THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE, NOVEMBER 4, 1896

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Some Peculiar Scenes in the Gruesome Place.

Euricelty and Queer Superstitions of People Who Visit the Establishment.

There are men in the morgue to whom death has become sadly familiar, yet they have their fun, none the less. It is fun of a gruesome sort, to be sure, but without it life would be unbearable.

The echo of their laughter rings back in hollow mockery, as if the lifeless bodies stored in tiers were enjoying the joke, and this weird echo often checks their jollity. Mr. White, the keeper of the morgue,

has seen many queer things within that gloomy chamber that would be rich ma-

terial for the funny paragraphers. Only a few weeks ago he was standing on the pier outside the morgue when a small tug came puffing up the river and

made fast to the landing. "Got a stiff for you," laconically de-clared the captain, leaning out of the window of the pilot house.

"All right," responded White, who at once summoned his assistants, and they hoisted ashore the body of a well built young fellow which was towed astern of the tug.

"Found him down the bay and made fast to him," again volunteered the captain, who seemed to expect some praise for his work; but he did not get it from White, who is so used to handling nothing but dead bodies that a new one only means so much more work. So the little tug went steaming angrily away, and the body was placed in an ice box.

Shortly after, a Deputy Coroner appeared to view the remains, and was just about to wield his instruments in beginning an autopsy, when the corpse sat up in the box inquiring calmly, "What is the matter? It is celder than a cake of ice here."

Deputy Coroner, Morgue Keeper, and assistants fell over one another in their haste to get away, and the corpse, as badly frightened then as they were, jumped up and started after them. He -only reached the office where he sank in a chair exhausted.

Whiskey and other restoratives were L liberal quantities, and the resurrected one was soon able to be taken to Bellevue Hospital. There he gave his name as Samuel Cockran, twenty years old, of 246 West 49th street. He only left the hospital a few days ago, but many a laugh he enjoyed with White and "Jeff;" the old time police-man stationed at the Morgue, and others whom he frightened on the day of his resurrection.

His experience furnished an idea for Jimmy Wallace, a "Weary Willie," one of the corps of dead-hendlers at-tached to the Morgue.

Whiskey of late years has become al-most an unknown quantity to Jimmy, vet he recently managed to get as much as he could carry by imitating Cockran's example. He went to sleep on the stringpiece one evening recently, and

with every living relative of the right dead man riding with him, and they all took a hand in loading the proper body in the wagon.

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" It frequently occurs that some person comes here, identifies a body as that of dear friend, bursts forth into the loudest kind of wailing, and then returns a few hours later laughing with joy, to say a mistake had been made, and that the man or woman thought to be dead had come home only a little the worse for mixed ale or some other deadly beverage.

"But would you belie e that there are persons whose sense of humor is so perverted that they play tricks on the dead?" he asked.

"There are some. They come here regularly, identify bodies, and order them sent to an address. Upon arrival there it is found that no one knows them, and they are trundled back here. No one wanted the body alive, and no one wanted it afterwards," he concluded. A few weeks ago the body of a man was brought to the morgue whose clenched right hand held five playing

cards, three trays and two aces. There was such a look of satisfaction in the man's eyes that no one who has ever played the great American game could resist a smile.

The stake which that hand won was death, and the laugh at the pleased expression of the floater's face was hushed as soon as it left the lips.

"I shan't forget the seven days that c me just atter the explosion of the bomb in Russell Sage's office a few years ago," said keeper White a few days ago between the visits of a sad eyed mother who was looking for her boy and a nervous young man who had read of the finding of a body which he was afraid might be his father's. "That week was he hardest I ever passed through. I wish we had kept a record of the number and kind of folks who came here to look at the bomb thrower's head, which, you remember, was all that was left of hin. There were literally thousands of callers who wanted to see that head. Hundreds pre-tended they could identify the horrible thing as it floated in a glass jar of alcohol where we had put it for preservation, but no one who came for that avowed purpose could offer the slightest clew. You remember how the identification came about finally, of course-how Ike White, a newspaper reporter, got hold of one of the buttons from the bomb thrower's trousers, how he followed up the clew found the maker of the trousers and then how the bomb thrower's parents were afterwards traced."

