

CLAIM FORTUNE IN AMERICA

Welsh Railroad Man Confident of Proving Title to Part of New York City.

London.—Thomas Williams, a retired railroad man, who lives in a cottage at Caerws, a Welsh village, tells me that he is confident of proving his right to a fortune in America of \$275,000,000.

He bases his claim on his belief that he is the nearest surviving male relative of Edward Edwards, a Welshman, who emigrated in the 18th century and amassed an enormous fortune, but died intestate. Edwards was a native of Llanymynech, near Oswestry, and removed to Silverdale, where he married. His wife's behavior caused him to emigrate to New York state, where he acquired cheaply the marshy land on which part of New York city now stands.

When the British government recognized American independence Edwards leased his land to the United States government, but the lease expired in 1880.

Edwards also acquired collieries at Edwardsville (named after him).

Williams told me that he was sixty-four years of age, had worked on five railways including the Northwestern, the Great Central and Brecon, Merthyr & Cambrian. He saved money, but lost some in the Liberators' frauds and more recently in a London bank failure. He has engaged a first-class lawyer in America and is himself collecting data here. He showed me papers which seem to have a strong bearing on his claim.

OLDEST HOUSE IS RAZED

Sayre Homestead Was Built in Southampton in 1648 by an English Gentleman.

Southampton, N. Y.—The oldest frame house in the United States is being razed by workmen by order of the authorities. It was built in 1648 by Thomas Sayre and was known as the "Old Sayre homestead." Sayre was an English gentleman who came to this country in Cromwell's time and was one of the original settlers near Southampton in 1610. The Sayre house is in the center of the village and has long been the principal point of interest here. With proper caretaking the old house would have stood for a century yet, but it was allowed to decay and crumble.

All the material in the old building with the exception of the glass was homemade. The timber, boards, shingles, laths, brick and even the nails, which were turned out by the old village blacksmith, were bought here. Huge fireplaces warmed it.

During the revolutionary war the house was used by British officers, who compelled the women to cook for them and the men to mind their horses. The valuables at that time were buried until the officers left the homestead. The property is still owned by a descendant of the original Thomas Sayre.

COURT DECIDES ODD CASE

High British Tribunal Declares Men Who Carved Initials in Whale Can't Be Punished.

London.—The divisional appeal court has decided that it is not legal cruelty to stab or carve your initials on a living whale, as long as the animal is not kept in captivity. Last July a number of whales were stranded on the Cornish coast near Penzance, and the villagers commenced chopping them up, while sightseers even carved their initials on the distressed animals' sides.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to animals prosecuted one of the initial carvers for cruelty, but the local magistrate held that as the whales were not in captivity the offense did not come within the law.

On appeal the society tried to prove that as the whales were surrounded by people and could not get away till the tide turned they were in a state of captivity, but Justice Pickford, while admitting that initial carving on stranded whales was a form of amusement that ought to be punished, decided that the term "captivity" did not apply, and dismissed the appeal.

TIPS TEMPT FRANCE TO TAX

Croupiers at Gaming Tables Gather in Riches, Much Coming From the Americans.

Nice.—Declaring the croupiers at the gaming tables in the big French gambling resorts earn more than ministers and ambassadors, and that the winnings of the owners are " princely," a member of the French chamber proposes that a new tax be assessed on the tables, graduated according to the winnings.

The croupiers get no salary. They live on "tips." At the Moulin Casino, near Paris, these amounted to 1,737,900 francs during the season of 1911. The winnings of the Casino tables amounted to 3,429,912 francs.

Here in Nice the owners of the gambling tables made a neat little profit of 7,489,898 francs. Much of this was lost by Americans.

The Oldest in Lloyds.

London.—The oldest craft to be found in Lloyds' register is a schooner or ketch of 33 tons burden, called The Furveyor, having just 102 years of service to her credit. A few weeks ago she was purchased by a Norwegian, Captain Reinertsen, who is now preparing to sail her from Blideford, in Devon, to Durban, in the South Indian Ocean, a distance of 6,000 miles.

