

## BLUE ASBESTOS.

**Austria Conducts the Pawnbroking Business for Her Poor**

Austria has an imperial pawn shop. It was established in Vienna in 1707, when there was great distress among the poor in the southern part of the empire. It was designed as a way to secure to the starving some means of immediate relief, and by putting the rate of interest as low as possible, and embodying in the system every advantage that could be given to those who sought to make loans, it was found to be so effective that it soon gained the imperial sanction, and it was not long until its managers were made public officials under the direction of the minister of the interior. This is substantially the status of the institution at this time. The rates are so low that the business done on the cheap goods and chattels of the poor could not possibly make the establishment self-sustaining; but people who have been suddenly reduced in circumstances or who are temporarily embarrassed, keep the margins on the right side and enable the institution to keep open without the aid of a subsidy. In the year 1893 a total of 866,015 articles were pledged, and of these 848,562 were redeemed, a remarkable redemption as compared with the proportions of the average pawnshop. The unredeemed pledges were sold by public auction and whenever they brought more than the face of the pledge the balance was set to the account of the pledger, to be refunded any time within three years.

## CANNON BALL STORY.

**Alfred Grissom Tells of a Narrow Escape in Alabama.**

Alfred Grissom, the manager of the summer excursion boats, has a cannon ball story which he says is Gospel truth.

People in the excursion business have a strict regard for veracity, and many of his friends believe every word of it, says the St. Louis Republic.

Several years ago, the story runs, Mr. Grissom was in St. James parish, La. He had occasion to visit a sawmill where the big cottonwood logs were being cut into lumber. His attention was attracted to a particularly large log, when suddenly there was a loud crash, like that of the teeth striking a nail.

Windows were broken, men shouted and the machinery was stopped. Mr. Grissom was not hurt as he had imagined. Something had happened and he stopped to see the cause. The big log was removed from the rack and split open. A large cannon ball was imbedded in the center. The saw had struck it and broke into a myriad of pieces which flew in all directions. Five pieces passed through his hat, one struck his watch and glanced off, another hit a silver dollar in his vest pocket and left a scratch along its surface. Luckily, none of the flying particles struck his body or did other injury than break a few panes of glass in the office compartment.

## A SLICK-UP CAT.

Kansas City Kitten That Fooled with Fly Paper.

A small, gray kitten in Kansas City walked back and forth in store window the other day; conscious of her graceful appearance she lifted her feet daintily and curled her tail up over her back. Suddenly a noise in the store started her, and she lowered her head and dropped her tail, as she turned stealthily to investigate. This was a mistake. For the tail came in contact with a piece of sticky fly paper, and all the efforts she made to remove it but increased her discomfiture and humiliation. She shook her little body, and the tail was wagged vigorously, but the paper held her faster and tighter than it ever had fly. She put her forepaws down; it stuck. Her little hind paw came to the rescue, and was held where it fell. Frantic and mewling pitifully, she pulled out and over, till enwrapped in a gummy of flypaper, she jumped on the window platform and was gone. No one knew where or how, with but two feet free and those on corners diagonally opposite, she had managed to get out of sight and hearing. But she did it, and the flypaper went with her.

## The Queen's Meissonier.

In the Contemporary Review Mrs. Emily Crawford, writing her reminiscences of Queen Victoria, thus describes the purchase of one of the cleverest little canvases Meissonier ever painted.

The occasion of the buying of the picture was a visit to the Palais de l'Industrie in Paris. "Prince Albert singled out as worthy of admiration a horrid little painting that had every quality manipulation could give—'Le Brawl,' or 'The Brawl.' Ruffians were shown engaged in a deadly tussle. The technique was marvelous. Meissonier up to that time a struggling artist, was the painter. The emperor bought the painting behind the queen's back for £1,000, and presented it next day to her husband as a birthday gift. The subject was inauspicious. It would have started an old Roman in the prince's place." Certainly Prince Albert had good taste, and so had Louis Napoleon, as far as Meissonier is concerned.

## Teetotallers Were No Good.

One of the best-known stories in connection with the late Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson's advocacy of temperance tells how he had been on a visit to one of the three or four small towns in England which have no public houses. Although there were 4,000 people there the doctor was nearly starved.