All that was told in the newspapers at the time, but no true notion was given in print of the general morbid interest that was taken in the case. It was the museum keepers who made life a burden for the genius of the morgue.

When it was learned that the jar of alcohol containing the head of the victim could not even be rented, attempts were made by the score to get possession of it by bogus identification. All sorts of schemes were resorted to, most of them so transparent that they needed only a moment's investigation to stamp them fraudulent. It got so bad before Ike White's real identification was made, that the dead house men were almost ready to bounce out of the place every one who came in to look at the trunkless head. After the second or necessarily small, and the banks are third day of the week there came fear | open only on two or three days a week, that, unless sharp watch were kept, the some of them only on Saturday afterwhile in that condition a wag began to head would be stolen, and so it was noons, tickle his nose. He made several passes taken into the hospital every night and At the at the fly which, as he supposed, was locked up in a big iron safe, which was savings bank business can be transacted annoying him, and at last rolled off into constantly under the eye of a vigilant watchman.-Boston Post.

Harnes. She discussed pretty thorough-ly the merits of kindergarten work. Following her Mrs. John S. Trautman read a paper on "Health Protective Associations." The history of a band of women organized in this city to secure the abatement of certain abuses was given. Col. Waring was spoken of in very complimentary terms. The speaker told how certain persons in this city, who allowed public nuisances to remain on their premises, were indicted, and how sanitary reforms were introduced in some of the public schools.

In the evening, Miss Agnes Reppelier of Philadelphis spoke on "The New Wo-

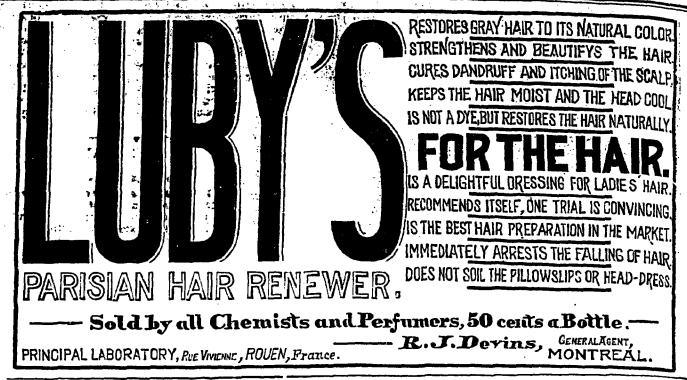
"The term, 'new woman,'" she said, "is odious." "Partisans in petticoats" and "feminine effrontery" were among some descriptive terms she applied to masculine women. She told about Ad dison's satires on the new women of his time, "women who dabbled in politics, just as we do now," and his reference to our great-grandmothers" as models of virtue.

"In years to come," she said, " when we are the great-grandmothers who are dead, we will be lauded for our virtues, our silence, and our stay-at-homeativeness, while the then new woman will be the object of men's satires."



tributed by postmen, says an English correspondent of an American journal, St. Martins-le Grand is seeking to make ing classes, as the amount for which an more widely known among working insurance can be effected cannot exceed people the numerous aids to thrift which have been established and developed in connection with the post office. There are now 12,000 local post offices through which people may do savings bank business, and at which the postmasters act as agents, through whom depositors may the button furnished, and, in Boston, | invest in consols, insure their lives with government security, or buy life an-nuities, to be paid them by the government through the post office savings bank.

