

BRINGS AWFUL TALE.

Missionary from India Describes Famine Scenes.

Parents Selling Their Children—Trade Is Mostly in Girls Who Bring Thirty Cents Apiece—Frightful Sight.

Rev. Rockwell Clancy, a missionary at Allahabad, who is visiting his brother in Medford, Mass., said in an interview:

"The condition of famine-stricken India to-day is something perfectly awful to contemplate. I cannot tell anything about the number dying, but when I left Bombay in February there were some 60,000,000 people suffering and over 30,000,000 were in dire distress, and of these but 5,000,000 were receiving government aid."

"It is not the cities, but the country places, which are stricken, and when you know that it is mostly among the agricultural classes, and that 80 per cent. of the population of India is made up of tillers of the soil, you may be able to grasp in some slight manner the extent of the suffering at the present time."

"When the famine set in the people began to sell everything they had that might get a little grain for food. They took the doors from their houses and sold them; sold their furniture and farming utensils, and then, when they had no longer anything to sell, they sold their children. The boys don't sell well, and the traffic is largely in girls."

"I saw girls in one town just before I came away being sold for 30 cents apiece. They were bought up by Mohammedans. But they won't buy the boys, so when the parents can no longer support their children they abandon them and henceforth they must get on as best they can. These cast-offs congregate about the doors of the grain merchants' shops, and the only way the proprietors can get rid of them is to throw out handfuls of grain, scattering it wide. The children pick and pick all day, and at night perhaps are rewarded by having collected a single handful."

TEACHES JOURNALISM.

Murat Halstead's Novel College Put Into Operation at Cincinnati.

The purpose of the college of journalists at Cincinnati, O., of which Murat Halstead, the veteran editor, has accepted the presidency, is devoted to teaching practical newspaper work in every branch. Reporters and correspondents, as well as others contemplating a journalistic career, will be told what sort of matter is best to write about, how to gauge the importance of news from a fire to a convention and how to prepare it so as to have it accepted by the editors.

Duties of editors and editorial writers will be explained according to those standards which prevail in the best newspaper offices in the country. The business and circulation departments will be handled by experts.

Mr. Halstead believes that such an institution will ultimately be of mutual benefit to employer and employee. The course of study will occupy one year, divided into two terms. Instructions will be by written lessons, as in the Chautauqua system, and will be sent by mail to pupils. In a prospectus Mr. Halstead has given many interesting reasons why an institution of this kind should exist.

GIVES AWAY AUTOGRAPHS.

Old White House Attendant Attentive to Visitors to the Executive Mansion.

At the white house is an old attendant who is especially fond of showing tourists through the place and telling of the days when Lincoln was president. The other day he was particularly active in distributing his autographs, which is another one of his habits. Handing one to a reporter, inscribed "Thomas C. Hendel, April 14, 1900," he said:

"You don't seem to appreciate what that means. Just 35 years ago to-night I closed the door as President Lincoln went out of the white house the night he was assassinated."

The attendant added that he wrote 30,000 autographs last year, and they had gone to every part of the world, even President Kruger's wife having two in her possession. The signature is made in a scrawly hand, much like that of a schoolboy who is learning to write.

Was a New Species.

The other morning Bradley Martin was crossing Pall Mall near the Carlton club, and a cab coming down the street at a good pace came within an inch of spilling the wealthy American with one of the shafts. The cabby pulled up only in time to save the situation. Bradley Martin leaped to the pavement, and, turning in anger to the cabby, shouted angrily: "What the deuce are you trying to run down?" Cabby gazed in contempt and sorrow upon the flushed pedestrian and replied: "Blest if I know, gu' nor. You're a new species to me."

Knew When to Say Yes.

There is a man in Boston who has induced a girl to be his wife after she had refused him 21 times, and the Chicago Times-Herald unfriendly remarks that she must have been afraid he would quit if she tried him again.

Aged Paupers.

There are 12 men in Chichester (England) workhouse whose united ages make 1,042 years—an average of nearly 87 years.

MEET AFTER MANY YEARS.

Brother and Sister Separated in Infancy Have a Happy Reunion at Newton, Kan.

Miss Florence Penick, of Wellington Kan., the adopted daughter of Rev. Thomas W. Penick, of that place, had a joyous surprise recently. Until a few weeks ago she knew nothing of a living relative. About 18 years ago the girl's parents died in Grayson county, Ky., and the five children were placed in an orphans' home in Louisville. Mrs. Penick adopted Florence. It was then a rule of the home that no information should be given concerning the parentage of the inmates, hence the foster parents knew nothing of the child, except that she came of good stock. The girl was two years old at the time of her adoption, and she had no recollection of any brothers.

