

DEATH TO A TREE FIGHTER.

Incident of the Fighting Around Santiago as Related by a Wounded Soldier.

Here is a sample story from the battlefield that is told by Wilshire Brewer, private, in company E, Seventeenth infantry: "We started into action about eight o'clock. I separated from my company and went along with the sixth regiment. We were on our way to the second blockhouse. I was mounting a stone pile when a shrapnel shell exploded and the rock which I was standing upon gave way and threw me to the ground. I was pinned down for awhile, almost stunned. A soldier came along and pulled me out. Just then there were reinforcements of some company coming along and I joined them in a charge. This charge was on what is called the second blockhouse, and we had to push our way through the thickets. Before we got to it a half hour I came to charge again. "When I got up my left leg gave way. There was no feeling in it. I was told to go to the rear, and I had to pass through a hall of bullets to get there. I stopped to rest behind a couple of blocks and while there I spang a puff of smoke from the rear of me. I watched the tree carefully a minute and I saw a sharpshooter, who was picking off officers to the right. I took aim and fired. I saw the Spaniard's gun drop out of the tree. Then I gave him another shot and he fell to the ground like a log."

ENLISTING ARMY COOKS.

To Be Subjected to a Medical Examination—Must Show Their Ability to Cook.

A general order has been issued by the war department governing the enlistment of army cooks, under the provisions of the act of congress July 7, 1862. Candidates for these positions are to be subjected to the required medical examination for enlisted men, and examined as to their knowledge of methods and skill in caring for, preparing and serving food, particularly as to the experience they have had in cooking for large bodies of men. Candidates are also to be required to give practical exhibitions of their ability to cook, and none will be enlisted unless the recruiting officers are satisfied they are competent to perform the duties required of them. Only one cook is authorized by law for each company, troop or battery, and the commanding officer of each organization will supervise the cooking and messing of his men. An enlisted man already in the service and desiring to serve as a cook may be appointed and rated as such upon his own application if he is sufficiently proficient. Commissary General Eagan has long advocated the enlistment of army cooks, and is pleased at the prospect of his views being put into practical effect.

LESSONS FROM SANTIAGO.

Campaign Shows That Coast Defenses Are More Effective Than Warships.

The military and naval experts say that several important lessons in ordnance and fortifications are furnished by the campaign against Santiago. It is pointed out that the long contentions between the relative merits of land fortifications and naval ships as a means of coast defense have received much light by recent operations. When Admiral Sampson was chief of the ordnance bureau of the navy department he held that the most effective means of defending coasts was by means of warships rather than coast defenses. It is said, however, that the Spanish defense of Santiago harbor has demonstrated that coast defenses are even more effective than warships. The batteries of Morro castle, Saconpa and the others, aided by the mining and torpedoing of the harbor, was effective in preventing the American fleet from entering the harbor, and this, despite the fact that the Spanish guns were in no sense fortified. It is said that if Morro had possessed the large modern fortification guns, such as those protecting New York or Boston, it would have been able not only to have defended Santiago but to have done serious damage to the attacking fleet.

NAVAL LAWS.

New Compilation Just Completed and Published by the United States.

A new compilation of "United States laws relating to the navy, marine corps, etc." has just made its appearance, having been compiled by William H. Michael, late of the United States navy, by special direction of congress. For 20 years the navy department has been getting along with an obsolete publication known as "Hog's Digest," supplemented by a mass of obscure statutes, compendiums, decisions, supreme court decisions, etc. The present volume welds these together and prunes away a lot of repealed statutes and canceled regulations and gives in compact form, with careful annotation, a complete digest of naval law, as revealed, not only in the statutes, but in the decisions of the courts and opinions of the attorney general.

Chiropractors in the German Army.

Every German regiment has a chiroprapist in its ranks.

Old Croesus' Bank Account. Croesus, of ancient times, possessed about \$20,000,000.

A VERY RICH REWARD.

