

THE FIRST YEAR OF A CENTURY.

In spite of all that has been written on the subject, there is still apparently a difference of opinion as to which year is the first of a century...

STATISTICS OF DISASTERS In the United States.

According to statistics compiled by the Chicago Tribune, the loss of life from various disasters in the United States between January 1 and the morning of December 31, 1898, was 7,313.

984,900, as compared with \$38,612,614 in 1897. Of the total amount stated above there has been given to colleges \$13,086,150, to charities \$6,230,300, to church \$2,029,950, to museums and art galleries, \$1,470,000, to libraries \$1,106,500.

AMERICAN LIBERTY.

Criticism of American conditions is easy, but it becomes patriotic only when it seeks out the causes of the indicated evils with a view to eliminating them.

Within a few short months we have seen one United States Senator indicted for alleged complicity in the wrecking of a national bank; we have seen another under indictment for conniving in the misapplication of state funds; we have seen at the same time a discredited political boss return from race track jockeying abroad and without an effort resume control of the first American city; we have seen one of the above-mentioned United States Senators manipulate his party, nominate a candidate for governor, and have that candidate elected; we have seen Wall Street "played up and down" with war "news"; we see the cormorant trusts and octopus syndicates already gathering on the shores of happy Cuba, to seize street railway franchises, railroad concessions, gas and electric light monopolies,—in fact, everywhere in national, state and municipal governments a regime not only of petty "picking and stealing" but of wholesale plunder in the barter and sale and giving of franchises worth millions and billions of money properly belonging to the people.

Now goes up the cry for a large standing army. Why? To protect our foreign possessions? By no means! Simply to awe the discontented populace which, oppressed and robbed, insulted and disfranchised, has become the prey of the party bosses who, having gained control of both parties by machine methods and liberal patronage, stand together to defeat the popular will when in either party it attempts to assert itself.

The remedy for these evils is very difficult of attainment. No wonder many Americans are leaving this country in disgust and seeking in other lands relief from conditions that seem for the moment as irremediable as they are intolerable!

The People's Faith

Firmly Grounded Upon Real Merit—They Know Hood's Sarsaparilla Absolutely and Permanently Cures When All Others Fail.

MRS. A. SCOTT.

She Publishes This Letter So That Others Suffering From Female Weakness Can Benefit by Her Experience—A Story Telling Things All Women Ought to Know.

Have you ever noticed how quickly a woman loses her good looks and attractiveness? She will have a fair face, beautiful complexion and well-rounded figure. Before you know it, she is all run-down, pale and weak.



Dr. Coderre's Red Pills for Pale and Weak Women are a medicine for women and girls alone. It is not meant for men. It is a medicine that puts the feminine organs in a strong, healthy condition.

and mother well, a strong. It helps the girl go through the narrow gate of womanhood in perfect safety. Nothing equals it for prospective mothers. It makes the ordeal of child-bearing free of dread and almost painless.

NOTES ON AMERICAN CATHOLIC NEWS.

The news comes from Baltimore that a circular has been issued by his Eminence Cardinal Gibbons, to the pastors of the churches in the Archdiocese of Baltimore, notifying them that henceforth they will be required to pay a stipulated assessment towards the education of priests for this archdiocese.

The collections have, it is said, been falling off for the past five years, with the result that the colleges and St. Mary's Seminary, the institutions at which the young men of this archdiocese are prepared for the priesthood. Realizing that this debt has fast been reaching a figure at which it may become burdensome to the archdiocese, the Cardinal determined to make an effort to pay it off.

The will of the late Archbishop Gross, of Oregon, is an interesting document, says the Standard and Times, Phila. It would appear that he died penniless, since the only moneys mentioned in the document are sums that became available only on his death—viz., life insurance. That the saintly prelate was without other financial possessions is indicated by the following words of the third clause of the will: "I hereby declare that, except as hereinafter designated, I have no property or effects whatever to be accounted for by my executors."

BROTHERS MEET AFTER THIRTY YEARS.

There are many strange and affecting incidents associated with the work of Catholic missions. The following is related by a writer in the "Wilkes-Barre Times": "Rev. Father Gillespie, one of the three Jesuit Fathers who conducted the mission in St. Leo's Church, Ashley, which closed on Sunday, is a brother of Thomas Gillespie, the well-known section foreman on the Leigh Valley Railroad. While the men's mission was in progress in Ashley last week, the two brothers met for the first time in over thirty years.

PROTESTANT TOLERATION.

The present is not usually called one of the "Dark Ages," but readers of the Leighton Burial Board will not find it has some claim to the title. The facts are given by Father Bolly in the "Leighton Herald" (the "Leighton Herald")

THE OLD STORY.

It is the same old story told over again of the successful few, while the record of sorrow of the unsuccessful millions in the same ventures is lost in oblivion. "Talking of lost opportunities for riches," remarked the retired capitalist, "I count two against myself which I will regret until my dying day. One came a number of years ago when a man wanted to buy a small lot of ground from me and offered for it one thousand shares of the Bell Telephone Company, which he valued at \$1 a share. I refused to bid. The stock has since sold at \$550 a share. The other lost opportunity was even worse. An old friend who had been a school companion in my youth, came to me and implored me to help him out with an option he had on a silver mine in Colorado. He had raised \$8,000, and he needed that much more to prevent the expiration of the option in about a week. I had been bitten in a number of gold and silver mining speculations, and I refused to put up the desired \$8,000. My friend found a man on Market St. who had more nerve than I and took up the option with the \$16,000. Since that time those two men have cleared \$7,000,000 on that mine, \$3,500,000 apiece. The lightning may strike me yet, but I doubt whether I will ever recover those lost millions."

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS IN CHINA.

Difficulties of the civil service examinations are multiplied ten-fold in the requirements set down by law of applicants for positions in the mail service in China. In the first place an applicant must have strength and courage. To acquire these he goes through a very queer course of training. He wanders through mountains and valleys, forests and caves. The next time to be occupied in a trip is fixed by law and a heavy fine is imposed for unnecessary delay. He must repeat these trips at night, and if he is late for the bad spirit and thereby fails to appear at the required time at a certain place he is sure to lose his rights to a position. This is not all. He is obliged to carry an enormous weight for many miles and return with it within a given time. No allowance is made for his inability to defend himself against thieves and highwaymen, his road usually leading through a district thick with bandits. In training the candidate eats very little—though he is used to this—and he tries every straining exercise. Then comes his real examination, under the direction of government officials. He is taken into a long room where suspended from a high beam with strong ropes are very heavy sacks filled with rocks. The candidate must give a swinging motion to all these sacks and then run to and fro between them, carefully guarding against a blow by one of the heavy weights. Colonel Daniel Morris, a prominent Catholic, died recently, at Atlantic City, N. J., of asthma, at the ripe old age of 79. He leaves an estate valued at about \$250,000. Only a few distant relatives survive him and most of his wealth will

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby given that, at the next session of the Legislature of the Province of Quebec, application will be made for the incorporation of the CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OF MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, 6th December, 1898. MADORE, GERIN & FERRON, 21-5 Attorneys for Petitioners

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