

AGE OF THE WORLD

The Figures of Scientific Guessers Vary Somewhat Widely. Some new figures on this subject recently printed by Lord Kelvin have served to revive its discussion among men of science.

Before admitting that this pathetic spectacle is to be the end of our planet, which is now so prolific of life and occupied with motion in so many directions, it is not amiss to ask science to remove from its calculations as wide a difference as that between 20,000,000 and 300,000,000.

To the casual observer the earth reveals no signs of decrepitude. The human race, in Europe and America at least, is apparently in its youth and pressing on with ardor to higher forms of civilization.

In olden times camphor was chiefly produced in Sumatra, Borneo, and other parts of the East Indies and China, but nowadays most of the crude camphor of commerce comes from Formosa and Japan, mainly the latter.

The camphor tree is an evergreen of singularly symmetrical proportions and sometimes resembles the linden. Its blossom is a white flower, and it bears a red berry.

Formosan camphor is unequal to the Japanese article in many ways, but this is due largely to the fact that the Formosans, being savages, are unskilled in collecting and treating the gum.

Crude camphor is got by boiling the wood after it has been cut into chips. It has to be refined before use, and until recently this refinement was carried on in America and Europe, exclusively; but the Japs have now learned how to do the work, and are exporting the refined as well as the crude article.

The commercial traveler had evidenced a good many qualities propensities during the drive that afternoon, and the cabin was tired of it.

Now, said the C. T., I take me to some good hostelry where I'll be at home. But when the cabby pulled up in front of the big wide building with the sign 'The Commercial Traveller's Hotel' over the door, the C. T. pulled up against the door.

HOW CELLULOID IS MADE

A great deal of secrecy is maintained by the manufacturers of celluloid as to their respective methods of manufacture. A method adopted by a Berlin firm is to pour 100 parts of ether on 50 of collodion wool and 25 of camphor, and stir the covered mass in earthenware vessels with rubber sticks until a homogeneous gelatinous mass is obtained, which is then rolled.

INSANITY IN ANIMALS. The Lower Orders Sometimes Have Mental Infirmities. Insanity in the human subject is supposed by some to have no analogue in the lower animals, says Popular Science News.

Here is a Du Maurier anecdote not exactly new, but perhaps it will bear repetition: There was some years ago, in Hampstead road, a pavement artist into whose hat Du Maurier often dropped a coin. One cold night the author of "Trilby" told him to leave his "pitch" and go to the model soup kitchen in Euston road to get some food.

A monster which resembles a hare down to the waist and is a normal baby from the waist down was born alive recently in Leghorn, according to the Lancet. The mother, the wife of a water-carrier, was strongly impressed by the sight of a hare cut up on a kitchen table before the birth of her offspring.

Shaping His Career. "Why did I become a professional?" repeated the contortionist, musingly. "You see my wife had picked out a fat and I wanted to get in shape for it. After that, of course, it was a matter of habit."—N. Y. Press.

TO CLAIM KLONDIKE.

Interesting Phase of the New Gold Discoveries in Alaska.

W. J. Arkell, of New York City, Claims Ownership by Right of Discovery of E. J. Glave in 1896. W. J. Arkell, of the Arkell Weekly company, of New York city, has announced that he expected to claim the gold fields in the Klondike district by right of discovery for the estate of E. J. Glave.

After the return of Glave and his party from the frozen north, the explorer was sent by the Century company to Africa to study the slave trade. He lived among the natives for some time and on accomplishing his work returned to the coast. When about to sail for the United States he contracted a fever which resulted in his death.

WILL TRAVEL AS IN OLD DAYS. Wisconsin Men and Women to Take Onting in Prairie Schooner. Rev. Merten C. Andrews, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church, at Oshkosh, Wis., has gotten up an antique outing party.

Jealous Woman Has Trouble While Spying on Her Husband. Being very jealous, a young married woman of Wallington, N. J., several days ago adopted the weird occupation of a ghost for the purpose of spying on her husband and incidentally hoping to frighten her supposed rival out of the objectionable habit of receiving attentions from married men.

PLAYS SHE IS A GHOST. Jealous Woman Has Trouble While Spying on Her Husband. Being very jealous, a young married woman of Wallington, N. J., several days ago adopted the weird occupation of a ghost for the purpose of spying on her husband and incidentally hoping to frighten her supposed rival out of the objectionable habit of receiving attentions from married men.

GOLD IN MISSOURI.