NEW MAN THEORY

Skeleton Shows Human Race is Older Than Believed.

Age Over 100,000 Years—Being Much More Like the Modern Briton Than the Neanderthal Type.

London.—English scientists are taking great interest in the discovery of a skeleton beneath an undisturbed layer of bowlders and clay in East Anglia, now Norfolk and Suffolk. If the evidence is good, this skeleton must be that of a man who belonged to a race that lived in that district before the most severe of the various ice movements of the glacial period.

A singular feature of the discovery is that, in most respects, the skeleton resembles that of the modern Englishman and is not of the more simian type to which the Neanderthal man, though a much later phenomenon, belongs.

There now seems to be a growing body of evidence that the modern type of man was evolved at an extremely early date before the beginning of the glacial period, but that, for thousands of years afterwards the primitive, or Neanderthal, type continued to flourish in Europe.

Until this find the Neanderthal man was regarded as the oldest in Europe, and one of the scientific commentators says:

"Some people were hasty enough to discern in these Neanderthal men, with their monkeylike qualities, evidence of the missing link. It is now clear that they were survivors of a stock which had deteriorated, and not progenitors of our race. If we have to accept the theory of evolution—and it is still only a theory—it is a puzzling fact that man has changed so little in 100,000 years."

On this point Prof. Keith, anthropologist at the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, says of the latest discovery:

"There is every evidence that this man lived long before the glacial period. During this period England was covered with a great thickness of ice. Finally this melted and a layer of debris was deposited. It was underneath a deposit of this sort that the skeleton was found. Hence he must have lived before the ice age and before the rivers formed."

"The finding of this skeleton strengthens the belief that the evolution of man was an infinitely longer process than we originally thought. At one time believers in the evolution theory thought that man's development to his present state might have taken something like 10,000 years. Later they put the period at something around 20,000 years. The difference, if any, between this man's bodily framework and modern man's is so minute as to prove that the evolution must have taken hundreds of thousands of years."

"This discovery shows that England was inhabited as early as if not earlier than any continental country."

MISTLETOE IS UNDER BAN

Tulare County to Have Law Declaring Parasite a Public Nuisance.

Visalia.—No sentiment attaches to mistletoe in Tulare county since following a detailed report by the horticultural commissioner, submitted to the board of supervisors, the county lawmakers instructed the district attorney to draw up a law in which mistletoe will be declared a public nuisance.

The law provides that the existence of mistletoe will be considered a misdemeanor upon the part of the owner of the property upon which the pest exists, and a heavy fine or imprisonment, or both fine and imprisonment, are provided as punishment whenever no adequate steps are taken to eradicate the pest.

Schulz states in his report that in addition to causing the death of shade trees as well as deciduous fruit trees, the mistletoe is the host for all varieties of scale and that it is therefore a constant danger to this district. Appropriation will be made for eradicating the parasite from trees upon public roads and other public property.

GIRL'S HEART CHANGES SIDES

Having Moved Over to Right, is Now on Way Back to its Original Position.

Los Angeles.—After having performed the almost unheard of feat of traveling from the left side of her body to the right, the heart of Erna Lampert, eleven years old, of this city, is believed now to have started back to its proper place in her chest or is left on the way.

In any event, the girl's heart has left the right side of her body and has not yet reached the left, although its pulsations are plainly felt. Since last June the girl has been examined by more than a hundred surgeons.

Her physician said that if her heart did return to its normal position she would soon be out of danger.

Steeplejack Jumps Far.

New York.—To prove the efficiency of a patent "collar parachute" for steeplejacks, Frederick R. Law leaped from the top of the statue of liberty and only sprained his ankle by his 200-foot drop.

DRESS IN ROBES AND SANDALS

Men and Women Try to Look Alike in London's Latest Freak Club—Members Are Writers.

London.—The latest freak club in London is called the Ethna. It has rooms on a street just off Piccadilly, and here its men and women members meet for intellectual converse.

