## **NEW YORKER'S GREWSOME HOBBY**

Wealthy New Rochelle Man Collects Relics of Tragic Deaths as a Pastime.



COL T. EDWARD (ONLES

saw a native woman stretched out ap-

parently in the last threes of her

Offered Grewsome Relic.

handed to him a small slip of paper

him to take the paper to a yogi whom

on receiving his promise to do so ap-

To his astonishment she told him to

cut off the first finger of her right

"It will protect you wherever you

o," she said, "and will be a return for

Before Col. Cowles could reply the

mind, as he supposed that they were

getting the strange command. When

slip of paper to the yogl and began to

into possession of it, but the aged man

"You should have taken the finger,

Col. Cowles threw up his hands in

disgust and went away. A week later

he sailed for London. Just before the

The finger has been put through

certain amount of warmth, and even

Killed by a Needle.

has a little hole in the top showing

Most of the articles still bear stains

There are hundreds of other things

sahib," the man said. "The woman

said he knew all about it.

was holy. A mahatma."

woman was dead. The words of the

the favor you will do for me."

Col. Cowles gave her some brandy,

death agony.

suffices for George M. Cohan's "Forty-Minutes From Broadway," in that Manutains a weird and curious collec-"I'm estitled by its owner "The Muof Death." In one of the most colonial mansions of town is housed this strange assecot of curios; all of which in me manner, directly or indirectly,

Caused the death of a human be-They represent the life work of I Edward Cowles, a retired and wouldly man, and form what is perhave the most grewsome hobby that mey man ever allowed his fancy to

But apart from the history attached the them in the tragedles where they played a deadly part they stand as a rebuke to the superstitious, which really the prime object of Col. there' hobby and its inception. There are hundreds upon hundreds of management, each of which has found its into the vitals of a human being the same corner of the world, and there other articles in the collection whereupon she revived somewhat and **Mch** of themselves are harmless but which have been used to tupon which were scrawled some pe findstate the murderer to accomplish culiar designs. The woman begged Mis purpose.

The collection is in a little attic Col. Cowles knew in Calcutta, and upwere at the top of Col. Cowles' home. In Trinity avenue, adjoining the resi peared to expire. Col. Cowies started dence of Frederic Remington, the to walk away when he was called servicet, Col. Cowles' hobby covers 25 back and found the woman still alive. pears of search and study, and the remaks number about 10,000 different arties, but beyond the cost of traveling hand and always keep it. The collection represents the outlay of way little money.

There is hardly a curio in the whole mulketion which could not form a good pict to either a romance, tragedy or tale of human affairs. In fact woman left little impression upon his there is a wamon's finger, gold mountes and as perfect as it was in life, in simply the wanderings of a person somection with which is one of the about to die, and he went away forscrangest mysteries that can possibly be imagined. The finger is a thing of he arrived in Calcutta he gave the Borrer to Col. Cowles' friends and is an uncanny an article as any in the tell him the story of how he had come melicution. Although it has never finen embalmed or treated with any preservative it has never shown the affightest hint of decomposition, and, grangest of all, it always contains a wertain lifelike feeling that sends a chedder through anybody touching it.

Starts With Woman's Finger. h leading up to the time when Col. vessel left a native ran up the gang-Bowles first conceived the idea of col- plank and thrust a package into Col. berdag mementos of murders all over Cowles' hand. The steamship had world it may be mentioned that started before he opend it, and when seperatition is unknown in the col- he did a native woman's finger fell on lector's household. Col. Cowles has a the deck. Col. Cowles overcame his swing and pretty wife and a little girl aversion to the grewsome memento of is only two years old. With the his adventure, and when he reached exception of the servants, who keep London had the finger mounted in from the museum as far as post gold. It was soon after that that he Col. Cowles and his family are went into a business deal which haunted by the fear that any of brought him a large fortune, someme grewsome articles may bring them thing which, he says, he might considmortune. In fact, Col. Cowles is one er only a strange coincidence if he of the happiest men on earth, and his had not seem some wonderful things sembles have never risen above the in India which he could never explain.

Cowles was traveling in India several tests by scientist freinds of when he secured the article with the colonel to find what keeps it from which the collection was started. It decay, but they have never discovered the woman's finger, and the man-the cause. It has been placed in the war in which he became possessed of snow and on ice, but always retains a ame about very strangely.