One day a young medical man came to Sir Benjamin for advice as to taking the practice, and Sir Benjamin, placing his hands on the young doctor's shoulders, said: "Take my advice and don't. Those wretched teetotallers not only shrink accident, but when wounded heal so fast that there is neither pleasure nor profit after the first dressing."

## Rebutting the Tuilleries.

Another attempt to have the Tuilleries palace rebuilt is being made in France. This time the movement is led by the Society for the Preservation of Public Monuments.

## IMPERIAL PAWNSHOP.

**Austria Conducts the Pawnbroking Business for Her Poor**

Austria has an imperial pawn shop. It was established in Vienna in 1707, when there was great distress among the poor in the southern part of the empire. It was designed as a way to secure to the starving some means of immediate relief, and by putting the rate of interest as low as possible, and embodying in the system every advantage that could be given to those who sought to make loans, it was found to be so effective that it soon gained the imperial sanction, and it was not long until its managers were made public officials under the direction of the minister of the interior. This is substantially the status of the institution at this time. The rates are so low that the business done on the cheap goods and chattels of the poor could not possibly make the establishment self-sustaining; but people who have been suddenly reduced in circumstances or who are temporarily embarrassed, keep the margins on the right side and enable the institution to keep open without the aid of a subsidy. In the year 1893 a total of 866,015 articles were pledged, and of these 848,562 were redeemed, a remarkable redemption as compared with the proportions of the average pawnshop. The unredeemed pledges were sold by public auction and whenever they brought more than the face of the pledge the balance was set to the account of the pledger, to be refunded any time within three years.

## MIRRORS AND ECONOMY.

**The Problem Before the Elevated Roads of New York.**

Complaint is often made that the world has become too materialistic. The present generation is much occupied with the utilities of life. Invention is busy with the electric and other forces, and the hum of industry is the favorite music of the era. When a great laureate died a few years ago only a poetaster, who never penned a line that anyone remembers, could be found to occupy the place. The drone of the trolley drowns the cadences of Parnassus. Even the feminine world talk of rainy-day dresses and rational costumes for the street and recreation. Step by step men have surrendered the bright and the pictorial in their garb. Sculptors despair of making anything of a man in a modern business suit. Our grandfathers wore cloaks that retained a suggestion of the classic, but they are gone. The topcoat of the day is simply impossible in the art sense. The queue of 100 years ago looked well in a medallion. It has vanished with the rest. The appearance of a man in the street in the costume of the time of Charles II. would demand police interference, though the merry monarch was the glass of fashion but a little over 200 years ago.

III. Le droit d'occupation desdits lieux de la rue Erato, entre les rues Canal et Duane.

Tous les droits, titres, et intérêts de

Leons C. Graven, défendant, dans et au bas

du lot No 11 et 12, rue Royale, entre

les rues Canal et Duane, font partie du plai-

gnant, et sont vendus à l'enchère publique.

Le lot No 11, daté du 1er octobre 1898,

et s'étendant, jusqu'en septembre 30, 1898,

à un loyer de \$300 par mois payable mensuellement, et dans le cas où ledit

loge ne sera pas loué, alors il sera offert à

les enchères à savoir:

Sur les lieux, nouveaux Nos 11 et 12 rue

Royal, entre les rues Canal et Duane.

Tous les droits, titres, et intérêts de

Leons C. Graven, défendant, dans et au bas

du lot No 11 et 12, rue Royale, entre

les rues Canal et Duane, font partie du plai-

gnant, et sont vendus à l'enchère publique.

Le lot No 11, daté du 1er octobre 1898,

et s'étendant, jusqu'en septembre 30, 1898,

à un loyer de \$300 par mois payable mensuellement, et dans le cas où ledit

loge ne sera pas loué, alors il sera offert à

les enchères à savoir:

Sur les lieux, nouveaux Nos 11 et 12 rue

Royal, entre les rues Canal et Duane.