Over \$260,000 to Be Distributed to Schley's Men.

Officers and Sailors Who Destroyed Cervera's Fleet Entitled to a Suing Sum—Law Covering This Point.

Something over \$260,000 will be paid by this government as "head money" to the officers and sailors who destroyed Cervera's fleet. This is according to the law, which provides payment of \$100 a head for every man on the ships of an enemy when these ships are destroyed. A few of the officers will receive pretty good fortunes. The law governing the distribution of this money is very explicit. There are exact provisions for carrying it into effect, and every man, according to his rank, will be paid in due season. This statute is as follows: "A bounty shall be paid by the United States for each person on board any ship or vessel of war belonging to an enemy that is sunk or otherwise destroyed in such engagement by any ship or vessel belonging to the United States or which it may be necessary to destroy in consequence of injury sustained in action, or if the enemy's vessel was inferior force, and of 200 or equal or superior force, to be divided in the same manner as prize money, and when the actual number of men on board any such vessel cannot be satisfactorily ascertained it shall be estimated according to the complement allowed the vessels of its class in the navy of the United States, and there shall be paid as bounty to the captors of any vessel of war captured from an enemy, which has been instructed to destroy or which is immediately destroyed for the public interest, but in consequence of injuries received in action, \$50 for every person who shall be on board at the time of such capture."

RELICS OF A PAST AGE.

Skeletons and Stone Fish Discovered in a Subterranean Cave in West Virginia.

A most remarkable discovery has been made on the farm of B. A. Prince, at Belpre, near Parkersburg, W. Va. A cave heretofore unknown to even the oldest inhabitant was found. The entrance will permit of one person going in at a time, and after proceeding ten or fifteen feet a large room is encountered, 20 feet square, of solid stone. Dates are carved in the walls as far back as 1598. In one corner of the room a stone door swung on large steel hinges, leads to a room, which led the explorers to a room ten feet below the first room, which contains human skeletons in endless numbers by the aid of rocks and a rope one can be lowered to another room, 20 feet below the last-mentioned room, in which is to be found fish by the hundred in a pond, the fish resembling the common perch. Hundreds of perfect stone fish are to be found on the floors of the two first-mentioned rooms, with dates carved back as far as 1598. The people are carrying the odd specimens away for relics.

TACOMA'S GROWING TRADE.

Customhouse Returns for Puget Sound District Show She Does More Than Half the Total Business.

The Tacoma (Wash.) chamber of commerce has just completed the compilation from custom house returns of a table showing the business of the Puget Sound collection district for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898. The table shows a gain of 700 per cent. in volume of foreign business since 1893, and gives Tacoma first rank among the shipping ports of the district, her proportion being 51.76 per cent. of the total. Exports and imports for the year aggregate \$22,000,000, the principal articles of export being \$2,231,912 bushels of wheat, 615,155 barrels of flour, 130,365,000 feet of lumber, and miscellaneous merchandise valued principally to China and Japan, valued at \$7,952,046. There were 1,234 entrances and 1,855 clearances in the district with a total tonnage of 2,233,532 tons. Exports increased 51 per cent. over last year, while imports decreased 21 per cent.

Wretched State of Portugal.

Among European nations Portugal ranks most decidedly as one which has fallen from power and high estate and conspicuously degenerated. Emigration at an alarming rate robs the country of its best and strongest young men. Whole districts in Portugal are deserted and stand in need of colonization, while the peasants who remain in the land are illiterate to the extent of 80 per cent.

National Flags Growing Fewer.

Of 35 flags shown in a flag of all nations supplement to a London weekly in 1855, barely 40 years ago, 11 have disappeared, among them those of the East India company, of the Ionian islands, of Tuscany, Naples and the States of the Church, of the Russian-American company and of Sardinia.

AN UNPATRIOTIC TOWN.

The Editor Was Discouraged When He Tried to Enlist.