He was greatly interested in occult | Col. Cowies is forced to confess that and studied enough of it to gain there is something supernatural about the title of chelah or disciple. it. The learned the Hindustani, for native sample, and became very friendly with of the yogi fakirs. During his in Col. Cowles' collection about which in India he saw wonderful things strange and original stories could be which he could not account for and of told. There is a Chinese skull which which he very seldom speaks

M the finger, however, he speaks where a fine needle in the hand of a He was walking along a sandy murderer pierced the unfortunate's near a little town a few miles skull. There are stilettos, knives, dag-Calcutta, and in the heat of the gers, rapiers, swords rusted in their stration sat down under a tree in the scabbards, pionlards bludgeons, blackthate. He had been sitting there for jacks, revolvers, derringers, guns, pisa few moments only when he heard tols, axes, hammers and thousands of manus coming from the direction of a other things, all of which have taken amount bush a few feet away, Col. human life. Minutes is certain that there was nothere when he first sat down, of the life fluid which they caused to That when he approached the spot he flow and have come from all parts of

the world. There is a jasminestemmed pipe with a bejeweled bowl which caused the death of a Persian who inhaled poisoned tobacco smoke, put there by a rival sweetheart. There are exquisite embroideries from the far east; dainty scarfs from Tunis; brilliant rugs and shawls from Bagdad; gossamer silks of Broussa, glittering like sunlighted frost work; fans and tables inlaid with ivory and pearl, and evil looking scimitars and yataghans, every one of which has had something to do with the unnatural death of a human being.

- A delicate fragrance is still imparted from some of the oriental articles in the collection, and about the whole room is a musty flavor which carries with it a strange feeling, as if one were in a strange land. The whole aspect of the little attle room is uncanny and gives the visitor a shivery feeling. The light which streams through a little window overlooking the wide lawn in front of the mansion hardly serves to brighten up the various corners of the room, even on the most sunshiny day. It is a veritable "Museum of Death" in feeling as well as in what it contains.

Relics of the Early West. In his travels through the west Col. Cowles gathered up a great many of the most famous gaming tables in the country, over which many a man has been shot for cheating or stabbed in a quarrel over cards. There are also shackles which have been filed through by murderers in attempts to escape from prison, but who were shot while getting away, and in fact it. would take a book of many pages to describe everything in the strange collection of which Col. Cowles is the

Mrs. Cowles smiles when she is asked if she is not afraid sometimes to live in a house which contains so many mysterious things and which represent so many tragedies. She has no fear of the supernatural, and neither has the colonel, but their friends shake their heads and predict all kinds of dire calamities to the owner of the "Museum of Death."

NONCONTIGUOUS TRADE LARGE.

Figures for Fiscal Year Show Business with "Dependencies."

Washington.-Trade of the United States with its noncontiguous territories amounted in the fiscal year just ended to \$119,304,511. A bulletin issued by the department of commerce and labor says:

"The shipments to the nonconiguous territories amounted to \$51,666, 666,67, against \$43,500,000 in the fiscal year 1905, this growth of about 20 per cent. occurring in the shipments to Alaska, Hawaii and Porto Rico, but especially Porto Rico, while to the Philippine isiands there was a reduction of about \$750,000.

Merchandise shipped from the noncontiguous territories to the United States amounted to \$67,666,666.67, against \$75,250,000 in the year, this fall occurring almost exclusively in the shipments from Hawaii and being due chiefly to the decrease in the value of sugar.

The value of gold of domestic production shipped from Alaska to the United States in 1906 was \$12,500,090, against \$9,000,000 the preceding year, and of foreign gold \$7,500,000, against \$10,750,000 last year, this "foreign" gold being the product of mines in the adjacent Canadian territory shipped to the United States through Alaska.

GIRL IS AUTHORITY ON STOCK.

Young Woman an Ranch Knows All Ins and Outs of Business.

Fort Worth, Tex.-Miss Johnnie Gardner, born on a cattle ranch on the Rio Grande, in Reagan county, Tex., is an accepted authority by the cattlemen who know her in matters' pertaining to cattle and their management.

"I was brought to the ranch on which we now live when so younk that I have no recollection of the time," said she to your correspondent. "We live near the county seat of Reagan county-Stiles. My father has a 32 section ranch under fence, and owns the greater part of it. The country is high above the sea level and there is no healthier place in this part of the world. Grass is fine now and cattle are doing well.

We raise black polled cattle altogether, and I think I prefer them to any other class. As beef they surpass all cattle, and then they are not horned, so there is no hooking and fighting among them.