The rule of the club demands that there shall be as little distinction in the dress and appearance of the members as possible, and both men and women don long flowing white garments of sacklike shape and sandals before they enter the dimly lighted rooms of the club. Most of the men are clean shaven and a few of the women have short hair, while those who have long hair twist their locks about their heads as tightly as possible.

No introductions are ever made. Any member is permitted to talk to any other and to talk freely and openly on any subject. The object of the club is to foster free discussion between men and women. Visitors are occasionally allowed, but they must of course wear the flowing robes and sandals.

The membership is very limited, and a positive requisite is intellectual work of some sort. Most of the members are writers, others are interested in social problems and work on committees, while still others are members of the great band of men and women in London who seem always on the outlook for the very latest thing in fads and fancies.

BRITISH TO ABOLISH BANDS

Heavy Expense Main Reason That Musical Part of Military Force Will Be Drooped.

London.—The British army without a brass band—such is the doleful prophecy of the Fall Mall Gazette. It says that a definite proposal has been brought forward that all the brass bands of the army—except those of the guards regiments, shall be abolished, and that the sole music provided for the future shall be that of the drums and fifes and bugles, with the pipers for the Scottish regiments.

Some years ago fresh regulations were made as to the maintenance of regimental bands. The cost of them fell entirely on the officers. The new regulations threw some of the expense on the public purse. But even now it is considered that in a modern, business army the officers should not be liable to this kind of expenditure.

Every officer today has to subscribe one day's pay a year to support his regimental band; and that does not cover all his expenses in the matter. Take the case of the Royal Artillery band. The public grant is \$4,500 a year, and the officers of the regiment are called upon to provide a further sum of some \$15,000 annually to maintain their splendid string band.

BEGGAR SAVED UP \$50,000

Found Dead in Hovel, Sullivan Had Bequeathed \$5,000 to a Sister in Utica.

San Francisco.—Michael F. Sullivan, a beggar in San Francisco, for the last 35 years, was found dead in his hovel with bank notes showing over \$50,000 to his credit in several local financial institutions.

Coroner's deputies who searched the room found a will, hidden underneath a mattress, wherein Sullivan bequeathed \$5,000 in cash to his sister, Mary A. Sullivan, of Utica, N. Y., "because of her kindness to my mother at the time of her death." The remainder of his fortune shall be placed in trust, the interest to be delivered to his sister every six months, according to the document. When she dies the sum must be divided among other heirs under the laws of this state.

Sullivan lived by begging fruit. Ten years ago he was arrested as a vagrant. Then he possessed \$25,000, according to detective James Mackey, the arresting officer on that occasion.

CHRIST'S SHOP IS FOUND

Excavations at Nazareth Also Said to Have Revealed Church Built by the Crusaders.

London.—A special dispatch published in the Pall Mall Gazette reports that excavations at Nazareth, the home of Christ in Palestine, have revealed an eleventh century Crusader's church with wonderful mosaics, stone doors and utensils and exquisite ornaments.

It is also said that another important discovery is believed to be the site of the carpenter shop of Joseph, the father of Jesus. The church is now being uncovered.

The message says that, according to the researches of the most learned explorers, the church was built by the first Crusaders at this hallowed spot, and it afterwards fell into the hands of the victorious Mohammedans.

The monks of the Franciscan order purpose to build a temple on the spot.

Used Piano for Bed.

Philadelphia.—Ralph Bechtel, an old time actor, known on the stage as Jack Meyers, was found dead in bed. The gas jet was turned on, but all indications point to an accidental death. Bechtel was employed as a scene painter.

Bechtel, like many old-time actors, had peculiarities. While there was a brass bed in the house he preferred to sleep on top of the piano in his parlor. Under his pillow was a sword used by him the first time he appeared on the stage.

STOLYPIN IS LAUDED

Agrarian Reforms Have Brought Peace to Peasants.

Millions Now Possess Farms—Socialistic and Revolutionary Agitators Vainly Appeal to These Contented Yeomen.

St. Petersburg.—Agrarian reform begins to bear good fruit, a correspondent writes. It was the greatest work of Peter A. Stolypin, premier of Russia, whom Dmitri Bogrov assassinated in the czar's very presence at a gala performance in the Municipal theater at Kiev last September.

