

Uncle Sam is Busy With Freak Suits.

Uncle Sam is busy, just now, prosecuting numerous freak suits against inanimate things and dumb animals. These helpless law-breakers are held as defendants, just as though they were human beings. They are imprisoned in the custody of the court, and lawyers eloquently recite their misdeeds, for they are offenders in the unsparring eyes of the law.

"The United States vs fourteen diamond rings" is the title of the case which will decide the status of the Philippine Islands. It is pending before the Supreme court of the United States. The misdeeds of these rings are so serious, and the case against them is so complicated, that the most dignified judicial body of the land has decided that it must scratch its wise head over them during its summer vacation.

Uncle Sam made a snug fortune by selling fifteen packages of diamonds smuggled last June through Niagara. A few days ago the Federal court of the Western New York District sentenced them to be sold. Thirty-one thousand dollars was poured into the treasury as the result of this auction. Uncle Sam lately sued "53 diamonds, cut, etc.," suspected of having been smuggled into Michigan, but the district court dismissed the case, and they were liberated from the custody of the United States marshal. "The United States vs one diamond and pearl brooch, with pendant, one pair diamond and pearl earrings and one diamond brooch" was the title of a case which lately went against the aforesaid jew-

els in the district court of New Jersey. They were held guilty of allowing themselves to be smuggled, and were sent down to the auctioneer.

Misbehaving cattle have troubled Uncle Sam to a serious degree of late. He has arrested and tried no less than 1,023 within the past two years. They were all accused of coming into the country in violation of the quarantine laws. In these cases it was deemed impracticable to commit the defendants to jail, like common human offenders, or to lock them up in the Marshall's safe, as the diamond rings were treated. Wherein they could be kept under constant surveillance and out of the way of the enterprising journalistic interviewers. There being no docks in the courts to suitably accommodate them, they were denied an ear in their own trials, and had to intrust their cases entirely to their counsel. The greater number were found guilty and sentenced to pass under the hammer.

"The United States vs 1726 pounds adulterated asafetida" was a sensational case which lately called for an eloquent and profound opinion from the circuit court of the eastern district of Michigan. The defendant when produced before the dignified tribunal remonstrated so loudly that the spectators saw fit to clear the court and take to the fresh air of heaven. The records show that the honorable court sentenced the defendant to "condemnation and destruction."

In the federal supreme court is pending the case of "The United States vs certain vessels painted white," held for violating the law forbidding the importation of fireworks into Alaska. A similar case, "vs. one certain vessel

painted light drab," was lately decided against the defendant, and she was sentenced to "forfeiture and sale." But when Uncle Sam came to carry out the decree of the court he found that she had escaped from the custody of the authorities. The government has sued numerous schooners, tugs, steamboats and other water craft in recent years. Cases "vs." a schooner and a tug are held as defendants are pending in the supreme court.

"The United States vs 488 pairs of shoes" is an important case now before the district court of Porto Rico. The defendants are held for a violation of the customs laws. In New Jersey was recently tried a federal case "vs. one trunk containing five metal belts, one puffbox and other articles," seized for non-payment of duty, and another "vs. one case of five ladies' caps," etc., held on a similar charge. The government vs. "one package of Row perfumery," "28 cases of Merry World smoking tobacco," "two packages of early York seed," "fourteen bales of wool," "two packages of glassware," "148 school books" and "thirty-four bales of empty grain bags" are cases pending or recently disposed of in the federal courts. The "United States against 'one distillery'" is a recent internal revenue case.

Five photographs were recently sued in California, twenty-one in New Jersey and "one lot" in Porto Rico. All these pictures were accused of immorality and were sentenced to "destruction by fire." "One gross of immoral articles," recent defendants in a Porto Rican case, suffered like punishment.

"Fifty-three boxes, each containing five tacks of prepared opium," are held as defendants in a case now before the supreme court. In California 130 tins of prepared opium were lately sued. These cases result, of course, from smuggling.

Areas of land appear as defendants in many cases before the federal courts.

In the circuit court of Rhode Island was recently heard "The United States against certain lands in Jamestown," and "against certain lands at Boston Neck." These properties were defendants in condemnation proceedings, the government desiring their use.

HAD RATHER BE A FARMER.

When the old gentleman came from his comfortable home in the country to spend a couple of weeks with his prosperous son in Detroit he anticipated the time of his life.

