible] or the French melinite. This powder is by an actual test five times as strong as the European powders. When a shell that is filled with [illegible] or melinite is fired it will break into ten or fifteen pieces, whereas the same shell with Shimose's smokeless powder when exploded bursts into 2,000 to 2,300 pieces. It is considered the most powerful smokeless powder ever invented. Its inventor is a major in the Japanese army.

Married by a Woman.

The first instance on record, in the north of England at least, of the marriage ceremony being performed by a woman has just occurred at Blackburn. Mrs Lewis, the wellknown temperance advocate, was attending a wedding at the Park Road Congregational church of two young folks connected with her Temperance Mission Hall, when the latter expressed a wish that the lady would marry them. Upon this, the pastor, the Rev Joseph Dugdale, invited Mrs Lewis to tie the nuptial knot, which she did, the pastor assisting in the ceremony.—Exchange.

Value of Fingerprints.

While the system of identification by the measurements of the head, ears, hands and feet has been developed most in France, and has already proved of great value to identifying criminals, the use of fingerprints has been most developed in England, and there are now between 70,000 and 80,000 fingerprint records in Scotland Yard, London; and last year, 3,642 identifications were made there by this system.

60,000 Yankees Going to Canada.

W. J. White, chief inspector of emigration agencies, just returned from an extended tour in the United States, reports that arrangements are about perfected for an extensive migratory movement from the United States to Canada. Mr. White believes that fully 60,000 settlers will come to the Dominion from across the line this year, as against 46,000 last year.—St. Louis Republic.

The Smallest Pension.

The smallest pension extant is believed to be that paid to a sailor in the Portsmouth Workhouse. It comes to 4d. a year, paid quarterly. Each quarter, therefore, he duly receives a penny stamp, wherewith is enclosed a stamped envelope for the receipt. He is then granted leave of absence to convert his little Eldorado into cash.—London Tit-Bits.

There are only thirty-nine iron foundries in operation in Mexico.

THE ELLIS ISLAND GATEKEEPER

Tells That In One Year 5,000 Physically Deficient Emigrants Arrived.

Mr. Williams has kept the front gate of the United States during the greatest flood of immigration in our history. In the last fiscal year 535,579 and in the year before 605,341 steerage passengers landed at Ellis Island, being nearly three-quarters of the entire number of arrivals in the United States. Of those coming in 1904 nearly five thousand were found to have serious physical or mental defects, including dangerous contagious diseases, insanity and idiocy, and over seventeen thousand more had slight defects. Over five thousand were sent to hospitals as soon as they landed. About four thousand were debarred as paupers or persons likely to become a public charge. The last months of Mr. Williams' service have been made especially arduous by an unprecedented influx of the poorest class of Russian Jews fleeing from the military conscription without means of support, and with their passage paid by charitable societies in Europe. The arrivals of Hebrew immigrants from Russia reached [illegible] in December and had averaged about 15,000 a month for the following six months.—Collier's.

Survival of Ancient Custom.

All visitors to Florence, Italy, are familiar with one of the most picturesque and touching survivals of a bygone age and have paused to gaze at the mysterious little bands of swift, silent "Fratelli della Misericordia," clad in somber black garments covering head, face and figure, that the work of mercy may be done in secret, and none know who are they that hasten to tend and succor the sick and dying.

Immediately an accident happens anywhere in the city the Misericordia are summoned and the brothers are promptly on the spot to convey the sufferer to the hospital, taking with them the remedies needed and giving help and gentle sympathy. They are never paid for their services, and it is considered a great honor to belong to the community—which numbers alike members of the highest Florentine aristocracy and the humblest classes of society.

No brother is allowed to unveil but if absolutely obliged for some reason to raise the hood he may not make the faintest sign of recognition even to his most intimate friends. The boots of the brothers are, however, the only visible index to their social standing, and patent leather may be observed beside the undyed calfskin of the simple peasant. So great is the respect for these brothers of mercy that all hats are raised to them as they pass.

Tuberculosis in Black Forest.

A Heidelberg professor, Dr. Ferdinand Fischer, has ascertained that in the Black Forest there are nearly twice as many cases of tuberculosis in the towns than among the agricultural population.

In many little frocks the material seems merely to be an excuse for holding the lace together.

There is a phrenologist up town who can tell the contents of a barrel by examining its head.

Tucks, folds and pleats are all made Ader than last season's wear.

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