

SAVES A BIG SUM.

Discovery That the Government Was Being Cheated on Silk Imports. An important discovery which means the saving to the government of at least a quarter of a million dollars a year has been made by Silk Examiner Brown, of the New York port. He found that the statement in Heyl's tables of weights and measures of the equivalent in grammes and grains of the Japanese...

THE STARS OF HEAVEN.

Important Discoveries Made at Flagstaff (Ariz.) Observatory. New Facts Gained Concerning Old Stars—Five Hundred New Double Stars Found—New Theories Advanced.

Dr. T. J. See, one of the staff of observers at the astronomical observatory maintained at Flagstaff, A. T., by Percival Lowell, of Boston, is in that city and has described the recent important work undertaken at the observatory. The study of Mars is the chief work and the problems to be solved in the planet involve the measurement of fine lines supposed to be canals, which are found on its surface. Since 1896 the work has been prosecuted with the new 24-inch telescope. In 1896 Mr. Lowell detected and proved conclusively that the two inner planets, Mercury and Venus, rotate on their axis in the same time in which they revolve in their orbits.

Mr. Douglas has very recently determined the rotations of Jupiter's third and fourth satellites and it is found that these bodies show only one face toward Jupiter.

RUSH OF PATENTS EXPECTED.

Foreign Inventors Have Only a Month to Protect Themselves. The patent office expects to do a thriving business during the month which has just opened, owing to the fact that the patent law passed during the Cleveland administration takes effect New Year's day. Heretofore it has been customary for American manufacturers who desire to realize one of their inventions of some new article to have an examination of all American patents until they find some attractive device. After the present month, however, they will be able to select for manufacture any foreign patent that has not been patented in this country. These ideas and inventions they can use without payment of any kind to the inventor, inasmuch as the foreign patent does not cover American rights. After January 1 no patent can be obtained in America for any invention already patented in a foreign country, save where the foreign application is of very recent date. Hence the present holders of foreign patents who desire to realize one of their inventions will have to file their claims within the next few weeks, otherwise they will become public property on this side of the water.

ARMOR PLATE STANDS TEST.

Big Guns Fired at a Piece of Kearsarge Turret Armor. A plate of armor representing a lot of 500 tons for the eight-inch turrets of the battleships Kearsarge and Kentucky was tested at the Indian Head proving ground the other day. For testing purposes two eight-inch shells, one a Carpenter projectile and the other a Wheeler-Sterling, were fired at the plate, one at a high and the other at a low velocity. Neither penetrated nor cracked the plate, but partially wadded themselves into it. The test was regarded as entirely satisfactory and indicates the acceptance of the armor. The delivery of the armor will wind up the contract which the government has with the Carnegie company for the supply of armor for naval vessels, and it is not expected that any more will be ordered pending the settlement of the whole armor question by congress.

FIGHT WITH A BEAR.

Thrilling Experience of Two Michigan Hunters Near Centerville, Mich. Charles S. Hoyce, of Centerville, Mich., and Lou Valentine, of the same place, were hunting for a bear in the woods near Centerville, Mich. Following the trail, they found both trap and bear among the branches of a hemlock tree, 35 feet from the ground. The bear looked small at that height, so Hoyce commenced to climb the tree. When within a few feet of the bear it began to descend, striking Hoyce on the head, and both came down together. Bruin grabbed Hoyce and gave him a hugging he will never forget, but Valentine at the risk of his life rushed in and killed the "cub," which tipped the beam at 225 pounds.

FEARS AMERICAN JINGOES.

Chronic Insulting Objection to Statues Erected in London. David Christie Murray is causing some embarrassment in London by exploiting the idea of a national subscription in England for the erection of a statue to Washington in London. The proposition has elicited opinions from a few prominent Americans, including Thomas F. Bayard and Ambassador Hay. Both the latter approve in pleasant vague terms. The Chronicle, in its favorite attitude of the candid friend, is the first to raise an objection, which takes the form of an insulting suggestion that the "boisterous American jingoes" in London might make the statue of the Father of His Country—the Chronicle misquotes it as "father of his people"—the object of an unedifying demonstration.

Women in Russia.

There is a college for dentistry at St. Petersburg, Russia, and one at Wilna, at which most of the students are women; and women have during the last two years been admitted as pupils to apothecaries in Russia, with the restriction that they must not be more than one of the sex at each apothecary's.

Warning to Klondikers.