"There is one point in connection with the Rio Grande country there where we live that has never been exploited, that is artesian wells. Our water is good and pure. What we have is free from gyp and probably the best freestone water in the state."

Stone in Ear Seven Years. Shelbyville, Ind.—Seven years ago, while playing in a sand pile, little Minnie Huffman, then aged six years, got a piece of gravel in her right ear. Physicians failed to extract the stone, and the child gradually lost her hearing on that side. The other day while at supper she was biting a crust of bread and something snapped in her ear. The stone fell to the floor, and the girl's hearing was instantly re-

Hen Walks on Wooden Leg. Calumet, Mich .-- A hen with a wooden leg is one of the curiosities of Joe Saykert's hennery. A few days ago Mrs. Swikert noticed one of the chickens had a broken leg. Mr. Swykert severed the broken limb and made a splint to take the place of the missing

NOW BEING TESTED BY GOVERN-MENT AT SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

is Nearly Third Lighter Than One in Present Use and Has Greater Muzzie Velocity-More Deadly, But Less Accurate.

Springfield, Mass.—Earthworks and trees will be slight protection to soldierly-arrayed against the United States army when the infantry is equipped with the new bullet which has been undergoing tests at the ordnance department of the United States armory in this city. The bullet, which scarcely is an

inch in length and is encased in a jacket of nickel steel, will be nearly a third lighter than any bullet now used in the standard army rifles of the world. It will have greater muzzie velocity than any other bullet and will be the only sharp-pointed bullet used in military service. At short range the new bullet will

penetrate 39 inches of seasoned oak; at 500 yards 32 inches of white pine, and at 1,000 yards 14 and one-half inches. If 15 of the enemy's soldiers standing one behind the other, chanced to be within range of the bullet a quarter of a mile away, every one of them would be disabled by the single bullet.

The bullet is estimated to be 100 per cent. more deadly than the present army bullet because of an almost flat trajectory. A serious defect in all army rifle bullets has been the high degree of curve resulting from the necessary elevation of the muzzle of the rifle in order to carry the bullet a long distance.

The bullet now in use, in firing at a 1,000-yard range, is elevated 23 feet from the base line at 500 yards. in other words, a soldier standing in direct range of a bullet aimed at a target 1,000 yards distant would be entirely safe midway between the sharpshooter and the target, as the bullet would pass over his head with more than 17 feet to spare. The sharp pointed builet shows a rise of only ten feet at 500 yards in firing at

a 1,000 yards range. The difference in trajectory between the two bullets means that with the present bullet an advancing infantry line would be safe for 700 yards on a 1,000 yard range and that the cavalry would have a safety zone of about 400 feet. With the flat bullet in service the participants in a cavalry charge of 1,000 yards would be in the danger zone from begining to end, while the advancing infantry would be in a safety zone for less than 400 yards of the distance.

The possibilities of the new bullet are better appreciated when it is considered that the new army rifle has an effective range of five miles. The new bullet compares disadvantageous ly with the present bullet only in respect to accuracy. Thus far the tests have been decidedly in favor of the old bullet from the sharpshooter's point of view.

Experts are confident the single objection to the sharp-pointed bullet can be overcome and that the final test will favor the new bullet even in respect to accuracy. In the opinion of army officers the requirements of sharpshooters sink into insignificance as compared with the advantages of a bullet which will be effective in 1960miscuous firing.

Brig. Gen. William Crozier, chief of ordnance of the United States army when in Springfield a few days ago expressed the opinion that the new projectile was the best which had ever come under the observation of the ordnance department.

"Unless further tests-demonstrate that the new bullet has disadvantages which its many superior points fail to compensate the present bullet will be replaced by the new one," Gen. Crozier said.

AMERICAN TARS BEST SHOTS.

Target Contest with English Navy Marksmen Urged by Officers.

Washington. - "American gunners lead the world in marksmanship when their records are compared with the seamen of other nations," says Rear Admiral Bradford. -The progress in gunnery made by our navy in the last few years has been simply wonderful, and it is difficult to conceive how any other nation could improve

The admiral was discussing the comparative records made by the British and American sailors in target

practice. Many officers of the navy declare that the American sailor leads thel world. To demonstrate this it has been suggested that the American navy designate a battle-ship manned with picked gun crews, that the British navy designate a similar ship, and that both be sent to neutral waters! with a nonpartisan judge and referee, and hold a shooting tournament. Officers expressed the opinion that such a contest is entirely possible, and that the resulting score would demonstrate there is not a navy which can compete with that of the United States.