His first disconcerting experience was when he attempted to treat the mazes of a new fangled set of stairs in uncertain light of the evening. He became mixed, thought he was down when he was not, took false steps that jarred his head, said things that had not passed his lips forty years, and finally came down with a thud in passing from the landing rug to the polished floor. "I wouldn't give ten cents for those planked infernal stairs," was his greeting to his son.

"But they cost me \$800."

"Don't care if they cost you eight millions. What in thunder's sense of pardoning all around the house to get from one story to the other, taking chances on getting lost or breaking your neck? I'd rather them out if I had to put up a ladder. Blamed it thing I ever saw."

His next vigorous protest was against the delays and uncertainties of a course dinner. He wanted things right in sight so he could set his stakes accordingly. He was wroth on coming down at 5:30 to find that the cook was not even up, and went down town for something to stay his stomach. He wouldn't have a high buggy for a gift; if any body banged his horse's tail he'd shoot, and the idea of having a whole family to look after the barn infuriated him.

"I'm going home," he announced on the morning of the third day.

"I wouldn't give my barn well for your whole dog gone waterworks. Where's my hat?"—Detroit Free Press.

DISEASES THAT ARE HELPFUL.

It appears, from the latest medical discovery, that several diseases pro-

long, instead of shortening, life. Rheumatic people, for instance, rarely die young. How this disease wards off death is not known. It is probable, however, that the blood acquires some property which is fatal to the germs of other diseases.

Gout is a malady which also lengthens one's days. Sometimes it goes to the heart and proves fatal. But if it can be kept to the big toe the patient may feel pretty confident that he will live till his ninetieth birthday, or perhaps his hundredth birthday. The explanation of this fact, put forward by a medical scientist, is that the gout frees the blood from poisonous matter.

It appears that by banishing smallpox, we have lost a splendid life preserver. In a census of aged people taken many years ago it was found that a very large number were pock-marked. This led a doctor to make a calculation, which proved that there were twice as many pock-marked people over 80 years old as there would have been unless the smallpox exercised a preservative effect on life. He accounted for this curious fact by concluding that the smallpox microbes frightened away all other microbes, just as rats frighten away mice from a house.

It would scarcely be supposed that bronchitis would add to one's days. Very often it shortens them considerably, but in other cases it has quite the opposite effect. A very large number of the old people you meet cough all the year round with chronic bronchitis.

You would think, when listening to them, that they must very quickly cough themselves to death. That is not so at all. The coughing helps the heart to circulate the blood, and, in fact, gives exercise to all the organs. But for this daily exercise many old people's bodily mechanism would get fatally clogged. Besides, a man with bronchitis is very careful of himself. He will not sit in draughts, he will avoid getting drenched, he will not be out late at night and lose a good part of his sleep. And thus he more than compensates for the injury done by his ailment.

A weak heart does not often prolong life, but there are cases on record where it has done so. A weak heart is certainly more conducive to length of days than an exceedingly strong one, for the latter throws too much work on the other organs and wears them out before their time. It is the same with the stomach. Dyspepsia, provided it is of a mild form, serves to keep death away. Most centenarians have been very moderate eaters.

Deafness is another ailment which has this curious property of adding years to the victim's life. Now and again a deaf man is run over in the streets of cities. But when deaf people prudently pitch their tent in the country they live, as a rule, to a very old age. Probably the true explanation of this fact is that deafness saves us from a lot of worry. The shrill noises to which most people are insensible, because they have got used to them, are really very injurious. Barking dogs, crowing cocks, shouting paper sellers, whistling boys, rattling carts, etc., exert a seriously injurious influence on one's health. The ear nerve is a very large one, and every time it is over-

stimulated the brain receives an injurious shock. Deaf people escape all these life-shorteners and hence they live long.—San Francisco Call.

GREATEST NEED OF THE SOUTH.

The country abounds with lawyers, doctors and other "professional men," and it is difficult to earn a decent living, and the number is being constantly augmented, while the demand for first-class artisans and high-grade mechanics in the South is larger than the supply. The South needs more polytechnic schools. The public schools of higher grades should give more attention to manual training. In the industrial development of the South there is employment for and need of young men who are competent engineers, metallurgists, electricians, chemists, designers, draughtsmen, architects, metal workers, machinists, woodworkers, etc.—Philadelphia North American.

