

## COLORED COLUMN

R. M. Hitson, Correspondent.

Boat Roberson bought a fine pipe and was so proud of it that that he showed it to all his friends. Going to Dunellon and while standing around a street fire he took out his pipe and let all gaze upon its beauty and then put it into his coat pocket for safe keeping. A boy stole it and thus ended a pipe show.

Bro. Hardy Gibbs preached two very interesting sermons at Red Level, during the rally.

Rev. V. S. Summers filled his pulpit here, last Sunday.

Weona Hires and Mary Butler had a fight a few days ago. Mary won. Weona is a very heavy weight while Mary only pulls 126 on the scales.

Miss Marrie Caprus and Robert Fields, of Dunnellon, were married, last week. A good time was enjoyed at the bride's home. Many friends came from Dunnellon by train, hacks, and autos. After the wedding some of the party called at the Seymour house and were the guests Mr. and Mrs. J. Dixon who made it very pleasant for them.

Jennie O. Matteal is getting to be a cracker-jack of a shot. She shot some more ducks, on the wing, Saturday. Look out Dug.

W. M. Kinedy is building a nice stack chimney this week for J. H. Hurd.

S. T. Jacobs boarded the train Sunday, on the way somewhere.

Wm. Roberson is driving down a fine pump on Main street.

John Morgan killed five fine togs Monday and gave an Oyster Roast in the afternoon.

The trustee of the Crystal River Cemetery Association transacted some important business at its last monthly meeting.

**NOTICE**—The Old Crystal Clothes Cleaner has moved back onto Citrus Ave. and is now prepared to fix your clothes in an up-to-date manner.  
J. Park, Prop.

Mrs. Mary Cook of Red Level received the sad news last Saturday that one of her older brothers living in Alabama had met his death by being burned. He had been subject to spells for years and fell into the fire while in one of them. He leaves a wife and two children and other relatives to mourn his loss.

Mrs. Alice Hawkins left a few days ago for Quincy.

R. M. Hitson and John Roberson attended services, Sunday a. m. at Red Level.

Rally Sunday at Lee's Mount Baptist church was grand. Leo is Oliver and Mrs. Mary started the proceedings by giving \$100 each.

Rev. W. E. Roberson killed some very fine hogs for market Saturday.

## Hello Bill!

What is it you want?

Your Clothes Cleaned and Pressed in an Up-To-Date Manner? Take them to the

Gulf City Pressing Club

Opposite Post Office  
Crystal River, Fla.

## WHERE PLATINUM IS FOUND

Rare Metal in Small Quantities Usually is Associated With Gold in Gravel Beds.

Platinum is found associated with gold, principally in gravel beds. The ordinary source is accumulations of gravel which have been eroded from extensive area and gradually concentrated in one locality by the continued action of water. It is a rare metal and the accumulation must be from a great extent of country if a paying deposit is to be developed.

Platinum is of a silver gray color which is rarely tarnished. Its development is similar to gold, except that where gold is usually associated with quartz and light colored rocks platinum will be found more commonly with dark colored rocks, and especially those of a greenish shading. It is found only in small quantities, except at two or three localities. Western Colombia and eastern Russia have gravel beds which afford the principal supply of this metal. Elsewhere it is found over considerable areas, but not sufficiently concentrated to be of importance. It may be looked for among the formations adjacent to regions of old volcanic activity.

The distribution is principally in altered rocks, and segregation seems to have been the principal cause contributing to its collection in ore bodies. The deposits found up to the present time have been of irregular mineralization and not of great extent, consequently all platinum deposits must be considered with caution.

Of the rare metals associated with platinum, iridium, osmium, palladium and others, little need be said because of their rarity. If found they will be associated with platinum and will be known by the greater hardness, brighter surface and greater specific gravity.—Moody's Magazine.

## THREAD DOES SLEUTH WORK

Milwaukee Merchant Devises a Clever Scheme to Get Rid of a Troublesome Shoplifter.

The manager of a local department store took an efficacious method of ridding himself of a troublesome petty shoplifter recently. The woman has been coming into the store and picking up a small remnant, spool of thread, thimble or other article that happened to be lying about, having little intrinsic value, but being nevertheless a source of annoyance to both the clerk and the management. Because of the position of the woman, it was undesirable to institute an action.

