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THURSDAY DECEMBER 25, 1919.



The Emblem of
LIBERTY AND HUMANITY

USED DIAMONDS AS COUNTERS

Miners Who Found Them in Brazil in 1726 Considered Them as Merely Pretty Pebbles.

The news from Brazil that a large company has been formed to work the diamond mines of that country on a more scientific scale in an effort to make Brazil once more an important factor in supplying the world's most popular gem, recalls one of history's richest jokes.

Diamonds were first discovered in Brazil in 1725. But with their pockets full of diamonds, the discoverers were unaware for two years that they had made a discovery.

Miners washing for gold in the Minas Geraes district picked up pretty pebbles from time to time. They thought them worthless and used them for counters in their card games. If they had no money they gambled for the pebbles, winning or losing, in blissful ignorance, a king's ransom in diamonds on the turn of a card.

A penniless adventurer drifted into the gold fields in 1727. Some of the miners staked him one evening to a handful of pebbles that he might sit in at a card game. The others played with listless interest, but the newcomer played with care and skill. He had seen rough diamonds in India and knew what the pebbles were. As a result he won all the pebbles around the table.

He did not remain in the fields to wash for gold, but next day hurried to Rio Janeiro and took ship for Lisbon, where he sold his pebbles for a fortune and lived happily ever after. The rush of diamond hunters to Brazil which followed carried back to the miners in Minas Geraes the first intimation that they had been rich for two years without knowing it.

NO REFUGE IN BANKRUPTCY

In Olden Times Severe Penalties Were Meted Out to Men Unable to Pay Their Debts.

A curious custom was prevalent in France during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Anyone who found it necessary to liquidate his affairs was obliged to wear a green cap—a humility to himself and a warning to others.

Those who made a hobby of getting rid of their indebtedness by way of the bankruptcy court should at all costs steer clear of China. Bankruptcies are almost unknown in that country, as they entail immediate execution.

A similar drastic punishment used to be meted out to delinquent in Japan.

To come nearer home, one need only go back to a little before the Act of Union to find that debtors in Scotland were obliged to wear garments of diverse colors, a suit of gray and yellow being the most common.

In Siam, a man unable to meet his liabilities was put in chains and compelled to work as a slave for his creditor. Should he escape, his wife, children, father or other relative were seized in his stead.

At one time bankrupts were considered criminal offenders even in England. As a matter of fact, certain cases of fraudulent bankruptcy have incurred the death penalty in this country. Any concealment of books or the secreting of property by a debtor was so punished. Under this law a man called John Perrot was hanged in 1761.—London Tit-Bits.

Tailoring Ancient Art.

The art of tailoring, in the western hemisphere, appears to have originated in connection with skin garments rather than those of cloth. In the North, throughout the reindeer and caribou area, well-tailored skin garments were worn, completely covering the body. The Eskimos and the caribou-hunting Indians cut out pieces of skin and fitted them together in intricate patterns like a modern tailor. The tailoring art probably began in China, whence it spread to Europe, thence to the reindeer hunters in Siberia and across from Asia into the new world. Along the Pacific coast the aboriginal Indians were but scantily clad and the natives of Patagonia usually wore only a breechcloth, although sometimes a capelike robe hanging from the shoulders was used. In Mexico and the Andes region where the art of weaving reached its height, garments retained the angular form in which they came from the loom.

The Main Thing.

...My poor man," said the sympathetic ...on visitor. "Do let me send you ... cake."

...nk you, mum. Dat would suit ... ...

...ind would you prefer?"

..."mum," said the prisoner, ...oice to a whisper, "just ... in it."—Birmingham

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You *know* Trinidad Lake asphalt is "Nature's everlasting waterproofer", and gives life and resisting power to roofing.

Genasco is made of Trinidad Lake asphalt; and applied with the Kant-leak Kleet it gives years of faithful service. Costs no more to get Genasco and be on the safe side—it actually costs less in the long run.

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Stockholders Meeting.

The Denton National Bank
Denton, Md., Dec. 6, 1919

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Denton National Bank, will be held at their banking house in Denton, Md. on Tuesday, January 13th 1920, between the hours of one and three o'clock p. m. of that day, for the purpose of electing themselves for the ensuing year.