"While quelling a bloody revolution Stolypin brought about a peaceful one," say those today who were the premier's bitterest enemies.

His great plan of letting the peasants hold land in perpetuity, which Stolypin inaugurated in 1906, has given land of their own to 32,000,000 peasants; they possess 3,000,000 square miles in European Russia and 7,500,000 square miles in Siberia. And the face of the land has been changed. The peasant now lives on his property instead of miles away, as under the old communal system, when all the land was redistributed every three years.

Besides, the owner works intensively now, for he takes pride in his land. Here again Stolypin's far-seeing brain came into play. He planned that milk should be a speculator in the world's grain trade. He opened hundreds of farming schools and hundreds more are being founded. Besides, Stolypin arranged that money should be advanced to the peasant farmer at low rate of interest, 4 1/2 per cent—something unknown here hitherto. The imperial bank builds granaries and keeps the peasant informed on grain prices by posting official quotations several times a week in railroad stations, inns and markets. Co-operative stores have been opened in the markets; the peasants can buy agricultural machines on easy terms; mechanical experts give instruction gratis to farmers who desire it.

The results are as obvious as a benefit. A sturdy, hardworking yeoman class is slowly but surely growing in Russia; this in six years, and the plan will not be worked out completely for several years more. The fact is becoming clearer and clearer that agrarian reform has done more to calm Russia than all the repressive dictates from the city. Socialistic and revolutionary agitators have no success where the milk owns his land, because it is all he really cares for in this life and once he has it he will run no risks.

A tremendous outcry against Stolypin arose when he set this work on foot; all political parties ridiculed and abused it. He never could have carried it out had he not interested the dowager empress in it.

AIR MACHINE SAVES MANY

Persons Resuscitated by Use of the Pulmotor—Government Adopts Apparatus.

Washington.—Thousands of lives will be saved in the future in the opinion of the bureau of mines officials by means of the pulmotor, an oxygen pumping apparatus with which the bureau's workers during the last year have restored to life more than thirty persons who had ceased breathing. By means of the lung filling and emptying machine used by the bureau oxygen is forced in, the poisonous gases drawn out and normal breathing started. The machine acts automatically, any effort on the part of the individual hindering rather than helping it.

In drowning cases, gas poisoning and electrocution accidents, there will be many revivals, it is believed, by the prompt use of the oxygen device. Hundreds of inquiries have reached the bureau of mines from hospitals, physicians and municipal authorities, asking about the value of the machine. An official of the bureau said that to his opinion the time was near when every police patrol would be equipped with one of the machines.

COW BREAKS BUTTER MARK

New Champion, Clothide II, Produces 1,277 Pounds in Year From 25,000 Pounds of Milk.

Newton, N. J.—The world's record for butter production in a single year, held so long by Colantia, a Wisconsin Holstein cow, has been broken by Clothide II, an eastern cow of the same breed. The new champion has just completed her year's test, and, according to the official figures, produced in 365 days, 1,277 pounds of butter from 25,000 pounds of milk.

It takes an exceptionally good cow to make 106 pounds of butter in a month, even in full flow, but here is a cow that has averaged that amount for twelve months in succession.

Securities Are Ironed.

New York.—Officers and clerks of the United States Life Insurance company have finished literally ironing out \$3,000,000 worth of wet securities taken from the Equitable building. Not one bond was injured.

Leaves \$200,000 to His Widow. Alhambra, Cal.—The will of Daniel A. Ross, Bay City, Mich., lumberman, who died here, leaves his fortune of \$200,000 to his widow "because he owed his success to her."

WISE MEN FOUND IN AFRICA

Germany Wants Them to People the New Territory She Got Through France.

Berlin.—Dr. Nekes, an authority on Africa, has found in the neighborhood of new German territory surrendered by France a tribe he describes as "the people of the future," assigning to them practically all the civilized virtues, as well as original strength and manliness.

The new nation is a branch of the mighty Fang race called Jaunde. They number half a million now, and are rapidly increasing. The whole nation is pushing westward from its native region near the sources of the White Nile.