A few days ago the manager took a spool of silk from the case, fastened the loose end of the thread with a tack, and allowing a bit of slack, left it upon the counter. It was not long before his party arrived, and deftly dropping the spool into her shopping bag, started out. The manager detached the loose end and followed her up the street, a few yards in the rear. He trailed her into another downtown store, and, as she was standing beside a counter in the midst of a crowded array of bargain seekers, approached her, calmly winding his thread and politely said:

"Madame, I'll trouble you for that spool of thread."

What followed can be more easily imagined than described. He got the thread and has not been troubled with losses since, nor have the other stores, so far as may be learned.—Milwaukee Free Press.

## Bearded "Ladies."

M. Brandt, a Danish professor, comes to the conclusion that bearded ladies in time to come will be the order of the day. Ladies with beards who are now to be seen may be regarded as the precursors of the future race, and the professor comes to the conclusion that the more masculine woman becomes in her habits so much the more will she be in appearance. He does not think that bearded ladies will become general until at least two centuries have elapsed. His investigations show that the number of women with traces of mustaches, although clearly visible, increases but slowly. The Paris contemporary from which we take the foregoing suggests that the professor has missed the great point which he might have made and that is that as the number of men who shave increases daily it would follow that women would endeavor to grow beards from sheer perversity.

## Poor Day for Trade.

"Rainy day trade ain't what it was before that moving picture show started up next door," said the umbrella dealer sadly. "Used to be when people got caught in the rain they came in and bought umbrellas; now when they get caught and the Barker for the show sees 'em heading for my door he says:

"Step right in till it stops raining. Costs you less to see the show than to buy an umbrella," and, by cricky, if that ain't what most of 'em do."

## COSTA RICAN IS DIGNIFIED

He Loves Pomp and Ceremony and His Formal Banquets Are Distressingly Solemn.

"The Costa Rican loves pomp and ceremony. He plays with diplomacy, and from force of habit strikes a threatening attitude toward the head of the government, whoever he may be, but never carries it so far as to provoke a revolution, as is done in the sister republics.

"He is a perfect picture of the posing hero in the comic opera, never yet having been conquered by his enemy, but always on guard," writes a woman correspondent of Health Culture. "The old Spanish hidalgos who warred with the Central American states did not consider the country around San Jose (reached then by a bridle path over the mountains) worth fighting for.

"So they left the natives in possession and the consequence is that the peon, or barefooted native, driving his yoke or diminutive oxen, is nobody's slave. He owns his mule and cart, his little patio of land and farmhouse. The tax gatherer has no place there, therefore when you meet him reincarnated as the dignified merchant he is a most self-respecting citizen.

"A dinner of fifty covers, with three kinds of wine, was tendered a foreign diplomat during our stay at the Hotel Imperial. When they were all seated and the dinner well on we gained a coign of vantage where we were not seen, and I aver that a woman's suffrage luncheon in New York city was a hilarious affair in comparison to it. Yet nearly every man present had been educated in Europe.

"At Christmas time, during the ten days of fete, they enter heartily into the spirit of the carnival, and then fold themselves away for the rest of the year."

## RED CEDAR FOR BULDINGS

Some of This Excellent Material is Estimated to Be Nearly Four Thousand Years Old.

It will surprise many to know that they have in their homes material estimated to be 4,000 years old. If the shingles or interior finish is red cedar or if you have a red cedar chest it is possible that the wood antedates the history of this country by thousands of years, says the Cleveland Leader.

A Cleveland man is credited with bringing the first red cedar into this section. W. A. Geist, on a western trip several years ago, was attracted by the red cedar forests at Port Angeles, Wash. He established a mill there and began shipping the cedar to the eastern market. Formerly the southern cedar was used in great quantities, but it is the claim of Mr. Geist that the product from the Pacific coast is growing in favor and the demand for it is increasing.

It is a most durable wood and its use in a home guarantees that moths and other troublesome insects will not enter. It is used for wainscoting, mantels, cupboards, cabinets and especially for chests in which to store furs and clothing. Mr. Geist exhibits a quantity of red cedar cut from a tree he estimates to be at least 3700 years of age. Three large cedars were found growing from a fallen log which was five and one-half feet in diameter. The largest of the three trees growing from the fallen tree was ten and one-half feet in diameter. By counting the rings in both trees indicates that the fallen tree, still sound, is nearing its four thousandth birthday.