A STREET SWEEPER RUN BY TROLLEY.

Cleveland has had a trial of a street sweeper, running on an electric railroad, and pronounced a success. Preceding the sweeper in the trial was a trolley water tank by which the street tracks to the center of the street were sprinkled from the center of the sweeper, with a revolving brush sixteen feet long, which piled the dirt in a furrow close to the curb. The work was thoroughly done, according to the reports in the Cleveland papers, and was done quickly, the trolley sweeping moving at the rate of seven miles per hour. This invention, while a good thing for the city in its economy, may be a bad thing for prospective street railroad companies. Among the returns now demanded in some places for franchises are the paving and sprinkling of streets and the removal of snow. A logical addition to these requirements would be the cleaning of the streets by a power sweeper.—New York Press.

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Our already Low Prices CUT AND SLASHED. The Entire Stock at an ABSOLUTE SACRIFICE. COST NOT CONSIDERED, in Making Prices. WE DO NOT HESITATE to REDUCE PRICES to the lowest notch in order to make a clean sweep of Balance of stock.

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Special Silk Waist Value,

Your Choice of Extra Fine \$5.00 and \$6.00 Silk Waists for only

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ALL COLORED AND BLACK.

Shirt Waists

TO BE CLOSED AT FINAL CLEARING PRICES.

Ladies' colored Shirt Waists in dark and medium colors for... 29c
Ladies' white and colored Shirt Waists, assorted patterns for... 37c
Ladies' \$1.25 to \$1.50 colored Shirt Waists for... 69c
Misses white and colored Shirt Waists 8, 10, 12 and 14 years for... 25c

BALANCE OF OUR HOSIERY

stock at Final Clearing Prices.
Ladies' Black Cotton Hose in plain and ribbed, worth 20c for... 15c
Ladies' 30c Black Cotton Hose, Finish for... 19c
Ladies' 40c Black and Brown Cotton Hose, drop stitch a splendid value, for... 29c
Child's narrow ribbed Black Cotton Hose for only... 10c
Child's wide ribbed stocking worth 20c for... 15c
Child's extra fine quality Black Ribbed Stocking, value 25c, for... 25c

KNIT UNDERWEAR.

Ladies' fine white gauze vests, fancy lace, fancy lace net, tape finish, low neck, sleeveless value 15c for... 15c
Ladies' extra good quality black vests, low neck, sleeveless, 12 1/2c for... 12 1/2c
Ladies' fine gauze vests, high neck, short sleeve, good finish, regular 30c grade, for... 33 1/2c
Ladies' Summer Union Suit, short sleeve, high neck, knee length, ecru and white Omelia style, or black, low neck, sleeveless, knee length, 45c for... 45c

Windup Clearing Sale Prices on BELTS.

Balance of 25c and 35c Belts for... 12c
Balance of 40c and 50c Belts for... 18c
Balance of 60c and 75c Belts for... 39c

NOTIONS.

Wire Hair Pins, assorted, per bunch... 1c
Cabinet Hair Pins per bunch... 2c
Cabinet Hair Pins finer grade per bunch... 7c
Scissors, 7, 8, 9 inch for... 10c
Andamantine Pins for... 1c
Gem Pins, for... 3c
Hooks and Eyes, for... 1c
Safety Pins, large for... 3c
Safety Pins, small for... 2c
Stocking Darners for... 2c
Curling Irons for... 2c

OUR ENTIRE STOCK OF DRESS SKIRTS

to the last one to be closed out at final clearing prices.
Ladies' White Pique Dress Skirts, value \$1.00, for... 39c
Ladies' White Duck Dress Skirts, were \$1.25, for... 50c
Ladies' extra fine finish Mercerized Sateen Dress Skirts in blue shade, value \$5.00, for... \$3.38

WRAPPERS

Balance of wrapper stock, 40-42-44, bust only, were 50c, to \$1.25, go at... 53c

50% OFF

On all Trimmed Hats.

Just Half Price.



50% OFF

On all Trimmed Hats.

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GREAT REDUCTIONS ON LADIES' SAILORS AND CHILDREN'S HATS.