Tous les droits, titres, et intérêts de

Leons C. Graven, défendant, dans et au bas

du lot No 11 et 12, rue Royale, entre

les rues Canal et Duane, font partie du plai-

gnant, et sont vendus à l'enchère publique.

Le lot No 11, daté du 1er octobre 1898,

et s'étendant, jusqu'en septembre 30, 1898,

à un loyer de \$300 par mois payable mensuellement, et dans le cas où ledit

loge ne sera pas loué, alors il sera offert à

les enchères à savoir:

Sur les lieux, nouveaux Nos 11 et 12 rue

Royal, entre les rues Canal et Duane.

Tous les droits, titres, et intérêts de

Leons C. Graven, défendant, dans et au bas

du lot No 11 et 12, rue Royale, entre

les rues Canal et Duane, font partie du plai-

gnant, et sont vendus à l'enchère publique.

Le lot No 11, daté du 1er octobre 1898,

et s'étendant, jusqu'en septembre 30, 1898,

à un loyer de \$300 par mois payable mensuellement, et dans le cas où ledit

loge ne sera pas loué, alors il sera offert à

les enchères à savoir:

Sur les lieux, nouveaux Nos 11 et 12 rue

Royal, entre les rues Canal et Duane.

Tous les droits, titres, et intérêts de

Leons C. Graven, défendant, dans et au bas

du lot No 11 et 12, rue Royale, entre

les rues Canal et Duane, font partie du plai-

gnant, et sont vendus à l'enchère publique.

Le lot No 11, daté du 1er octobre 1898,

et s'étendant, jusqu'en septembre 30, 1898,

à un loyer de \$300 par mois payable mensuellement, et dans le cas où ledit

loge ne sera pas loué, alors il sera offert à

les enchères à savoir:

Sur les lieux, nouveaux Nos 11 et 12 rue

Royal, entre les rues Canal et Duane.

Tous les droits, titres, et intérêts de

Leons C. Graven, défendant, dans et au bas

du lot No 11 et 12, rue Royale, entre

les rues Canal et Duane, font partie du plai-

gnant, et sont vendus à l'enchère publique.

Le lot No 11, daté du 1er octobre 1898,

et s'étendant, jusqu'en septembre 30, 1898,

à un loyer de \$300 par mois payable mensuellement, et dans le cas où ledit

loge ne sera pas loué, alors il sera offert à

les enchères à savoir:

Sur les lieux, nouveaux Nos 11 et 12 rue

Royal, entre les rues Canal et Duane.

Tous les droits, titres, et intérêts de

Leons C. Graven, défendant, dans et au bas

du lot No 11 et 12, rue Royale, entre

les rues Canal et Duane, font partie du plai-

gnant, et sont vendus à l'enchère publique.

Le lot No 11, daté du 1er octobre 1898,

et s'étendant, jusqu'en septembre 30, 1898,

à un loyer de \$300 par mois payable mensuellement, et dans le cas où ledit

loge ne sera pas loué, alors il sera offert à

les enchères à savoir:

Sur les lieux, nouveaux Nos 11 et 12 rue

Royal, entre les rues Canal et Duane.

Tous les droits, titres, et intérêts de

Leons C. Graven, défendant, dans et au bas

du lot No 11 et 12, rue Royale, entre

les rues Canal et Duane, font partie du plai-

gnant, et sont vendus à l'enchère publique.

Le lot No 11, daté du 1er octobre 1898,

et s'étendant, jusqu'en septembre 30, 1898,

à un loyer de \$300 par mois payable mensuellement, et dans le cas où ledit

loge ne sera pas loué, alors il sera offert à

les enchères à savoir:

Sur les lieux, nouveaux Nos 11 et 12 rue

Royal, entre les rues Canal et Duane.

Tous les droits, titres, et intérêts de

Leons C. Graven, défendant, dans et au bas

du lot No 11 et 12, rue Royale, entre

les rues Canal et Duane, font partie du plai-

gnant, et sont vendus à l'enchère publique.

Le lot No 11, daté du 1er octobre 1898,

et s'étendant, jusqu'en septembre 30, 1898,

à un loyer de \$300 par mois payable mensuellement, et dans le cas où led