

A Cataloguing Machine.
There is now in operation at the Free Public Library a new cataloguing device, the invention of Alexander J. Randolph. It is intended to supersede the present system of cataloguing by cards. Although the machines may be made of any size, those at the library are about four feet high and 20x26 inches square. They resemble polished oak-wood boxes, and being on castors may be located in any part of a room, as convenience may require.

The top or lid is made on glass, and beneath this are four leaves or slips, which are presented to view. These leaves are a part of an endless chain of 800 slips. They are arranged alphabetically with a large catch letter at the top and by means of a crank are run over two wooden cylinders, appearing in order as they are required for reference.

When these leaves pass from view they drop into the case below and are caught on a metal yoke, formed like the arc of a circle by small rods, which extend from each tenth leaf. They thus hang suspended in groups of ten leaves each, forming part of the continual chain, and ready to be sent on their journey over the cylinder again when required.

Each of the leaves as seen under the glass has edges of grooved metal into which slips of equal width and of any required depth may be slipped under the appropriate index letter. For example, slips bearing the name of the author, Adams, and his works, are placed in position on a leaf. Should this author issue another work the slips are pushed apart so as to make room for another slip bearing the title of his latest production; and when it has assumed its proper place in alphabetical order, the slips are pushed up again into close position. As each of these leaves will contain as many words as a royal octavo page of print, the information presented to a librarian by 800 of them is very considerable.

Accompanying the catalogue machine is an ingenious paper-cutting device, which permits of the slips required for insertion in the leaves being cut to a very narrow and uniform depth if so desired. —San Francisco Chronicle.

Be a Gentleman.
Since the theory of justification by combat has been exploded there seems to be no way in which a gentleman can be sure of keeping his sacred honor free from specks except by plain, ordinary, decent behavior, and respect for the rights of other people. If he does wrong he cannot fight his way right. He simply has to repent and apologize or take his punishment quietly according to the rules of the game. If he is injured and the law cannot help him, the best way for him is just to grin and bear it and let time wreak its own revenge. To be sure, if the injury is desperate and he resents it in hot blood the law may excuse him; but society has come to a point of sophistication where it is able to recognize that the man who endures is usually a stronger and nobler creature than the man who gives reign to his temper. The notion that one's "honor" can be damaged by the action of another person is pretty generally obsolete. Brag is not so good a dog as he was. Bluff will not go so far. The code that regulates in these days the manners of the highest and most influential type of American gentleman is actually to be found in the New Testament.

Feeding Grain to Lambs.
When wool only is desired, lambs and ewes are generally fed on pasture alone, but for mutton and more wool, grain is fed to the lamb, or to both ewe and lamb. J. A. Craig at the Wisconsin station, reports (B. 22) that two years' trials show that it pays to feed the lambs before weaning, all the grain they will eat even when on good red clover or blue grass pasture with their dams. When the ewes have been well fed during winter so as to be in good condition at lambing time, it did not pay to feed them grain when on good pasture, in order to secure more rapid and profitable gain in the lambs. A grain mixture of flaxseed oil meal and corn meal for feeding lambs, gave better results than a grain mixture of cotton seed meal and corn meal. During the ten summer weeks, the Shropshire grade lambs, fed the oil meal ration, each made a weekly gain of over three pounds, while those eating cotton-seed ration, each made a weekly gain of less than three pounds. With the oil meal ration, 100 pounds of gain cost \$2, while with the cottonseed meal, it cost \$3.30. An ingenious lamb creep was used to keep the ewes from eating the grain food of the lambs. —American Agriculturist.

Queerest of Civilized People.
Among the numerous peoples of trans-Caucasian Russia, the Chechures are probably the most picturesque and ethnologically most interesting tribe in the Aragwa district, north of Tioneti. The remotest mountain valleys are their hunting grounds and pastures.

A recent traveler describes them as the "best-preserved relic of the Middle Ages" to be found in Europe. Their habitual armor consists of a long coat of mail, a helmet of chiseled iron plates, with camail, greaves and shield. Below this knightly dress they wear a coat embroidered with red crosses.

They are said to be the descendants of crusaders who were driven from the Holy Land by the Musselmans, and made their way to the mountains of the north. Their language, however, a Carpathian dialect, seems to disprove this hypothesis.

Their marriage customs include the apparent kidnapping of brides and other ancient usages. A singular but most important part of the woman's dowry consists in a piece of pumice stone set in jewels and used in grinding their husbands' corns.

The Chechures live in fortress-like houses, whose pinnacles to this day they decorate with the cut-off hands of their vanquished enemies.

Smallest Country in the World.
The smallest country in the world is said to be the territory of Moresnet, which lies between Belgium and Germany. It's 2,000 inhabitants are mostly occupied in tin mining, although agriculture is also engaged in. Military service and election days are unknown. The senate of ten members is appointed by the mayor, who is chosen by two delegates, one from Belgium and one from Germany. The police force consists of one man, whose salary is provided by the annual revenue (about 1,200 francs), which also maintains the roads and schools. The territory was declared independent in 1815, to settle the dispute when the boundary was fixed between Germany and Belgium, both countries wanting its tin mines. It contains only two and one-half square miles. —Public Opinion.

FACTS ABOUT LONDON.