Mr. Geist is an expert upon red cedar and goes in for the history of the wonderful trees of Washington and other coast states as a biographer would the data upon the life of some famous man. He surrounds a bolt of shingle cedar with an interesting story, which goes back to the misty ages and something like reverence grows within the listener for this venerable work of nature.

Unquestionably the red cedar is the oldest material used in the construction of the home and few materials will outwear it, it being nearly indestructible except by fire.

## The Way It's Done.

"Doctor, I want you to look after my office while I'm on vacation."

"But I've just graduated, doctor. Have had no experience."

"That's all right, my boy. My practice is strictly fashionable. Tell the men to play golf and ship the lady patients off to Europe."

## Expensive Instruction.

"Experience," said the ready-made philosopher, "is the best teacher."

"Yes," replied the man who has had troubles with Wall street, "but you're so liable to go broke paying the first installment on tuition."

## Pistol Toting.

A man who lacks self-control should never trust himself to carry a gun. A man who can control himself rarely needs one.—Houston Post.

## HE PLANNED HIS OWN DEATH

How Sir William Hankford 500 Years Ago Evaded Law Against Committing Suicide.

Suicides often adopt ingenious methods, but the art of the felo de se seems not to have advanced materially during the centuries. The modern case of a heavily insured broker who on a feigned hunting trip stood bare-legged in a quagmire for hours and wilfully contracted a fatal pneumonia is matched in cleverness by one 500 years old.

The following facts are well vouched for, and indeed were never questioned, says the Green Bag. Sir William Hankford, a judge of the king's bench in the reigns of Edward III, Henry IV, Henry V and Henry VI, and at the time of his death chief justice of England, was a man of melancholy temperament.

He seems to have contemplated suicide the greater part of his long life and during his later years the idea became a fixed purpose. The act was of peculiarly serious consequences in those days for the reason that the law treated it as a capital crime. The offender was buried at the cross roads, with a stake driven through his body, and all his goods and property were forfeited to the crown, to the utter ruin of his family.

Hankford made good use of his wits and succeeded in accomplishing his purpose without incurring either unpleasant penalty. He gave open instructions to his gamekeeper, who had been troubled with poachers in the deer preserve, to challenge all trespassers in the future and to shoot to kill if they would not stand and give an account.

One dark night he purposely crossed the keeper's path, and upon challenge made motions of resistance and escape. The faithful servant, failing to recognize his master, followed instruction to the letter, as was expected of him, and Sir William fell dead in his tracks. The whole truth of the affair was common knowledge, but it was impossible to establish a case of suicide by legal proof. The servant was protected by his instructions. Hankford had honorable burial and his estate passed to those whose interests as heirs he had so wisely considered.

## TOO REMARKABLE TO FALL

Ruined Old Barn Set Mose an Example and He Proceeded to Get Well.

In their first walk of the season at Wobrook-in-the-Hills the judge and his wife stopped at the Bartons' to inquire for Mose, who was reported to have been "more'n common allin", "long back." They found Mrs. Barton in the garden, weeding.

"Yes, he was awful bad all last winter," she said, gradually rising, and straightening up. "First he had gripe, an' that left his heart weak, an' 'long toward March his liver kind o' got out o' whack. Then Mose sent for doctor, an' he called it 'complication o' diseases.'

"You're a sick man," says doctor. "I know that," says Mose, 'thout you're tellin' me! You know his way? 'But this complication, 's you call it, is what stumps me. I guess I'd better get well—an' he did!'"

"Suthin' in that, eh, squire?" said Mose, suddenly appearing from behind the house.

"Much!" asserted the judge. "Didn't find my argyment in a book, same as you would, squire," Mose continued. "Got it up on the hills, from the old Collin's barn—'member it?'"

"I should say I did!" said the judge, smiling reminiscently; "roofless, practically and open on all sides!"

"But kep' a-standin' for nigh thutty year 'cause it was so ramshackle it didn't know which way to fall. My case exactly!" declared Mose Marton, with a twinkle.—Youth's Companion.

## None for Him, Thank You.

Representatives Hughes and Kinkead of New Jersey and Cravens of Arkansas, wits of the house, had just returned from the funeral of a colleague. They were discussing the pomp and publicity of a congressional funeral.

