











PICTURE OF OLD TIMES

HISTORIC HOUSE IN WHICH HISTORY WAS MADE

Illinois First State House on the Banks of the Mississippi—The Old Pape Mansion Still Stands at Kaskaskia—Sketches of Early Days.



(Nashville, Ill., Letter.) THE old Pape mansion or the state house, as it was afterwards called, is without doubt the oldest brick structure in the Mississippi valley.

Historic village of Old Kaskaskia, and unless some action is taken against the continual encroachment of the Mississippi river the house will ere long follow all the other old buildings in their course and fall a victim to the relentless waters.



THE PAPE MANSION.

Clair and Randolph, five counties. One representative from each county was elected and on Nov. 10 Governor Edwards issued a proclamation ordering the representatives to convene at the Pape mansion at Kaskaskia, and here the first laws of the territory of Illinois were enacted.

MORNING MILK IN BRUSSELS.

(Special Letter.) The historic and artistic charm of the old world cities of Belgium and Holland, with their fascinations of quaint, quiet life, is enriched by their rustic peasant life and unique modes of locomotion for which all sorts of animals are used as motive powers.



MILK SELLER IN BRUSSELS. and run, like oxen, often as many as four abreast. Yet their most common and surely a very sensible use is to be strapped either in front of or under a hand cart, pushed by either a man or woman, and it is wonderful to see the pleasure they take in doing their share of the pulling.

Always Vigilant. In early life Audubon, the naturalist, was financially ruined, so that when his debts had been paid he found himself without a dollar.



THE PAPE MANSION.

There he stood, at the parting of the ways, and he struck into the path which was to lead him to fame and a reasonable amount of prosperity. But it is to be remembered that he never for a moment relinquished his pursuit of observing the life of wood and birds, and to read one short extract from his autobiography is to learn why he met with success rather than with failure.

SPORTING TERMS IN FRENCH.

(Special Letter.) It is well known that the French language is so deficient in all words dealing with sport that they have to be borrowed from English, and they often undergo curious modifications in transit.

OF A MARTIAL NATURE. Since the accession of the present czar Russia has added enormously to her military strength. Two new army corps have been created, as well as two new cavalry corps (not merely regiments); the field artillery has been increased by seventy new batteries, or over 400 guns; the Siberian rifles have been doubled, and now four new army corps are to be added and the artillery is to be reorganized so as to double its strength within a short time.

There is probably no product of ignominious nature about which there is so much popular mystery and misconception as asbestos. It is vaguely understood that the principal claim of this remarkable product is that it cannot be consumed by fire.

No Money for Church Support. One condition of the American occupation of its new territory will be directly contrary to all Spanish precedent and tradition. In this country the people do not permit the appropriation of public money for sectarian purposes.

And to them I instantly resorted. There he stood, at the parting of the ways, and he struck into the path which was to lead him to fame and a reasonable amount of prosperity.

Keeping the Tires Inflated. Pneumatic tires are kept inflated by a new automatic pump which has been patented by a Canadian. The valve of the tire is connected at B with the piston of a pump, to which is attached the strap of an eccentric geared to the axle of the wheel.

Statistics. Insurance Agent—"We can't insure you." Old Man—"Why not?" Insurance Agent—"You are 94 years old." Old Man—"What of that? Statistics will tell you that fewer men die at 94 than at any other age."

SCIENTIFIC TOPICS.

CURRENT NOTES OF DISCOVERY AND INVENTION.

A St. Louis Inventor Has a Wheel That Will Expedite Ocean Travel—How Bicycle Tires May Be Inflated by an Automatic Device.

The study of the homes of burrowing insects is attended with great difficulties. Digging down destroys them, while any preparation employed to render the earth has not given satisfactory results.

Large Quantities of Ivory Made of Artificially Prepared Materials. Large quantities of ivory made of artificially prepared materials, let us at extremely reasonable prices, led to an investigation as to their source.

The Value of Skim Milk. Every dairy woman and milk expert has observed the peculiar effect occasionally produced by milk on various fabrics. Sometimes they become so completely waterproof that they are thrown away because they cannot be washed.

How to Keep Young. The ever-youthful appearance of the members of the dramatic profession is a constant source of surprise to the public at large. The reason for this is not so much the grease-paint necessary in making-up, which obliterates to a certain extent the natural wrinkles of the skin, while it lubricates and nourishes it.

Strength of an Oyster. The oyster is one of the strongest of creatures, and the force required to open it is more than 1,000 times its own weight.

IN A DUTCH FAMILY.

QUEER SAUSAGE NEGLECTED FOR DELICIOUS EGGS.

Servants Are Never Trusted—Food, Plate, China and Linen Locked Up and Weighed Out Only When Needed—An Afternoon "At Home."

It is given to comparatively few to pay visits in Holland, for the Dutch are rather chary of opening their doors to foreigners, says the London Chronicle. With public attention turned to the little country for the sake of its youthful queen, there may be some who would like to receive the impression of an average English girl as to an average Dutch home.



A New Finish for Fabrics. The importance and value of waterproof materials is so clearly understood that every attempt to produce a new material which is impervious to moisture is a subject of deep interest to scientists and incidentally to almost every one.

Legend of the Peach. The Japanese, who claim to have first discovered the peach, have a quaint legend regarding it. A pious old couple, stricken with years and poverty, subsisted by begging. One day on the highway the woman found a beautiful peach.

The Cause of Yawning. Yawning is commonly caused by temporary deficiency of the air supply in the lung. When the body is wearied and in a sleepy condition the process of respiration is sometimes involuntarily suspended for a few seconds.

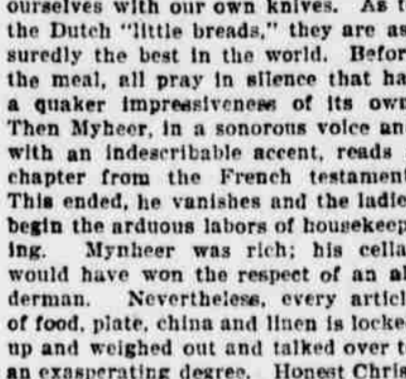
Big East Indian Tin Factory. The largest tin factory in the world is situated on Sulo Brani, an island in the Bay of Singapore. It turns out monthly 1,200 tons of tin, more than the product of Cornwall and more than that of Australia.

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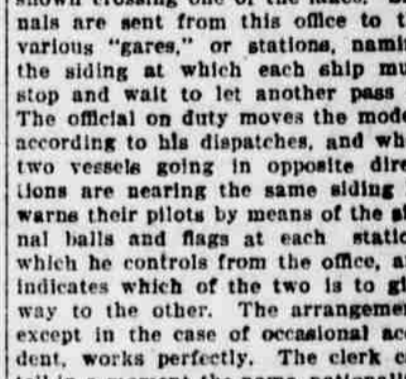
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SUEZ CANAL SIGNAL SYSTEM.

The Devices, Rare in Exceptional Cases, Work Perfectly.

In the large office at Terrepelin there is almost perfect silence, though the employes are working steadily, each at his especial task.

It is almost perfect silence, though the employes are working steadily, each at his especial task. Sometimes there are as many as forty ships in the canal, and the slightest mistake in signaling between the stations might lead to serious consequences, declares the New Haven Register.



Wisdom Displayed in the First Peace Agreement. In itself the protocol for peace was remarkably concise and comprehensive document, in which President McKinley stood firmly on the object and vantage of the war.

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