Won't Pay Wife's Bridge Debts. Denver, Col.-Dr. Frank E. Waxham inserted a legal notice in the papers warning persons who held bridge whist debts against his wife that he would refuse to pay them if presented to him. Mrs. Waxham explained the matter by saying: "My husband and I are agreed that this is the best course. I have been rather injudicious in my investments and like the majority I 'got soaked.'"

Return beben sadelt i. \$5.00.

GIRLS BEST FARM HANDS.

Men Will Not Stay No Matter What inducements Are Offered.

Battle Creek, Mich.—Farmers around Battle Creek who expected an improvement in the farm labor proposition this summer are disappointed. Not only are harvest hands as scarce as they were a year ago, but they are even harder to get, have advanced ideas as to the wages, and make the farmers agree to concessions that a few years ago would have created

untold laughter. Good farm hands are getting as high as \$1.50 a day within a few miles of Battle Creek, with board and lodging thrown in, and in many cases the use of a horse and carriage. One farm hand, hired in Bedford township, demanded that his employer give him the use of his piano two hours every evening, and the demand was granted, the farmer's family vacating the parlor while the harvest guest practices. He is taking piano lessons in town, driving in with

the farmer's horse. The trouble does not end with the inability to secure men to work for hire. Farmers' boys are still leaving the mine dollar a week jobs on the farm, with good food and beds, to come to town and work for less, live in cheap lodging houses, and eat pool food.

"The only available men we get at present," said a Penfield farmer, "are men from town used to clerking of running street cars or such labor. A few days on the farm tires them all out, and keeps us hiring new men. I suppose it will shock city folks to hear it, but the best work on many farms in Calhoun county this summer is now being done by women folks. The boys are anxious to go to town and 'throw on dog.' The girls are the most willing to help their farmer fathers in the fields. It doesn't sound nice, does it? But what are you going to do when men won't farm out at \$1.50 a day and free board?"

BIGGEST OYSTER IN THE WORLD

Monster Columbia River Bivaive on Exhibition in Minnesota.

Minneapolis, Minn .-- Lying upon the floor of a little shop on Fifth street is the great twin throne of the "king of oysters.

His majesty in the original state ruled over the vast beds in the tidal waters of the Columbia river, where he was by right of weight and of majesty the absolute king of bivaives. In all the world where oysters have been known, from the wonderful oysters of Britain, enjoyed by the Romans, down to the little cove oyster that grew in a modest way around Fair Haven. none has ever been known that can compare with this great oyster of the

-How the upper and mether shells chanced to come to Minneapolis is simple as a story. A friend of Harriet B. Whitted, on leaving for the coast promised to send her something in the way of a novelty. Upon his arrival there he chanced to go fishing, and while after large fish in the tidal river hooked on to a mammoth oyster. It was a bivalve that would easily weigh two pounds and it contained a fine pearl. Nothing would do but for him to investigate the same bed, and while prodding with an oyster rake the next day the king of all the oysters was brought from his home.

The bivalve was shipped to Minne apolis, and when weighed it tipped the scales at 984, pounds. The mammoth was roasted in an oven that, though large, would just hold it, and the meat had to be cut with a carving knite. "Oyster steaks" was the bill of fare

The two huge shells are each about as much as one can lift from the floor, and a toy boat floats about in water in one of them. So it can safely be said that Minneapolis has, owned by one of its citizens, the shell of the king of all the oyster family.

LONGWORTHS WERE SNUBBED.

Frau Wagner, Composer's Widow, Vents ire on Them in Berlin.

Berlin.-Now that Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Longworth have returned to America, the real reason for their sudden departure from Baircuth is revealed. At the time it was said that the daughter of President Roosevelt was annoyed by the ogling of German "dandies," but it is now given out that Frau Cosima Wagner. who rules overything at the Bavarian village, took advantage of the presence of the Longworths to vent the animosity which she has entertained against all things American since "Parsifal" was staged and patronized by the United States against her

inexplicably, the Longworths found the hotels "full," and were compelled to take refuge in a boarding house. Then Frau Cosima caused the command to go forth that the Longworths' presence should be practically ignored. She herself arranged to snub the president's daughter socially by ostentationally omitting to invite her to the famous soirces held during the week, which are attended by all the celebrities. She also arranged that Mrs. Longworth should not be presented to her and the great artists of the season during the intermissions, which are always gay social events.