The savings bank business is the more important. The facilities the post office now give are so numerous and wellplanned that savings banks under pri-vate management do not endeavor to compete with the government bank. Those which were established before the post office system was set on foot continue to do business; but many of them have been transferred to the post office, and no new ones have been started for years past. There is in fact no need for them, and with the post office banks in every village, local gentlemen are no lon er willing to undertake the ho orary and responsible duties which attach to trusteeship in the old style of savings bank. In these banks the staffs are



each transaction in stock between £75 and £100. The agording of these facilities for obtaining government stock is one of the most useful of the newer departures of the post office in the direction of aids to thrift. Thousands of people of the working classes are now. are as shy of dealings with stock-brokers easy terms of payment would seem to as they are of being brought into too warrant to them. c ose contact with lawyers; and when left to themselves, their field for invest ment is small and they are apt to become the prey of schemers.

The insurance department of the postoffice is as yet exclusively for the work-£100 The amounts range from £5 upwards. To afford working people an opportunity of providing against expense consequent upon the death of children, children between eight and fourteen years can be insured for ± 5 . The insurance of children below this age is left in the hands of the industrial insurance companies, whose armies of agents are confinually active in collecting the pence of their working class patrons. Through the post office, as through the ordinary irsurance companies, insurances may be efficted by the payment of a lump sum or by annual premiums. The sums insurd for can be made payable at death, on the attainment of the age of fifty-five, sixty, or sixty-five, or sooner if death oc curr, and on the expiration of periods of ten, fifteen, and up to forty years. Between twenty-four and twentytive, to take an example, a man or a voman can be insured for £10 by a paym nt throughout life of four shillings and four pence a year, or a penny a week by an annual payment to the age of sixty of four shillings and ten pence, or by a single payment of $\pounds 4$ 9s.

The payments for life insurance can be made through the post office savings bank, and are accepted in addition to ordinary deposits and to deposits for investment in goverment stock. It is not necessary that the premiums sho ld be chair in the smoke. Schuster turned it paid in one annual sum. They can be on its side, and, covering the baby with paid by deposits in the savings bank of sums of not less one shilling, and by the use of stamp blanks, like those in use to encourage children to use the banks. Thus, in the case of a policy-holder whose annual payment is four shillings and four pence, a penny stamp can be placed each weck on one of the blanks, and the blank handed into the local office when filled up. Another useful provision is that so long as a depositor who is also insured in the post-office has sufficient money in the bank the insurance premium will be deducted as it becomes due, without the depositor - eing troubled in the matter beyond receiving the notice that the deduction has been made. If the money on deposit is not sufficient to meet the charge, notice is given to the depositor so that he may add to his balance to meet the required amount. Insurances up to £25 are made with out medical examination; but in such cases, if the insured should die before the second premium becomes payable, only the amount of the first premium will be paid to his representatives. If he should die before the payment of the third premium, half the amount insured will be paid. In any case, if it is proved that the death was caused by accident, the full amount will be paid. This de-partment of the thrift side of the postoffice has been used only to a compara-tively small extent, and when the postoffice estimates are under discussion in the House of Commons, there are frequently complaints that it has not been pushed as it might be. A postmaster reaps no benefit from pushing the insurance business; while the ordinary industrial insurance companies pay large commissions on new business, and on premiums collected, to the thousands of agents whose presence and work are fea tures in the social and economic life of all the large centres of industrial popu lation Both immediate and deferred annuities can now be secured through the post office. The immediate annuities are secured, of course, by the payment of a lump sum. A man at the age of thirty can secure an annuity of £10 by the payment of £204 10s. 10d If he is fifty, by the payment of £149 19s. 2d. A woman at thirty has to pay £225 16s 81, and at fifty £165 17s. 6d. Deterred an-nuities cost proportionately less. A boy at ten can have purchased for him an annuity of £1 payable at fifty for £5 11s. 9d., or for 4s. 4d., paid annually between ten and fifty. A woman at twenty-lour, under the same plan, can purchase an annuity of £1 payable at sixty, for £5 4s. 11d., or by an annual payment of 4s. 4d. In the case of these deferred annuities in the event of the death of the person to whom the annuity is to be paid, the purchase money will be returned to his representatives.