Interesting Statistics of the Greatest City From Recent Returns.
The total population of the County of London on April 6, 1891, was 4,231, the increase in ten years being 397,337, or 10.36 per cent. The number of inhabited houses was 557,134, an increase on 1881 of 68,249 or 13.96 per cent.

The total expenditure on the local government of London in the years 1889-90 was £10,736,000, or as much as an Australian colony. This was equal to £2 10s. 8d. per head of population. The rates were levied upon a ratable value of £31,586,000, so that the amount per £1 was 6s. 9d., but the rate payer only paid 4s. 10d. of this amount. The central rates are equal upon all the parishes, but the rates for parish purposes are very unequal, ranging from 8s. 9 3/4d. down to 1s. 0 1/4d. For imperial and local purposes combined London pays in taxation approximately £17,000,000. The inland revenue returns show that the total incomes earned in London amount to £123,513,000, so that the burden of taxation amounts to 14 per cent. The balance of the loans outstanding at the end of 1891 was £43,032,000.

On January 1, 1891, the paupers numbered 112,547 and the cost of pauperism was in 1889-90 £2,340,000, the cost of each pauper being £21 16s. 1d.

The number of persons committed for trial during 1889-90 was 2,905, while 109,748 were convicted summarily. The habitual offenders, known to the police, not committed during the year numbered 2,392. The total represents a percentage of 2.7 to the whole population. The cost of the police was £1,799,000 or £15 12s. 9d. per head of the incriminated class. Industrial schools cost £20,652.

In the schools of the metropolis the pupils numbered in 1890-91 652,354, the total cost of the board of schools was £1,960,000, of which £1,272,000 was thrown on local rates.

The death rate in London in 1891 was 21.4 per 1,000 of the population, which compares favorably with other large towns, Liverpool rising as high as 27 per 1,000.

The open spaces in London, without reckoning the disused burial grounds, extend to 5,449 acres. Besides, there are open spaces on its borders which bring up the total of parks accessible to Londoners to 32,000 acres.

The fires in the metropolis in 1891 numbered 2,892, of which 193 were serious. The lives lost numbered 61, 31 of these having been taken out alive. The total cost of the brigade was £130,723, or 6 3/4d. per head of the population. The fire insurance companies contributed £27,196. Property was insured for no less a sum than £806,000,000. —Pall Mall Gazette.

SIX MILES A MINUTE.
An Earthquake Wave Once Crossed the Ocean in Twelve Hours.

People are apt to indulge apprehensions about the movement of waves of the ocean which are erratic, born, perhaps, of illusionary influences. Every one has noticed the action of the wind on a field of corn, and seen the undulations caused by its crossing the field in a few seconds; but no one supposes that a single stock has left its place. As with the corn wave, says the "Brooklyn Eagle," so with the water wave, the substance remains rising and falling in the same place, while it is only the form that moves. The speed of this movement depends on the speed of the wind. When a gentle breeze is blowing the friction between the atmosphere and the water is small, and only a slight ripple is produced; but should the velocity of the wind increase the ripples become waves or even billows, mountains of water, moving at a tremendous speed.

Waves which have resulted from earthquake shocks have traversed the ocean at a speed which is almost incredible. For instance, the great earthquake which occurred at Samoda, in Japan, caused a great wave which traveled across the Pacific from that country to San Francisco, a distance of nearly 5000 miles, in not much more than twelve hours—that is to say, it raced across the ocean at the rate of about six and a half miles per minute. The self-acting tide gauges at San Francisco, which recorded the arrival of this great wave, rendered it quite certain that this was the actual rate of progress.

HE PEELS THE POTATOES.
The German Cook Must Begin at the Bottom.

There are probably 150 schools for cooking in Germany and Austria, the best of which are at Vienna, Berlin and Leipzig. A man who wishes to become a chef must begin at the very bottom of the ladder—at peeling potatoes—and work up round by round to the top. A course of schooling as strict as that of any polytechnic school in this country must be followed for four years before the student can get a diploma. Every year competitive exhibitions are given in which as many as 200 chefs take part. The chef who was employed at the White House by Grover Cleveland, and who, it is rumored, may be again, has a gold medal which was presented to him by the Empress Frederick for excellence in cooking, a silver medal given by the King of Saxony, a diploma from the Queen of Austria and numerous other marks of approbation and honor won in competitive contests in cooking. It is not to be wondered at that European cooks command extraordinary salaries in this country. —New York World.

The Newest Inventions.
A holder for heavy twine, having a knife cutter at the outlet worked by a spring.

A duplicating check book, having a leaf with a carbon face and an impervious back of textile material.

A paper tube for insulating purposes, composed of a layer of waterproof paper covered with a layer of asbestos previously treated with soluble glass.

A corn-popping machine, consisting of a revolving case inside another which revolves at a different rate, the former taking up the corn as fast as popped.

Young Mice Adopted by a Cat.
Aboard the steamer Wilmington, which to-day arrived in the harbor, is a cat. She has the maternal instinct developed to an extraordinary degree. Some months ago, so the officers say, and their word is not to be doubted, she adopted the kitten of another cat, which had died. Still later she adopted another orphan kitten, but her latest adoption took place only a week or so since. In rummaging in the ship's hold she discovered and killed an old female mouse which had two little mice. These the cat adopted, and up to two days ago raised them as her own. Then her large family became a nuisance and had to be destroyed. —Seattle (Washington)—Press Times.

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