"The man with the hoe" was entreated by Mrs. Mead and glowing allusions and prospects for the "woman with the hoe" were vigorously applauded by the hundred women present. The labor of the garden patch, states Mrs. Mead, induces a contemplative state of mind, in which a woman's thoughts, if they stay from her toil, will only turn to husband, children and household duties.

"No better relief from social cares and disappointments can be had," said the speaker, "than to discard the corset, don a gingham gown, and with sleeves rolled up take this healthful outdoor exercise."

Mr. Penick received a letter recently from James C. Jackson, of Ethel, Tex., inquiring for a lost sister. A correspondence resulted, photographs were exchanged and Florence was proved to be Jackson's sister.

Dr. Jackson, a prominent citizen of that section of Kentucky where the children were born, adopted this boy, giving him the name of Jackson. The family removed to Ethel, Tex., where the doctor died in 1892. The boy remained with Mrs. Jackson till her death, last February. He had always had a feeling that he had a sister somewhere in the world. He did not know why, but so firm was the belief that he made a vigorous and determined effort to find her. He has also found his three brothers, two of whom are in Kentucky. Jackson may decide to make his home in Kansas with his sister.

JUDGES FOR HALL OF FAME.

Of the One Hundred to Be Selected Forty-Seven Have Been Secured.

Chancellor MacCracken, of New York university, has given out a list of those whose acceptances of invitations to serve as judges in connection with the New York university Hall of Fame have been received. The judges will consider the names submitted for inscription on the walls of the hall, and will make recommendations of those they regard as suitable. There are to be 100 judges. At present 30 replies have been received to the invitations to serve—47 acceptances, and three declinations. Among others the acceptances are from President Eliot, of Harvard university; President James B. Angell, of the University of Michigan; President Henry Wade Rogers, of Northwestern university; President Arthur T. Hadley, of Yale university; President Seth Low, of Columbia university; Professor Frank J. Judson, University of Chicago; Prof. Robert D. Shepard, Northwestern university; ex-President Grover Cleveland, Princeton, N. J.; Gov. Theodore Roosevelt, New York city; Dr. Edward Everett Hale, Roxbury, Mass.; Charles Dudley Warner, Hartford, Conn., and Chief Justice Melville W. Fuller, United States supreme court.

LAYS TRACKS UNDER MULES.

The Missouri Pacific Construction Crew Boasts Its Rivals' Record.

The novel feat of building a railroad through a mule barricade was successfully accomplished at Orongoro, Mo., the other night by a Missouri Pacific construction crew. For some time there has been lively competition between the Missouri Pacific and Frisco companies in seeking to get into the busy new zinc mining camps. For a week both roads had been rushing rail laying to Orongoro, a prosperous mining camp between Joplin and Carthage.

The Missouri Pacific could not get in without crossing the Frisco track at one particular place and at that place were stationed two teams of mules, completely obstructing the track, but this did not stop the Missouri Pacific crew. When they built their line up to the mules they crawled under them and actually laid the rails under the mules' bellies and thus got the desired crossing.

AUTOMOBILES FOR COWBOYS.

Beam of the Tough Little Pony of the Plains Seen in Order of a Big Ranch Owner.

Next slated to go is the cowboy's horse. Boots and spurs are doomed roundups, brandings, drivings—all in the near future will be done by automobile. "Yes, it's true," said John G. Kennedy, owner of La Parra Ranch in Texas, one of the biggest in the country. "I have decided to run 60 automobiles on my 20,000-acre ranch. I have placed the order and they will be shipped next month. I suppose the boys will kick a bit when they lay down their boots and spurs, but even cowboy can't stay the march of progress."

Mr. Kennedy expects to see automobiles running all over the western plains soon, chasing refractory steers while an accomplished lariat thrower sits on the front seat to bring them to earth with neatness and dispatch.

Large Steamers.

The largest steamers which were launched in the United Kingdom during last year are the following: Oceanic, 17,274 tons gross; Ivernia, 13,800; Minneapolis, 13,750; Saxon, 12,970; Saxonia, 12,750; Persic, 11,973.

Spring Opening.

A Chicago woman has received 12 proposals of marriage within three days. Publicity was recently given, says the Chicago Times-Herald, to the fact that she earns a salary which is large enough to keep two people comfortably.

Dewey's Chances.

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