the commission is lifteen pence; and so on years an annuity of ± 1 , offers a basis for up to two shillings and three pence for calculation to people of the working each transaction in stock between ± 75 classes; and it is for this reason that the proposals are out in this shape in the literature circulated by the post office in order to popularize its schemes in the interest of thrift. The savings bank is long past the need of advertisement. It now no more needs advertising than hollers of consols, who, but for these the post office itself. But the insurance easy and cheap facilities placed at their and annuity schemes have not yet got doors, would never have really under the foothold among English working stood what consols are. Working people | people that their absolute security and

DARING RESCUE OF A BABY.

A New York Fireman Crawls into a Room to save the Infant,

Three little children, locked in their home by their mother while she went to market, played with match s, and the v ungest was only saved from death in the fire they started by a daring fireman's courage.

The three children-Bennie, five years old ; Willie, three years old. and Lester, sixteen months old-are the children of John Harmes, a street car conductor, who lives in a flat house at 70 West One Hundred and First Str et, New York. After Bennie had started the fire, he pulled the bab, who was fastened in a

baby chair, as tar from the flames as he could, and then beat on the hall door and called for help. Mrs. Abramwitz, who lives on the

and, breaking the door open, caught Bennie and Willie up in her arn:s and rushed to the street with them. Both were burned about the face, but not seriously. A few minutes latter the firemen reached the house, and it was then discovered that Baby Lester was still in the burning rooms. Firemen Schuster crawled on his hands and knees beneath the flames, which were

pouring through the upper part of the doorway, to the bedroom, where he groped about until he found the baby, still fastened in his chair and unconscious. As he could not unfasten the າເກັສ

ecessary to raise for the armament and equipment of the imperial trucps, is recognized as a thinly veiled invitation to Mussulmans to prepare to attack Christians.

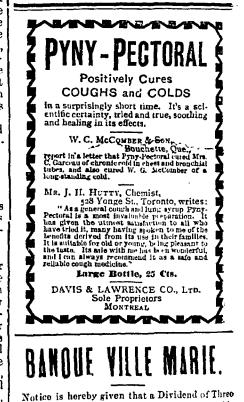
This cannot fail to bring about mas. acres in the provinces, even if the vigilance of the guardships is able to prevent the killing of Christians in Constantinople.

Hair shows the innate disposition of man or woman more than any other part of the person. When the distantition is cheerful the hair is bright, and vice versa. But as attention will improve the one, so will a few weeks application of Luby's Parisian Hair Renewer help the other. Sold by all chemists at 50 cts each bottle.

A certain eminent tragedian, while on a visit to Dublin, happened to take a stroll down O'Connell street, accompanied by his wife, who was a lady of very low stature, but inclined to obesity. A fish woman, coming the other way, brushed roughly against the tragedian's better

hall, who indignantly remarked: "You'd better walk over me, woman!" "Be me sowl." replied the fishwoman, taking in the lady's dimensions, "' twould be aiser walkin' over ye than round ye any day."

Mr. Murphy undertock to tell how many were at the party: "The two Crogans was one, myself was two, Mike Finn w s three, and—and who the mis-chief was four? Let me see" (counting Mrs. Abramwitz, who lives on the link ingers), "the two Crogans was one, floor above, heard the bay's screams, Mike Finn was two, and myself was three, and-bedad ! there was four of us; but St. Patrick couldn't tell the name of the other. Now, it's meself that have it! Mike Finn was one, the two Crogans was two, meself was three-and-andbe the powers I think there was but three of us after all."-" Miriam," Liscarroll.



the water. When he was finally picked I out he was to all intents and purposes dead,

and worked over him in all the "ays directed by the Board of Health. Final. ly he was pronounced dead by the doc-tors. Just then some one suggested a little brandy. One of Jimmy's eyes opened immediately. "No-whiskey," he faintly murmured. A pint was poured into him, then the other eye opened, and after he had a quart more or less poured down he began to talk with his usual volubility.

