

Greater New York.

The new city of New York, which is now an accomplished fact, and which will begin its official existence on Jan. 1, 1898, is an interesting object of study. Even the mere figures of its greatness are interesting.

It has an area of 306 square miles. Its population exceeds 3,100,000. Its real estate is assessed for taxation at \$2,231,879,805. Its foreign commerce last year exceeded \$1,000,000,000. Its public schools number 360, with 202,961 scholars and 7,464 teachers. It has 6,889 policemen and 1,167 paid firemen. It has more than seven thousand men in its militia force. Its payroll contains 33,113 names, and calls for an annual payment of \$33,769,000. It has 89 public libraries, 204 asylums and hospitals, 1,100 churches, 11,061 saloons, 6,500 acres of parks, 170 miles of elevated railway, and 1,040 miles of surface railway.

It is the first city in the world in the energy, intelligence and capacity of its inhabitants for accomplishing results. Its opportunity for self-government is the greatest in municipal history.

Bright is the future which stretches before the vision of the Greater New York.—Yew York World.

Patent Office Cranks.

"Cranks," said the Patent Office clerk, "well, I should say we do have cranks. We have them as numerous as a yellow dog has fleas."

"What kind?"

"All kinds, but mostly the harmless kind."

The human mind is delicately constructed, and the inventive faculty is one of its finest functions. Therefore it is expected that when a man gets to inventing things he must be well balanced or he gets cranky.

"It's the common lot of all geniuses, isn't it?"

"Of course."

"And some of them are funny, I have no doubt?"

"Yes. A man not long ago wanted to get a patent on a certain kind of a spring he knew had never been patented, and then after fooling away half an hour of my valuable time, he said it was the spring of the year. Another one wanted a patent on the finest coupler on earth, and in the course of a lost hour I discovered it was the preacher who had married him to the best woman on earth. Another one wanted a patent on a corn cutter, and developments showed he had an old razor with him. Another one wanted a patent on the best fire kindler known, and in a whisper he told me it was his wife. Another one wanted a patent on a lamp that couldn't go out, and when I thought may be there was something in it, he showed me the picture of the interior of a room with a lamp nailed to the wall. Cranks?" growled the clerk.

"Well, what do you call them?"

"I don't call them at all," said the other party. "I pass."

Mr. Landis' Narrow Escape.

Mr. Frank Landis, of Oxford, was recently the victim of what came near being a fatal crime, so we learn from the Charlotte News. He was staying at a hotel in Louisville, Ky. He retired at night leaving an order to be called for the early morning train for Chattanooga.

When the bell-boy called him, he found him almost unconscious, and while attempting to dress he fell in a dead faint.

A physician was called in, and upon examination it was found he had been heavily chloroformed. It was also found he had been robbed of \$90.

Two men in the next room had also been chloroformed and robbed.—Press Visitor.

\$100 For a Wife.

A well-to-do farmer of this county has offered a friend of his in this city \$100 to induce some pretty woman to become his wife.

The city gentleman requests us to state that any lady between 20 and 35 who desires to marry a substantial farmer will communicate with him through P. O. Box 244.—Fayetteville Observer.

Mrs. Jennie Graham Rossell, wife of Maj. W. T. Rossell, chief of engineers, U. S. Engineers, U. S. Army, stationed at Mobile, Ala., died very suddenly last week. Her husband was absent in Charleston, S. C. at the time attending a commission of engineers. She leaves eight children. She was the daughter of ex-Governor Ellis, of North Carolina, and was married to Major Rossell in 1882.

Advantages of Electricity.

While electricity is certain to effect a very material saving in manufacturing it has other uses quite as important. Where there is one factory there may be hundreds of dwellings, and when the electric current can be introduced into these dwellings its advantages will be manifold. As to economy, the Niagara falls power has produced the most startling results. It costs but \$36 a year per horsepower for electricity used 24 hours in the day. This is much less than the cost of steam used 10 hours a day. There are hopes that even these figures will be very materially reduced, and that new appliances will show new uses for electricity, and that we will not only have our houses lighted and heated by this means, but it will be able to perform many services automatically. One of the latest adaptations of electricity is its use in the laundry. The irons are heated by electricity, and by proper regulation a current is used which is absolutely uniform. All of the heat is utilized, and every stroke of the iron tells, so there is no waiting or wondering or questioning if the iron is hot enough. Another great advantage is that it does not heat the room, as the radiation from the iron is not perceptible. Gas heated irons vitiate the atmosphere, and the operators become weary and like vitality. Where natural gas has therefore been employed for heating irons it is used to generate electricity, and the change is of great advantage, both financially and in the point of health.—New York Ledger.

Lady Cecily.

The following is an account of Lady Cecily, the Duchess of York, and the mother of King Richard III., copied from an ancient record, of the manner in which she spent her day at one of the castles where she was residing.