We do not like to appear before our readers in the roll of an Apollo, but an explanation is in order, says the Hardeman (Tenn.) Free Press. We announced in these columns that we had enlisted for the war and would leave for Dry Tomatoes last Tuesday, but circumstances over which we have no control have detained us. We went down to the depot on Tuesday, ready to go. We had our gun that we shot a delinquent subscriber with, the horse pistol we used last year when we fit a duel with the snub-nosed war who edits the Shillalah, a sword, a tomahawk, a bowie knife and a knapsack full of underclothes and booze. A big crowd got around us and we yelled out to them: "Remember the Maine!" We were very much astonished when several persons in the crowd, who, we suspicion, were in the pay of Spain, stepped up to us and said: "Remember the bill before you go." It looked as if somebody had called a convention of our creditors and every delegate was there. One of them had a wash bill. Every bookkeeper in town was there with an itemized account. A storekeeper came up and told us to "pull off them boots" which we hadn't paid for. Our landlord was on deck with a bill. We made 'em all a speech, asked 'em if they were patriots, and told 'em that our country called. "Come on back," they said, "we'll have you arrested for trying to skip the town and beat your creditors."

Of course we seed through it all. It was a Spanish conspiracy to keep us at home; but what could we do? Well, we're here to stay now, and there's going to be a war at home. We will take the pauper's oath to all them bar bills and we are going to have all the seelons indicted for violating the Four Mile law, and hereafter, when we want liquor, we're going to Memphis and place ourselves in the hands of our friends. Patriotism is as dead as a mackerel in this here town, but a flea in the ear is worth two men in the bush.

THE FORT OF TO-DAY.

The Modern Employment Superior to That of Years Ago.

The modern type of fortifications contrasts strikingly with the massive old stone works, excellent specimens of which are Fortress Monroe and Fort Washington. To the eye of a novice Fortress Monroe, the largest of its type in the country, is seemingly impregnable; up to the close of the civil war it could be defended against a fleet or army of any size, but as small a gun as the eight-inch rifle could lay it in ruins in a very short time. The old method of fortifying has been replaced by the employment system of earth, stone and concrete, except at points where the topography of the coast line permits the use of natural formation. This is the case at Portland, Me., where the rocky cliff has been utilized, the batteries being at an elevation of 50 and 60 feet above tide water. Here, however, a large amount of concrete and stonework has been used to reinforce the walls of rock. The walls of the modern fortification are very broad and gradually incline from the summit to the base. They appear like mounds of earth with an inner coating of cement, but in their construction thousands of yards of broken stone and concrete are used for a single emplacement. The modern fort is constructed more below than above ground, the magazines, quarters for the artillerymen, apparatus for elevating, sighting and firing, and other machinery being inclosed in water-tight casements often 12 to 15 feet below the surface. As the sea-coast guns of to-day can be discharged by electricity, if desired, there is little need of exposure of the men, and most of the gun crew can remain under cover and out of danger.—Collier's Weekly.

Queen Victoria's Descendants.

A genealogist announces, as the result of careful inquiry, that the queen has had nine children of whom she has lost two; 41 grandchildren of whom eight have died; and 23 great-grandchildren, all of whom are living. She has, therefore, 63 descendants living—7 children, 33 grandchildren and 23 of the next generation. Her next eldest great-grandchild, the Princess Feodora, of Saxemeiningen, is now nearly 17, so that in all probability her majesty will live to see her grandchildren's grandchildren. Few English sovereigns before Queen Victoria have seen grandchildren grow out of infancy and none ever saw a great-grandchild.

Are Becoming Civilized.

The Australian aborigines are now ranked by ethnographers as fifth or sixth in the list of so-called natural races, the Veddahs of Ceylon being the lowest in the scale of savage culture.

Had Been There.

He—Were you ever at a pond party? She—Oh, yes; I attend all the amateur piano recitals.—N. Y. World.

Bulletin Financier. Bulletin Commercial.

Mercredi, 3 aout 1898.

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