Dr. Nekes says the people are amazingly intelligent, very powerful physically, are fond of work and have an astonishingly rich language, in which they can impress in native idiom the most modern ideas of the most modern things—such as cigars and telephones.

They are divided into three social classes—freemen, freedmen and slaves captured in war. Their religion consists partly of ancestor worship and partly of belief in ghosts. Considering that all evil comes from witchcraft and sorcery, they have witch finders.

Regarding women as the source of all mischief, when a chieftain dies they beat his wives to make sure that they punish the right one. Nekes regards them intellectually on the level of the Europeans in the middle ages. He says they have the same fixedness of purpose, unspoiled by modern softness.

Strong efforts are to be made by the German government to persuade this rapidly multiplying people to settle in new German territory, where they will be carefully looked after until they are fully able to provide for themselves.

HIGH COST HITS GOTHAM ZOO

Eggs Are No Longer Fed to New York Monkeys—Little Milk is Given Animals.

New York.—The latest complaint over the high cost of living comes from the Central park menagerie, where it appears that the monkeys, lions and hippos are leading the simple life owing to the taking of expensive luxuries from their bill of fare. The monkeys have not seen an egg in two months. They used to get one apiece every day before breakfast, but it would be like offering them pearls now to feed them eggs, according to Overseer Keenan. The only luxury they have is milk, and that with plenty of water in it, for the supply is only five quarts a day, and there are 60 monkeys to drink it.

"Ten years ago," explained Mr. Keenan, "we could board a monkey for seven cents a day and a hippo or elephant for 60 cents. Now it costs 12 cents for the monkeys, \$1 for the hippos and \$2.75 a day for the elephants."

"The big item in the menagerie bill, however, is the meat. The tigers and lions need from 12 to 18 pounds of meat a day and the cost runs close to 10 cents a pound. A decade ago the zoo was able to buy the necessary 250 pounds a day around 4 1/2 cents a pound."

U. S. SEEKS ISLAND TITLE

Palmyra, 600 Miles From Hawaii, Discovered by American in 1882—Proclaimed Part of Kingdom.

Washington.—Rumors that Great Britain intended to take possession of Palmyra Island (in reality a group of fifty islets), lying about 600 miles southwest of Hawaii and almost in a direct line between Australia and the Panama canal, resulted in the subject being made a matter of inquiry unofficially at the state department the other day.

Officials professed ignorance of any issue being raised as to the ownership of the island, but admitted that title was vague.

Palmyra Island was discovered in 1852 by an American shipmaster, was proclaimed part of the kingdom of Hawaii in 1882, and was annexed by Great Britain in 1889. The question at issue is whether the British annexation cancelled the prior Hawaiian title, for if it did not, then Palmyra Island would probably be held to have been annexed to the United States in 1898.

LEAVE STATE; EVADE LAW

Why Massachusetts Millmen Drink Water in Connecticut.

Perryville, Mass.—Although the employees of the Perry mill here work in Massachusetts, they are obliged to go into the state of Connecticut whenever they want a drink of water. This is not much of a hardship, as the factory straddles the state line, and the men have only to cross the room to get from one state to the other. A new Massachusetts law forbids the use of a common drinking cup, so the pall containing the drinking water is kept in the other state.

97 Cats to Breakfast.

Cheshire, Conn.—Cheshire has the distinction of having the first home for friendless cats to be established in Connecticut, if not in New England. Walter Scott, proprietor of an inn, has fitted up a large room in the basement of his hostelry where any homeless cat can take refuge and get three square meals a day. Ninety-seven breakfasted there in one morning.

DRINK BILL IS BIG

New South Wales Spends Millions for Spirits.

Figures Are Startling—Canon Boyce Presents Statistics Showing Expenditures by People for Liquor in 1910.