The only genifine welcome accorded to President Roosevelt's daughter came from Mme. Schumann-Heink, who scandalized Frau Wagner by rushing up and effusively embracing the visitor in full view of a terrace full of people.

UNIQUE ILLINOIS ORGANIZATION HOLDS ANNUAL PICNIC.

Weddings Often Result from Reunions -History of the Odd Organization Which Is Fourteen Years Old.

Nokomis, Ill.-The famous bachelors' picnic was held the other day at this place, the bome of the lill nois Bachelors' association. Nokomis claims no other distinction than that of being the birthplace of such a body... and the devotees of the single life were feasted and entertained from sunrise until dark.

The bachelor's state is regarded in this community as the ideal life. Bachelors parade the principles of their cult to the world from the mecca of single blessedness. Hundreds came from all surrounding places within a radius of 50 miles.

Unmarried persons of both sexes attended by companies and battalions to aid in the beatification of bachelordom. A feature of the entertainment was a wedding ceremony performed! before the assembly of skeptical, celibates.

The history of the association dates back to Aug. 10, 1892, when a few; foriorn and hopeles bachelors of Nokomis invited their fellow unfortunates to unite with them in a grand picnic, at which time new schemes for more successful attacks on the rapidly increasing ranks of unmarried; young ladies were given out to the faithful

Many marriages resulted in this reunion, and even the president of the order fell a victim to the charms of all fair enchantrees.

The ranks became so depleted from this meeting that before another could be held it became necessary to reorganize the society, which was done. The reunions, held on Aug. 19, -1904, and on Aug. 16, 1905, were most successful.

Fully 20,000 people were in attendance at each of the gatherings, and unique programmes portraying the existence of a bachelor were successfully carried out.

On these occasions, as on previous ones, every member wore a yellow badge upon which was inscribed the motto of the order, "None that I luve more than myself "

At the last reunion the prize of the oldest bachelor girl was awarded to a giddy young woman of 92 summers, who, in spite of her advanced age, failed to exhibit any signs of being afraid that she would lose out in the contest for a bachelor's heart and a happy home. After the last two reunions an epi-

demic of weddings broke out. A matrimonial wave seemed to sweep through the ranks of the society and claimed for its victims many of its faithful officers, who tendere resignations and became benedicts. A number of bachelor girl clubs in ->

central Illinois are the outgrowth of the bachelors reunions. Prominent among them is the Hillsboro Bachelor Girls' club, of Hillsboro, which dates its organization back several years.

It is composed of wealthy, handsome, and talented young women of riflishoro, and all are members of prominent families in Montgomery county. Quite a friendship exists between the two associations, and several weddings between its members have resulted

The present officers of the association are C. P. Hamilin, president; G. D. Scott, first vice president; William Adden, second vice president, Fred. W. Ernst, secretary, and George Helderbrandt, treasurer.

USES A MILLION PENCILS.

Uncle Sam's Yearly Stationery Bill Shows Huge Sum of Trifles.

Washington.—The enormous quantitles of supplies used by clerks in the nine executive departments here is forcibly illustrated by figures for the fiscal year ended June 30. It is .... shown that for the 12 months comprising the last fiscal year there were 1,117,442 lead pencils used. If manufactured uncut these would make a marrimoth pencil 142 miles and 13 rod slong. Placed side by side they would make a board walk 28 inches wideand seven miles long. According to the rules, each clerk is allowed one pencil every eight days. The army of clerks used 68,676,288

sheets of paper, cut letter size, every year. These sheets placed side by side would cover a plot of 2,346 acres and have some left over. The government last year pur-

chased and distributed 4,371,840 pen points, buying more than 250,000 penholders in which to utilize them. The clerks used 8,356 gallons of

paste. There were issued to the clerks 76. 080 pints of black ink and 5,765 pints of red ink.

The government used 6,747 pounds of pins, which, according to count, run 24,752 to the pound. This makes an aggregate of 167,601,724 pins.

Rubber bands of all sizes were used to the number of 20,836,809.

breakfast food? Is it all right?

The Customer-How about this

The Grocer-Sure! There's noth-

ing else in it but sawdust!-Youkers Statesman. In Deep Water.

"How did you feel when he kissed

"I felt all right, but the cance was terribly upset."-Houston Post.

## L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS