

COWBOYS HAVE FUN.

Make Wild Charges Through the Streets of Omaha.

They Tell Like Indians in the Most Approved Wild West Style—Montana Bill Comes to Grief.

A dozen cowboys under the leadership of Montana Bill, a western character of some fame, undertook to show Omaha a hot time the other day after they had delivered a train load of cattle at the stock yards.

The gang charged into the city yelling like a thousand Apache Indians. A large crowd followed them into the Third ward, where they took charge of the district.

OUR EXPORTS TO VENEZUELA

A Very Noticeable Decline in Them and Various Reasons Assigned Therefor.

In 1887 the United States furnished 30 per cent. of the goods imported into Venezuela, and in 1897 the proportion from this country was only 26 per cent.

Republics are proverbially ungrateful, but statisticians at Washington are puzzled to account for the fact that Venezuelan purchases in the United States have steadily declined since the reciprocity days of 1891.

SHIPS SCUTTLED BY CAPTAINS

Claims for Insurance Arise Suspicion at Halifax and Arrests Are Made.

A case of crime on the high seas is now before the courts of Nova Scotia. In June last the schooner Juventa sailed from Whitehead for Halifax with a load of canned lobsters.

HOOKER WILL BE SAVED

The Stranded Cable Ship Hooker Will, It Is Said, Be Floated and Repaired.

Maj. Gen. Otis telegraphed the war department that the United States cable repair ship Hooker, which was considered a total loss, is certain to be saved.

Queer Lines of Insurance

This country has developed some queer freaks of insurance, such as indemnifying physicians against suits for malpractice, but England goes it one better with a horse, carriage and general insurance company.

German Drummers in Russia

German commercial traveling men in Russia are obliged to pay a tax of 500 rubles, in default of which a fine of 1,500 rubles is imposed.

American Women as Lawyers

America has 268 female lawyers.

TO USE MAXIM GUNS.

Recommendation of Gen. Miles Concerning Weapons for Philippine Campaign Meets Approval.

Gen. Buffington, the army chief of ordnance, has had his way in the matter of guns for the Philippines. His recommendation for the equipment of a mountain artillery force under Gen. Otis has been rejected, and orders which were issued at his instance to carry out this plan have been revoked.

Gen. Miles favored guns of the maxim type, 12 in number, to be formed into two batteries and firing explosive shells loaded with shrapnell. The deadly purpose of these guns is made more apparent in such a campaign as is necessary in the Philippines by the fact that the sparks which were emitted would set fire to the huts of natives.

Capt. Van Deusen will go abroad at once and inspect the weapons, ship them to Manila, and proceed to that place. He will be placed in charge of the mountain gun force when it is organized.

INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS.

Russia Is Pursuing a Policy of Equipping Her New Factories with Latest Modern Machinery.

While Russia began the development of its industrial resources much later than other nations it is pursuing the policy of equipping its new factories with the latest modern machinery, and adopting the most perfect methods of manufacture, as shown in the many new industrial plants in course of construction, which are almost without exception among the finest to be found in Europe.

OCEANIC A FLOATING PALACE.

Newspaper Men Show the Beauties of the New Mammoth Ocean Liner.

The White Star Steamship company invited a few newspaper men of New York city to inspect the new steamship Oceanic. The latter reported after their visit that they had been shown through all the departments of this immense floating palace, and found it in every respect quite up to the standard which has been set by the company.

One of the most interesting features of the ship was the library. It is a light and commodious apartment on the promenade deck, 40 feet wide and more than 50 feet long. Its height is nearly ten feet. Along the sides are many cozy nooks in which are comfortable armchairs and writing desks.

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IN A PITIFUL STATE.

Cuba's Rainy Season Falls and There Are Practically No Crops.

The General Manager of the Cuban Industrial Relief Fund Tells of Distress in the Island—Speaks Highly of the Cubans.

William Willis Howard, general manager of the Cuban industrial relief fund, and who recently returned from Cuba says: Cuba is in a pitiful state. Instead of a rainy season, Cuba has had a drought. Not since 1844 has there been such long continued dry weather during the summer.

The sugar and tobacco growers favor annexation as a business measure. Free trade with the United States would serve just as well. Cuban politicians and office seekers want independence.

HABITS OF BRITISH WOMEN.

President of a Woman's Club of New York Is Greatly Shocked by What She Witnessed.

Mrs. Cornelia Robinson, president of the West End Woman's club, New York city, has just returned from England with a big store of impressions gained during six weeks there, which she has divulged at the club's first meeting this season.

ABOLISHED THE LOCK-STEP.

Indiana Penitentiary Authorities Decide to Do Away with It.

After years of experience with the so-called lock-step, the authorities of the Indiana penitentiary have determined to abolish that custom. Their reasons are clear. Convicts who were incarcerated for only a short term were made to march in that unnecessary fashion without lasting injury to themselves.

CUBAN SWINDLING SCHEME.

A Case of Alleged Buried Treasure That Is Evidently Either a Hoax or a Fraud.

Cuba is being made a field of operations not only by green goods men, but by the buried treasure swindlers as well. Herbert A. Rhoads, a business man of Baltimore, some days ago received a letter postmarked Madrid which reads as follows:

A NEW PLAN.

Extra Speed on Our Battleships to Be Attained by the Use of Triple Screws.

The naval engineers have projected plans for the new battleships which, if adopted, will provide an entirely novel type for the navy. The purpose is to have these ships combine in themselves the good qualities of battleships and armored cruisers.

Cheap Living.

Peasants in the south of France spend about ten cents a day for a family of three.

Where Sunday Schools Are Scarce.

In all Spain there are only 3,230 children in the Sunday schools.

VAST ESTATE TIED UP.

Bequests in the Vanderbilt Testament Will Not Be Known for a Month or More.

Cornelius Vanderbilt's vast estate must remain tied up hard and fast until Alfred Vanderbilt, his second son, can arrive home from Japan.

For four weeks, therefore, the millions bequeathed by the head of the house will be legally without a master. Until the will has been probated the executors will have no authority and no person will have power to sell a share of stock, to pay a debt of the estate or contract an obligation upon it.

Assuming that the estate will amount to \$100,000,000, and that it is devised to the direct heirs, it will pay an inheritance tax to the state of \$1,000,000, of which one per cent, or \$10,000, will go to Comptroller Bird S. Coler to compensate him for the cost of collection.

The law provides for a percentage of 2 1/2 on bequests of \$1,000,000, or one-half of one per cent. on legacies to nephews and nieces and 15 per cent. on bequests to other than blood relations. If the estate is \$100,000,000, therefore, the government tax will be at least \$2,500,000, so that to the state and nation \$3,500,000 will be paid before the property is divided.

SAVED BY PRESENCE OF MIND.

Measures of a Georgia Snake in Treating a Rattlesnake Bite—Sucks Out the Poison.

John Padgett is the name of a mountain hero who lives six miles from Cartersville, Ga. The other day he left his home to go over the mountain in his wagon. His ten-year-old boy Ernest accompanied him. The boy dropped behind the wagon and began walking after it.

CHILDREN CAUSE A LAWSUIT.

Ejectment Proceedings Begun in the Courts Against Fashionable Omaha Families.

Suits are likely to be brought in Omaha in a few days by a company owning a large number of fashionable flats in the city to eject several tenants because they have violated the terms of their lease in that the family now has children, whereas the lease specifically provided that no children would be permitted on the premises.

FIG CULTURE IN CALIFORNIA.

Effort Being Made to Grow the Smyrna Variety with a Good Show of Success.

Prof. Swingle, of the agricultural department, has gone to California for the purpose of giving the fig growers of that state who are attempting to propagate the Smyrna variety of figs the benefit of his information on this subject. In his recent trans-Atlantic tour in the interest of the agricultural department Prof. Swingle visited Smyrna for the especial purpose of studying fig culture.

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SUCCESS THUS FAR.

Peary Making Elaborate Preparations for the Dash for the Pole.

Herbert L. Bridgman, Commander of the Expedition, Confident That the Explorer Will Succeed in His Undertaking.

Herbert L. Bridgman, commander of the Peary relief expedition of 1899, who arrived in Brooklyn the other day, believes that Peary will accomplish his purpose and reach the pole before his four years are up.

Mr. Bridgman said: "I have in my possession several reports written by Lieut. Peary of his work, but these I am not at liberty to make public."

Of Peary's work Mr. Bridgman said: "Peary's results in the first year of the four allotted to his greatest arctic work fully reward expectation and justify confidence. What he has already achieved removes his undertaking from the realm of doubt to reasonably certain success."

PARROT AN AGENT OF DEATH.

Falls Off a Gas Burner Tip While Its Mistress Is Sleeping—Is a Gas Incubator.

Alice Knott, 23 years old, of No. 803 Twelfth street, Washington, came to her death the other day through the instrumentality of her pet parrot, an evil-dispositioned bird, who was cordially detested by everybody except his mistress, but who seemed to have a strong affection for her.

FARMER INSANE OVER GOLF.

Iowa Truck Raiser Watches the Game Until He Loses His Reason.

The first authentic case of golf mania, as distinct from golf enthusiasm, must be credited to Burlington, Ia. A German farmer named Gottlieb Hackerman is the victim.

NEW COMPETITION IN WHEAT.

Asiatic Russia Will, It Is Predicted, Soon Be a Factor in the World's Markets.

American farmers are to have competition from a new quarter in the wheat market of the world. Consul Monaghan, at Chemnitz, in a report to the state department, gives interesting details of the agricultural possibilities of Asiatic Russia—a vast region which is being brought into touch with the European market by the construction of the trans-Siberian railroad.

NO RICE OR OLD SHOES.

Rev. Father Gillen Prohibits Their Use at Weddings in His Church at Paterson, N. J.

Persons contemplating matrimony will be interested to learn that an anti-riced ordinance has been promulgated by Rev. Charles P. Gillen, pastor of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church, Paterson, N. J., and that he stands ready to call upon the police for help in abolishing the old pagan practice.

Dragon's Tooth at University.

A new secret order has been organized at the University of Chicago. A dragon's tooth is the badge and the wearers will say nothing of their plans.

American Workingwomen.

The United States has about 4,000,000 workingwomen.