Sydney, N. S. W.—In his annual review of the drink bill of New South Wales for 1910, a self-appointed task which he has been carrying out with praiseworthy perseverance for nearly 30 years, Canon Boyce draws attention to some interesting points. In the first place the bill reaches the enormous total of \$5,724,984 (\$28,624,900), an increase on the preceding year of \$2,407,302 (\$2,036,500), due in a great measure, of course, to the increased prosperity of the people. Of this tremendous sum more than half was spent on spirits, which shows an increased consumption of 125,470 gallons as compared with 1909. The sum of \$2,231,922 (\$11,159,600) was spent on colonial beer, the "workman's beverage," showing an increase of considerably over 1,000,000 gallons as compared with the preceding year.

Out of the total sum of \$1,413,914 (\$7,069,500), or less than one-fourth, went to the revenue, either in the shape of license fees or customs and excise. Against the revenue obtained from the drink traffic Canon Boyce places a huge debit balance amounting, he thinks, to at least \$2,000,000 (\$10,000,000), through the maintenance of our reformatories and jails, asylums for the insane and various other institutions which are rendered necessary to a large extent by the abuse of intoxicating liquors, an expense which, of course, has to be borne in mind when considering the question as to whether it should be considered from a moral as well as a financial point of view.

The cost per head of the population is placed at \$3 10s. 6d. (\$17.13), or \$7 12s. 6d. (\$37.09) for a family of five persons. This is a very vague way of reckoning it, and children, for the most part, and large numbers of adults never touch intoxicating liquors at all. Still, it is the only way statisticians have of making the expenditure clear to the intelligence of the people.

One year's expenditure sounds bad enough, but when we reckon by the decade it becomes appalling. The drink bill of New South Wales, for example, during the ten years since federation was established amounted to nearly \$50,000,000 (\$250,000,000). Why the debt for the whole state only amounts to \$27,500,000 (\$437,500,000), which, therefore, represents a drink bill of a little over 17 years. The annual interest and charges on the public debt amounted in 1908 to \$3,412,628 (\$17,068,100), or \$2 3s. 5d. (\$10.56) per head; so that the drink bill for one year is within a million of double the amount named.

However, we are not singular in this respect. There are others, and they are very nearly as bad—some of them in fact are worse. Among the latter are Queensland with \$3 15s. 10d. (\$18.42) per head; New Zealand, \$3 13s. 1d. (\$17.74) and England, \$3 12s. 4d. (\$17.58). The United Kingdom, on the whole, however, is in 3d. (30 cents) per head below our standard, Scotland and South Australia, being about on a par—\$2 13s. 2d. (\$12.92), and \$2 14s. 8d. (\$13.22) per head respectively. Victoria is also below us with \$3 7s. 9d. (\$16.48) per head, as against our \$3 10s. 6d. (\$17.13).

Canon Boyce draws special attention to the fact that the drink bill in the no license districts of New Zealand is only 16s. 4d. (\$8.92) per head, a significant fact if the figures are correct. We do not wonder at Queensland heading the list, because the climate is so hot in the summer months that liquor vending of all descriptions must be a roaring trade.

WRITES WITH HIS TEETH

Resident of Palo Alto, Pa., Without Arms Gives Legal Proof of Signature.

Pottsville, Pa.—Frank J. Dotterweich of Palo Alto astounded the officials of the Schuylkill county recorder's office recently when he swore that his signature had been affixed by himself to a legal document executed before Justice of the Peace John J. O'Connor, although he has neither hands nor forearms.

In a railroad accident some years ago Dotterweich fell beneath the wheels of his train and had both his arms severed.

To verify his statement the cripple gave a demonstration of his prowess with the pen, which he held between his teeth.

For Jerusalem College.

London.—A wealthy Indian Hebrew, whose name is not announced, has given \$400,000 to endow a Jewish college at Jerusalem. It is hoped that this college may become the nucleus of a university in Palestine.

Eggs Cost 75 Cents a Dozen.

Warren, Pa.—Although Warren is in the center of an agricultural region eggs have jumped to 75 cents a dozen, and hotels and restaurants complain of an egg famine.

No Need to Be Poor.

Pittsburg.—"Society has plenty of money and there need be no poor if resources were properly distributed." Prof. Edward T. Devine of Columbia university told an audience.