Precious Metal Found on Banks of Creek Near New Florence. Gold has been discovered in Montgomery county, Mo. Dr. G. A. Broadhead, state geologist of Missouri university, who has been in communication with M. A. Bibb, who lives near New Florence, in that county, stated that Mr. Bibb had sent him several specimens of ore found at that place, and when analyzed it proved to contain a large per cent. of gold.

A Michigan Ghost Story. At a spiritualistic seance held at Lansing, Mich., three years ago Albert Doan was informed by John Maybee, a local medium, that a \$38,000 estate awaited him in Kansas. Another medium, Hiram Reed, undertook to make out the details and Doan, it is said, boarded him for 50 weeks while he was at work. Doan claimed that Reed received doctored letters from Kansas and sued him for the 50 weeks' board, but the jury last Saturday found no cause for action.

American Students Fighting in Cuba. Between 40 and 50 students of Georgia university will spend the summer in Cuba fighting for the insurgents.

Hard on the 'Spoony' Man. At a recent meeting of the Royal Society in London there was exhibited a new apparatus for registering the number of strokes made with the oars in a rowboat.

DECEIVED BY A MIRROR.

Crowd Thinks a Wounded Man is Being Carried Downstairs. What at first glance appeared to be something serious, as if the result of an accident, drew a small crowd of people about a doorway in the lower part of Water street, Boston, the other afternoon. The doorway is just out of Liberty square, and narrow stairs leading to the floor above the street were filled by three or four men who seemed to be blinding down the stairs another man.

LEFT TO FIGHT MOSQUITOES. Three Young Men Marooned Within a Few Hours' Sail of New York City. Romance in its best form, with a great touch of broad humor, is found in the queer adventure of a party of young men who have been marooned on an island, within half a day's sail of New York city and within three miles of shore.

FOUGHT WITH RATTLESNAKES. Pennsylvania Engineer Kills the Rattlesnakes and Then Faints. P. F. Kennett, a Lycoming county (Pa.) engineer, was engaged a day or two ago to go back into a remote section of the Allegheny mountains to take charge of a sawmill that had been idle for some months.

TRIP WILL BE A NOVEL ONE. Physician and Family Will Travel Many Rivers in a Rowboat. Dr. and Mrs. Arthur G. Todd and two children of Chicago started from Joliet the other morning on a novel summer outing, which will cover a period of several weeks.

RICH MINE BUT NO WATER. Remarkable Mineral Discovery Near Mexican Border of Arizona. The reported discovery of the lost California mine near the Mexican border is creating a great deal of interest at Phoenix, Ariz.

Trade with Cuba. A report prepared by Chief Hitchcock, of the foreign markets section of the department of agriculture, indicates a shrinkage in our trade with Cuba from \$102,564,204 in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1893, to about \$23,000,000 in the year now nearing its close.

Glove-Making in France. France makes nearly 20,000,000 pairs of gloves and exports 1,000,000 annually. In ten years Great Britain imported 15,000,000 pairs per annum, valued at £1,500,000.

Diamonds. The diamond has been found on all continents and in almost every country in the world.

HOODOO SPOT FOR CYCLISTS.

Queer Obstacle Encountered at the Scene of a Fatal Accident. Something over a year ago a cyclist ran over Carl Niven of the road between Bijou Hills and Cretalia, S. D., at a point about midway between the two towns. Niven died several months later. It is not certain that the injuries he sustained in the accident caused his death, but there is no doubt that they hastened it.

INVISIBLE TACKS ALSO SEEM TO HAVE BEEN SCATTERED ALONG THE ROAD. If a bike escapes the mysterious rope it is sure of a puncture a few feet further on. Yet the most careful search fails to reveal the cause of the accidents. The scorchers think Niven is taking a mean revenge, and are puzzling over some scheme for laying his ghost.

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TURN TABLES ON JOKER.

Plan to Make a Friend Show the White Feather Falls.

A Funny Mix-Up of a Pretended Drunk and Two Big Revolvers Loaded with Blank Cartridges.

The joke was neatly turned on a practical joker the other day while a party of St. Louis people were on their way to Schmidt's Mound park, near Collinsville, Ill., to attend a picnic. The principals in the joke were E. C. Strauss, western representative of the Cameron & Cameron Tobacco company, and C. M. Lasley, of the American Tobacco company.

EVERYTHING WORKED NICELY AT THE START. Strauss was convinced that the trip would be his goal, and he proposed to go. Burke fixed up a little bottle containing a harmless dose of phosphoric and soda and early in the morning Lasley had gotten roaring drunk on the contents of the bottle. Then he began picking the quarrel with Strauss. The two were out of the party's wagon at the time, and suddenly Lasley drew a gun, which was loaded with blank shells.

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