Still thus are not the most curious cases that have come to the notice of Mr. Woite Frequently persons afflicted with tumors or goitre go to the charnel house, and beg to be permitted to rub the hand of a dead person over the afflicted spot. They have such faith that they really below such contact with dead hands will core the n. Their prayers and pre-office for the uncanny privilege are also no the most amosing kind.

One woman, who is a constant visitor, has a large swelling in her neck, and every time she visits the morgue for the laying on of dead hands, she amuses those who see her by her Munchausen tales. which she claims are true, of wonderful cures which have been effected in this way.

Neither White nor his assistants are done laughing yet over the clever hosx that was perpetrated on them a few days ago, when a supposed infant's body that had been fished out of the East River turned out to be nothing more or less than a first class imitation of the figure of a body made out of gum drops. The work was so well done that the joke was not discovered until a deputy cor ner who had been summoned to perform an autopsy stuck his knife in it to begin work.

A popular undertaker, whose place of business is right opposite, was for years the official "death messenger" of Bellevue Hospital, and his duties called him frequently to t e morgue.

In conversation with the writer he said : There is more fun to the square inch in the daily routine of the Morgue, than there is to be found in many of those continuous performance theatres. Iremember one case, while I was there, where a firm of Tenth Avenue under takers called for the body of a man whose tell tives had identified him, and is grave to the the body out there he had a speech of welcome. The address of the Bresident, Mrs. Mardley, was de voted to an explanation of the aims and purposes of the organizations, after which the reports of the virious clubs were heard. In the afternoon a paper on the Kindergarten" was read by Mrs. Fannie than there is to be found in many of



builder.



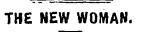
AN EFFECTIVE METHOD

Of Propagating Total Abstinence Among Millionaires.

The New York Sun publishes the fol-lowing despatch from San Francisco, which demonstrates a new and most effi cacious method by which parents with millions may bring about sober habits among their offspring :--As a reward for his five consecutive

years of total abstinence from intoxicants, Mr. George Crocker yesterday received \$500,000. Mr. Charles Crocker, father of George, Charles F., and Wil liam H. Crocker, died on September 22, 1891, and his will failed to bequeath a portion of his property to his son George, who was given to over indulgence in 1n, toxicants. He placed, hower, 490 bonds of the Southern Pacific Company in the hands of the other two sons in trust for George, with the proviso that if within fifteen years after the death of the founder of the fund George Crocker should remain sober for five consecutive years the principal should be turned over to him. If, however, he failed to abstain, the bonds were to be distributed among certain grandchildren of Mr. Cnarles Crocker.

In September last George Crocker ap plied for the bonds, alleging he had been sober for five years. The matter was submitted to the courts by the executors. who were instructed to turn over the bonds to the legatee.



The Subject Discussed at a Recent Convention in Jersey,

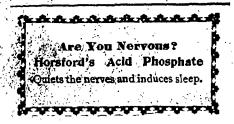
The second annual convention of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs was held in Jersey City last week. The Federation though young in years, is of a far-reaching character. It com-prises all the women's clubs of the State

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At this post offices, on the other hand, from eight c'clock in the morning until eight o'clock at night on every day of the week. A depositor is allowed to have only one account, and before an account can be opened the applicant must file a declaration to the effect that he has no savings bank account elsewhere. Husband and wife may have separate accounts, and accounts may be opened by patents for children over seven years of age. The smallest deposit that can be made is one shilling; but to encourage children to use the banks, blanks are given out on which children can place postage stamps. There are twelve vacant places on a blank. When these are all covered with penny stamps. and the blank is handed in at a post office, a shilling is credited to the account of the depositor. In addition special facilities are afforded to children attending the elementary schools to make deposits at the post office banks.