WM. I. MORRIS, Cashier

Dudley & Carpenter
—GENERAL—
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SEEK GOLD IN THE ARCTIC

Adventurers Are Now Prospecting the Coasts of Baffin Bay and Davis Strait.

One of the really pathetic stories of modern history is the mutiny of Henry Hudson's crew when he was exploring the arctic waters of North America, and his abandonment, with his son, in that vast inland sea that bears his name, a writer in the Brooklyn Eagle remarks. Many lives have been sacrificed in the quest of the North and South poles. Sir John Franklin's and the Jeannette's parties in the north and the recent Scott expedition at the south only need be mentioned.

Plans are afoot to open up the Baffin bay region to commerce. For many years small steamers have been making summer visits to Hudson bay to trade with the natives, and the Canadian government is building a railway to one of its ports. Railroad and commercial development of Alaska by American enterprise has caused prospecting of the mineral resources of the coasts of Baffin bay and Davis strait, with the result of finding, at the former place, gold in sufficient quantities to justify development, and coal of excellent quality along the latter. The latitude is about the same as that of the Yukon region and only a few degrees north of that of Nome, which has developed into a large community. So impelling is the lure of gold that the hardships of an arctic climate will not deter adventurers from hazarding their lives against the wealth said to be buried under the eternal snow and ice of Baffin island.

Stoves of an Age Gone By.

Somebody interested in antiquities has asked in print whether soapstone stoves are now purchasable, and although the question will puzzle most of those who read it even to know what such a stove looks like, it will remind others, of an older generation, that the soapstone stove has not so very long vanished. People used such stoves, and burnt wood in them, no longer ago than the time when mansard roofs were admired; and as some mansard roofs still remain in American cities so, doubtless, do some soapstone stoves. Most of them, however, are gone, like the earlier cast-iron stoves that had neither door nor stove pipe, but backed up against a fireplace in the next room and both took in fuel and sent out smoke through a hole into the fireplace. In fact, it would take a sizable book to describe and picture the family tree of the modern kitchen stove and basement furnace.—Christian Science Monitor.

Fred R. Owens, Attorney.

TRUSSEE'S SALE
—OF VALUABLE—
REAL ESTATE

Under and by virtue of an order passed by the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, in the caae of Elmer B. Hignutt, Bankrupt, the undersigned, as trustee of the estare of said Bankrupt, will offer for sale and sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms hereinafter set forth, in front of Jefferson's Drug Store, Federalsburg, Caroline County, Maryland, on

Saturday Jan. 10, 1919

between the hours of two and four o'clock p. m., all of the following Real Estate, to wit:

The undivided one-fourth interest of Elmer B. Hignutt in the farm whereon Albert F. Hignutt now resides, called and known as the "Elisha Wright Farm", containing the quantity of

66 Acres of Land, More or Less.

Said interest being object to the life of Albert F. Hignutt. It being the same land devised by George W. Hignutt, late of Caroline County, deceased, to the said Elmer B. Hignutt and others by Item 2 of said last will and testament.

TERMS OF SALE.

Terms of sale are cash on day of sale. Title papers at the expense of purchaser.

WILLIAM J. RICKRDS, Trustee.

Take notice, that the Real Estate mentioned in the aforegoing advertisement' this day inserted in the American Union, will be offered for sale at the time, place and upon the terms therein staten.

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96
DISABLED

One afternoon last summer there was a brisk shower in Washington. And after it was over there were 96 telephones reported to the wire chiefs as being out of order. What was the matter? Why, some people had merely forgotten to close the window near the telephone and the rain came in and wet the cord.

Moisture is fatal to good telephone transmission and telephone cords should always be kept dry. Never place the telephone where water will get on it, and never lay a damp umbrella against the cord. If you do, you are likely to find that your telephone will refuse to talk.

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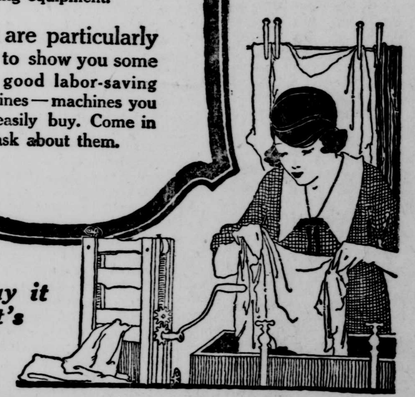
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