"I do not want such a funeral, do you, Gene?" said Mr. Hughes to Mr. Kinkead.

"No, Billy, I do not care to be put away with so much display. What about you, Ben?" said Mr. Kinkead, turning to Mr. Cravens.

"I don't want any funeral," responded the southerner, dryly.—Washington Correspondence in New York World.

## Entirely Original.

"Do you consider Wobbleton's humor original, Binks?" asked Dubleigh.

"Sure it is," said Binks. "Absolutely. I don't believe there is any humor in existence that antedates Wobbleton's jokes."—Judge.

## LIFE IS GROWING LONGER

Present Rate of Increase is Found to Be Greater Than Ever Before.

Life is not growing shorter, but Dr. O. H. Howe, a Massachusetts physician, finds that the world's statistics indicate a steady lengthening for 350 years, with a present rate of increase greater than ever before. Records for Geneva show an average increase in the average age of all deaths from 21.2 years in the sixteenth century to 39.7 years in the nineteenth. In Massachusetts life is now lengthening about fourteen years in a century, the average length at the time being about forty-five years; in Europe the increase per century is about seventeen years, and in Prussia, the land of medical discovery and its application, about twenty-seven years. In India, which has neglected medical science, the life span has remained stationary at only about twenty-five years. The lengthening of life in Massachusetts has been promoted by the diminution of infant mortality, by the almost complete disappearance of small-pox and by the lessening of the mortality from scarlet fever and especially from diphtheria to a small fraction of what it was a few years ago. Continued study of disease germs, of which the number has increased in twenty-five years from only two to between twenty and thirty now known, will further lengthen life. Modern conditions, however, partially offset the beneficent work of medicine, and Massachusetts statistics show five times as many deaths from heart disease in 1895 as in 1850, with Bright's disease and other kidney disorders and cancer more than doubled.

## WAGES IN UNITED STATES

Large Proportion of American Workmen Unable to Maintain Efficient Standard of Living.

An estimate was made some time ago that a New York family consisting of a man, wife and three children under fourteen could maintain a normal standard of living on an annual income of \$900. Then the question arose as to the number of families whose income equaled that sum.

Scott Nearing, the economic writer of the University of Pennsylvania, studied the question for many months and in a book, "Wages in the United States," which was published recently, he states the conclusion that a large proportion of American workmen are unable to maintain an efficient standard of living. Three-fourths of the adult men and nineteen-twentieths of the adult women, he says, actually earn less than \$600 a year, or to give his conclusions more in detail, one-half of the men are earning less than \$600 a year, three-fourths less than \$600, nine-tenths less than \$800, while less than ten per cent. receive more than that figure. Of the women, one-fifth earn less than \$200 annually, and three-fifths less than \$325, while only one-twentieth earn more than \$600.

To arrive at these figures Doctor Nearing takes up various state wage statistics. Massachusetts, New Jersey, Kansas, Michigan, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Pennsylvania are considered, while special wage reports from Wisconsin and Illinois are included.

## An Oregon Woman's Conscience.

Confessing that she had told a train ticket agent her child was under five years of age, when in fact she was over six years old, and under such pretence succeeded in securing free transportation for her, a woman appeared at a local Southern Pacific ticket office this morning and tendered the agent \$3. She said the incident occurred about three years ago, and that she had since been troubled by her conscience.

"I do not think I could right myself with God until I had paid the debt," declared the woman as she hastened from the ticket office.

The woman refused to give her name. Southern Pacific officials here declare that today's donation is the first "conscience" money ever received at this office.—Roseburg correspondent, Portland, Oregonian.

## For Those Who Hear Not.

The hallboy had fairly split his throat shouting directions to deaf persons who had called to see Mr. Schwartz. Mr. Schwartz lived in the fourth floor rear, right-hand apartment, through the long hall and up the back stairs. It took a good deal of shouting to make some folks understand that.

"I never saw so many deaf people in my life," said the boy. "What on earth are they all running up to Schwartz's for?"

"Mr. Schwartz has advertised a deaf man's phonograph for sale," said a neighbor. "He is very hard of hearing. The phonograph was made especially for him. It has an unusually loud tone. Nobody but the hard-of-hearing can live with such entertainment. Mr. Schwartz, to save trouble, has advertised for a deaf purchaser."