Up to about a couple of years ago, to the time when Mr. Arnold Morley was Postmaster-General in the Gladstone and Rosebery administrations, only £30 could be deposited to one account between one year and the corresponding date the next year. This limitation was long objected to as disadvantageous to artisans and mechanics in seasons of great prosperity, especially to young and unmarried men; when Mr. Morley was at the post office, the limit was advanced to £50. Beyond £50, a person can only make ordinary deposits, if he has withdrawn money during the year and desires to put it back In this case, he is allowed to replace one such with drawal during the year. He can do this either in one sum or by instalments. More than £50 can be deposited, but without interest, which is at the rate of 21 per cent; and whenever a depositor's total account exceeds £200 no further ordinary deposits will be received from him. He can reduce his account by the purchase of consols through the local post office at which he has his savings account. Any sum from one shilling upwards can be invested in government stock at the current price of the day; and any number of investments can be made in the course of the year up to £200 stock. A person can hold £500 stock thus obtained through the post office, and at the same time have £200 on deposit in the savings bank.

The post office also sells stock obtain ed and held through it. It charges a commission of nine pence for the purchase or sale of stock in amounts below £25. For amounts between £25 and £50



The sum of £1 a year will go but a little way towards providing for the old age of either a man or a woman. No annuities of such small amounts are boucht. But a payment of one penny a week, securing at a fixed period in after

his own coat, pushe he crawled back to the hallway. The baby was revived by medical aid and was found to be but slightly injured .- Times.

Patents on Incubators.

Messre. Marion & Laberge, Engineers and Experts in Patents, 185 St. James street, Montreal, furnish us the following inf rmation :-

The art of hatching chickens by arti ticial means was practised in Egypt for thousands of years with considerable SUCCESS. Machines with this end in view were patented in this country prior to 1871, but very rarely with any positive degree of success. The reason for their failure arose from the operator's

ignorance of the degree of heat and amount of moisture requisite. The British patent to Cantelo, No. 11,102, February 25th, 1836, and the United States patents to Hoffman, No. 4,978, February 20, 1847, and Guerin, No. 3,019, March 30th. 1843, are among the earliest types of incubator employed in this country and England. Following these tentative constructions, the most important innovation was made by Rose-brook, No. 271,991, February 6th, 1883, who successfully regulated the temperature by a thermostat and electric circuit, and Halstend, No. 267 422, November | inclusive. 14th, 1882, who devised an egg turner and moisture system. Campbell. No. 372,115, October 25th, 1887, provided for the independent regulation of water and air temperatures, thereby greatly en-hancing the effectiveness of the incubator. In this class 129 patents have been issued.

The following patents have been granted this week to Canadian inventors :-

569 994-William R. Boisvert, Levis, spring-bed.

570,380-Alexander M. Chalmers, Nan-

aimo, envelope. 570,164—Francis J. Freeze, Montreal, sole-splitting machine.

570,404-John A. Jackson and J. S. White, Toronto, mangle. 570,182-Paul R. Krasel, Montreal,

ash-sifter.

Anxiety in Turkey.

The Constantinople correspondent of the London Daily News telegraphs that the situation in that city is causing the gravest anxiety in diplomatic circles, which are again discussing the question of the deposition of the Sultan. The statement of the Porte that no forced levy has been made to procure money with which to buy arms, and that the irade which was construed to be an order for such a levy was merely an appeal to Turkish subjects to voluntarily contribute to a fund that was found

> TinED MOTHERS find help in Hood's Sarsaparilla, which gives them pure blood, a good appetite and new and needed STRENCTH.

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Per Cent. upon the paid-up Ccapital Stock of this Institution has been declared for the current halfyear, and that the same will be payable at its Hend Office, in this city, and its Branches, on and after

TUESDAY, THE FIRST DAY OF DECEMBER NEXT,

The Transfer books will be closed from the 16th to the 30th day of November next, both days

> By order of the Board. W. WEIR. President. 15-5