LADIES' EXTRA FINE SPLIT STRAW SAILORS TO CLOSE FOR... 73c
LADIES' FINE GRADE ROUGH AND READY STRAW SAILORS FOR... 59c
CHILDREN'S FINE MEXICAN STRAW HAT FOR... 59c
CHILDREN'S NOBBY MEXICAN HAT WITH CHIFFON TRIMMING FOR... 69c

Great Final Clearing Bargains in

MUSLIN UNDERWEAR



SPECIAL VALUES IN NIGHTGOWNS.

Ladies' Muslin Nightgown, round yoke, tucked and ruffled, trimmed, value 75c, for... 59c
Ladies' extra good quality cambric nightgown, trimmed in Torchon Lace, round and Empire style, value \$1.25, for... 89c
Ladies' fine quality Muslin Nightgown, trimmed in tucked embroidery yoke, value \$1.50, for... \$1.17



FINAL CLEARING PRICES. LADIES' DRAWERS.

Ladies' Fine CAMBRIC DRAWERS, trimmed in deep Torchon Lace or embroidery ruffle, value 80c and 90c, for... 57c
Ladies' Fine CAMBRIC DRAWERS, beautifully trimmed in fine Torchon Insertion and Lace ruffle, trimmed embroidery, value \$1.25, for... 89c



BIG REDUCTIONS IN LADIES' CHEMISES.

Ladies' Muslin Chemises, cord or lace finish, value 50c, for... 39c
Ladies' Fine Muslin Chemises, regular \$1.00 grade, yoke hand-somely trimmed in embroidery or lace, latest style for... 69c
Very Handsome Lawn Skirt Chemises, nicely trimmed in lace, value \$1.50 for... \$1.09

FINE CLEARING VALUES IN CORSET COVERS.

Ladies' Cambric Corset Covers, trimmed in Lace and Embroidery, value 40c and 45c, for... 29c
Ladies' Extra Fine Cambric Corset Covers, hand-somely trimmed in fine Torchon lace and ribbons, value 60c to 75c for... 45c

FINAL CLEARING BARGAINS IN SKIRTS.

Ladies' fine Muslin Skirts, with deep flounce, trimmed with cluster of 7 tucks, value 90c, for... 63c
Ladies' fine quality Muslin Skirt, extra deep flounce, trimmed in Torchon Insertion and tucks, value \$1.40, for... 98c
Handsome Cambric Skirt, trimmed with embroidered ruffle, value \$1.80, for... \$1.39

FINAL CLEARING SALE PRICES ON

GLOVES AND MITTS.

LADIES' SILK MITTS in Black or Cream for... 10c Pair
LADIES' SILK MITTS in Black or Cream, finer quality for... 15c Pair
LADIES' SILK MITTS, very nice quality, value 30c, for... 19c Pair
SILK GLOVES, in Tans, Modes, Black, Greys, value 75c, \$1.00 for... 52c and 75c
KID GLOVE SPECIAL.
\$1.25 QUALITY IN BLACK and ALL COLORS FOR... 78c Pair

NECKWEAR.

SPECIAL FINAL CLEARING BARGAINS IN 20c SATIN STRING TIES in all colors for... 10c
35c FANCY COLORED LAWN STOCKS for... 19c
SLIGHTLY SOILED WHITE PIQUE STOCKS were 50c for... 10c
ENTIRE STOCK OF LADIES' FINE NECKWEAR AT ABSOLUTE SACRIFICE PRICES.

TREMENDOUS REDUCTIONS

On all Ladies' and Children's Parasols. Cost not considered in making prices on the entire stock.

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CHILD'S COLORED BORDER HANDKERCHIEF... 3c
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LADIES' FANCY LACE EDGE HANDKERCHIEFS... 8c
LADIES' COLORED BORDER HANDKERCHIEFS, LACE CORNERS, FOR... 9c
LADIES' FANCY EMBROIDERED OR PLAIN WHITE HEMSTITCHED HANDKERCHIEFS FOR... 19c
LADIES' FINE QUALITY, 30c, FANCY EMBROIDERED, HANDKERCHIEFS FOR... 12 1/2c

LAST REDUCTIONS ON BALANCE OF SUMMER CORSETS.

Ladies' Summer Corset, The Perfect, value 45c, for... 27c
Short and Medium Summer Corset, value 60c, for... 37c
Ladies' fine quality Summer Corset, value 75c, for... 40c
Ladies' G. D. Summer Corset, value \$1.25, for... 79c

All Silk Dress Skirts at Great Reductions.