"She useth to arise at seven of the clock, and hath ready her chaplaine to say with her mattins of the daye (that is, morning prayers), and when she is fully ready, she hath a lowe mass in her chamber. After mass she taketh something to recreate nature, and see goeth to the chapel, bearing the divine service and two lowe masses. From thence to dnyner, during the tyme of which she hath a lecture of holy matter (that is, reading from a religious book), either Hilton of Contemplative and Active Life, or some other spiritual and instructive work. After dnyner she giveth audience to all such as hath any matter to shryve unto her, by the space of one hower, and then slepeth one quarter of an hower, and after she hath slept she contynueth in prayer until the first peale of even song.

"In the tyme of supper she reciteth the lecture that was had at dnyner to those that be in her presence. After supper she disposeth herself to be familiar with her gentlewomen to the seasoning of honest myrthes, and one hower before her going to bed she taketh a cup of wine, and after that goeth to her pryvie closette, and taketh her leave of God for all night, makinge end of her prayers for that daye, and by sight of the clock is in bedde."

Paper Underclothing.

The Japanese are now making under clothing of their fine crimped or grained paper. After the paper has been cut to a pattern, the different parts are sewed together together and hemmed and the places where the button-holes are to be formed are strengthened with calico or linen. The stuff is very strong and at the same time very flexible. After a garment has been worn a few hours it will interfere with the transportation of the body no more than do garments made of fabric.

The stuff is not sized, nor is it impermeable. After becoming wet the paper is difficult to tear. When an endeavor is made to tear it by hand it presents almost as much resistance as the skin used for making gloves.

Dynamite Explosion.

A terrible accident occurred a few days ago at Hermantown, Minn. seven miles from Duluth. Frank Luck, a farmer living there, was thawing some dynamite to be used in cleaning land of stumps. He was heating it over a fire when it exploded, tearing the house almost to pieces and killing Luck and two young sons. His wife and another small boy escaped alive, but are badly hurt. The boy was blown through a window, and what remained of the house caught fire and was destroyed. The mother and son were taken to Duluth and are in the hospital there. The boy may die, but the mother will recover.

FERTILIZERS.

Practical Suggestions Many Eastern Carolina Farmers could Adopt With Profit.

Strict Attention to All the Details of Agriculture and Household Economy is Essential To Success.

The Way to Create Capital at Home—How to Obtain the Most Reliable Artificial Fertilizers.

The use of artificial fertilizers judiciously are fully justified by the fact that large crops per acre only are profitable, and that the market value of small crops on a number of acres hardly meets the expense of cultivation, and yet the cultivation of large areas with small yield per acre is persistently pursued. This is a mistaken policy, and we are satisfied that, in order to combine profit and improvement by means of commercial fertilizers, farmers should change or modify their system. They should divide their lands into a greater number of fields of smaller area, so as to extend the rotation by increasing the number of crops cultivated for sale and consumption at home. Each field, as it is brought into cultivation, should be more thoroughly drained, plowed and tilled. This will insure the crop and largely increase the chance of profit from the liberal use of commercial fertilizers.

The commercial substances containing nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash in greatest abundance are those which will be found most profitable as plant food, in conjunction with domestic manures and wastes. It has been said that the different preparations of the superphosphates and of the bones containing phosphoric acid may be adulterated, especially the adulteration known as flour of bones. Ground bone calcined is thought to be more reliable.

The Charleston phosphate or coprolite, when ground and treated with sulphuric acid is extensively used as a source of phosphoric acid. Burned bones are also used, and are said to be just as good. But there is a difference between the raw bones ground and the Charleston phosphate super-phosphate and other phosphates which should not be lost sight of. In the raw bone ground there is considerable amount of organic matter in addition to the phosphoric acid contained, while in the super-phosphates and the Charleston coprolite there is no organic matter. Still the latter have a deservedly high reputation as furnishing phosphoric acid in large and valuable quantity, if the rocks are properly ground and thoroughly mixed with the sulphuric acid, so that the acid can act on all particles of the mass and cause a conversion into soluble super-phosphates of lime entirely available to the plant. Some specimens of Charleston super-phosphates some years since were found to be very poor and inert because, as stated, the rocks were imperfectly ground and insufficiently mixed with the acid, or because the acid was used in insufficient quantity or too weak to act thoroughly on the whole mass. In this and in other ways the manufacturers may furnish inferior substances. Hence the importance of every agriculturalist purchasing their fertilizers of old and reliable manufacturers, those whose constant thought and business has been for many years to make the best and most reliable goods, suited for each special crop. The fertilizers of John G. Tinsley & Co., branch of the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company, of Richmond, Va., has stood the best for many years. Their fertilizers are manufactured from the best material and with the advice of the most eminent chemists in this country and Europe, and some of the most successful and practical farmers in the United States.

Farming should be carried on more as a regular business. The uncertainties arising from meteorological and other conditions are no greater than those that attend most other avocations of life. The inattention to details, as too trifling to pay for the time and trouble involved, has been the cause of many failures which might have been avoided. Agriculture is no less a jealous mistress than the other professions. Strict attention to details is regarded as essential to success in all the scientific industries, and farming can form no exception. It is by this strict attention to all the details of agriculture and household economy that the French people have attained such success in creating capital at home. Twice invaded by foreign armies during the present century, despoiled of millions of property and mulcted in millions more for damage to pay their despoilers, their system of agriculture and rural economy stands as a monument more durable than brass to their skill and to their faith in their soil.

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