The British emigrant's information office has issued a warning against the syndicates professing to dispatch parties of emigrants and prospectors to the Klondike.

Rome's Exports.

The value of the cheese imported from Rome is only \$1,000 less than the value of the paintings, cheese being the second article on the list of exports from Rome.

FAST TIME MADE.

Train on Union Pacific Runs 519 Miles in 559 Minutes. The Union Pacific has made another record for fast running. A mail train has been shot across the country from Cheyenne to Council Bluffs, 519 miles, in 559 minutes. This is actual elapsed time and includes all stops. Engines were changed twice and one engineer was relieved. All the regular stops were made and one extra, when an air brake hose burst and had to be repaired at the expense of several minutes of time.

A burned-out bridge near Medicine Bow, Wyo., delayed the mail five hours and thirty minutes. The train reached Cheyenne five hours late. It was necessary to reach Council Bluffs on time or pay a heavy fine to the government. It was a most remarkable run against time. Cheyenne to Sydney, 102 miles, was made in 107 minutes. Engineers were changed and the run from Sydney to North Platte, 123 miles, was made in 118 minutes. On this run a stop was made at Julesburg to get the Colorado mail. From North Platte to Grand Island, 138 miles, the time was 154 minutes, engineers being changed at Lexington and other stops being necessary. From Grand Island to Council Bluffs, 156 miles, the time was 165 minutes, including a stop of over five minutes to fix a burst tank hose, regular station stops, a delay by a Missouri Pacific freight train entering the Omaha yards and other annoyances.

BULL RUNS OFF A WHARF.

Lively Chase in Boats in San Francisco. While a couple of vagabonds were driving five bulls and a steer from Jackson street wharf to South San Francisco two of the bulls got into a fight at East and Folsom streets, and one of the animals ran the other off the wharf near Petersen's boat-house. There was a fall of about five feet and the bull sank from sight between a couple of small boats. He arose, however, and struck out toward Oakland. Half a dozen boatmen were quickly in pursuit with tow ropes as lassos and boat hooks as weapons of defense. Jack Healy got a rope over the horns after a long struggle, for the bull was a good swimmer and was vicious even in the water.

YAMPA SOLD TO EMPEROR.

German Ruler Buys the American Yacht for Personal Pleasure. The steel cruising schooner-yacht Yampa, which has just returned to the port of New York after an absence of six months abroad, has been sold by her owner, Richard Snyden Palmer, of the New York Yacht club, to the emperor of Germany. When the Yampa was at Kiel, an admiral of the German navy, by direction of the emperor, it is understood, visited the yacht two or three times, and made an critical examination of her as practicable under the circumstances and was seemingly well pleased with her construction and arrangements.

NOT RICH GOLD COUNTRY.

Warning of United States Consul O'Hara in Venezuela. In closing a report to the state department about gold in Nicaragua, Consul O'Hara, at San Juan del Norte, says: "Much of the newspaper talk about gold in these countries is pure imagination, and while I have faith enough in the gold fields of eastern Nicaragua to believe the gold hunters having both the time and money to prospect a year or so might find poorer gold than elsewhere, yet I feel that it is my duty to warn Americans not to come here in the expectation of getting rich in a few years. Up to the present time, with but three or four exceptions, no one has succeeded in making a fortune in the mining districts of Nicaragua."

Stamp-Ed Bicycle Frames.

Bicycle frames stamped out in two halves by one operation from a steel plate are a recent Birmingham novelty. The halves are clamped together, and though the frame is not so elegant as one made by another process it is perfectly rigid and can be made at a cost of two dollars instead of \$12.50.

Literatures of the World.

A Frenchman estimates that there are in the world about 10,000 libraries.

Bulletin Financier. Bulletin Commercial.

Mardi, 1er février 1898.

COMPTOIR D'ÉCHANGES (CLEARING-HOUSE) DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS.

Table with financial data including exchange rates for various currencies and commodities.

MARCHÉ MONÉTAIRE.

Table showing market rates for gold, silver, and other metals.

MARCHÉ DE LA NIE-ORLEANS.

Table with market data for the New Orleans market.

MARCHÉ DE NEW-YORK.

Table with market data for New York.

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L'ABELLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS

Est très répandue en Louisiane et dans tous les Etats du Sud. Sa publicité offre donc un commerce des avantages exceptionnels. Prix de l'abonnement, pour l'année: Edition quotidienne, \$12 00; Edition hebdomadaire, \$3 00.