

ODD COLLECTION OF HATS.

Magistrate Handicraft of Weavers of the Philippine Islands Displayed in Exhibit at Washington.

There is a collection of Philippine hats made by Dr. Hodge for the Army Medical museum and loaned to the National museum which is attracting large crowds, as never fails to be the case with anything from the new possessions. The collection shows the most exquisite handicraft of the weavers of the island, not only in the various designs in weaving, but in the artistic blending of color and other ornamentation.

Some of the hats are at least two and a half feet in diameter, slightly convex and having an inner crown to fit the head, woven of soft and pliable material, while the outer part is of palm leaf in diagonal weaves. Many of them are most exquisitely wrought, lighter in weight and much more costly. All have the appearance of spring umbrellas and would readily serve as clothes hampers.

The United States soldiers have a fancy for wearing these whenever opportunity affords, and through them many valuable acquisitions are made to the collection from the islands.

Two articles that could not be mistaken in this country for anything but beer steins were also sent by Dr. Hodge. They are of bamboo, about five inches in diameter, hollowed out, shaped into a spout at the top, while bent wood handles are deftly bound at one side with strips of palm leaf. The use of this fiber for general utility and ornament is shown in a deftly wrought scabbard, so firm as to serve the purpose excellently. The large collection that has been made under specially appointed agents will soon be ready for the public inspection. It will include all the arts, manufactures and articles representing the habits and customs of the people of the islands.

STRIKES IN NEW YORK STATE.

Last Year There Was a Total of 547, the Highest Since the Arbitration Board Was Established.

There were 547 strikes and lock-outs in New York state last year, as shown by the state board of mediation and arbitration, seven-tenths of which were occasioned by questions of wages and hours of labor. The number last year showed an increase over the preceding year, and reached the highest total for any year since the state board was established, although there were fewer serious labor troubles than usual.

The strikes were divided as follows: Building trades, 151; laborers, 169; garment workers, 24; textile workers, 32; iron workers, 34; tobacco workers, 25. The board says that few of the above strikes required the services of the board, but to the majority of the remaining 225 labor disturbances the board gave attention. The strikers were successful in 335 cases, either gaining all they wanted or compromising, while 212 strikes were unsuccessful. The question of wages was responsible for 363 strikes and unionism for 104. Of these strikes 167 lasted a day, 173 three days, 111 from three days to a week, 68 from a week to a month, while 16 lasted more than a month.

CONVICT IS AN HEIR.

"Badger" Moore Comes Into Possession of \$125,000—Has 17 More Years to Serve.

William A. E. Moore—"Badger" Moore—wearing stripes in Sing Sing and breaking stone in the prison quarry, has fallen heir to \$125,000. He has served only two years of the 19 years' sentence for robbing Martin Mahon by means of the badger game.

The convict's pretty wife, Fayne Moore, who was accused of being his conspirator in the plot to extort money from the proprietor of the New Amsterdam hotel, is in London. When her husband put on stripes she put on "sights" and is singing and dancing with the gayety girls. Announcement of his inheritance reached Moore in prison. The fortune was left to him by his uncle, Capt. John W. Moore, of Cleveland, O., who died a few days ago. Capt. Moore was one of the wealthy vessel owners of the lake region and at one time was a partner of Senator Mark Hanna. With the means now at his command Moore hopes before many months to be released from prison. His case has gone to the court of appeals and will be argued in March.

JOINS FOX HUNTING CLUB.

Former President Cleveland Hopes That It "Will Not Endanger Life or Limb of an Old Man."

Former President Cleveland has sent a letter to William H. Drebbel, secretary of the Mercer County (N. J.) Fox Hunting association, accepting honorary membership in that organization. The letter is in the writing of the former president, and in accepting the honorary membership he says he presumes such act "will not endanger the life or limb of an old man."

The Mercer County Fox Hunting association is made up of a crowd of Trentonians, having a membership of 75. Two hunts have thus far been conducted. The last took place early in the week and was participated in by a fox, about 50 members of the association and a score of dogs.

Value of Cotton. A good bale of cotton is worth \$40, against the former \$20, and the cotton seed, once a waste product, brings eight or ten dollars to the bale.

Neatest Town. Broek, in Holland, is famed as the "neatest town in the world."

INTO FROZEN NORTH.

Explorer Peters to Unlock Mysteries of the Arctic Circle.

Elaborate and Careful Preparations Made So That Efforts to Explore the Unknown Regions May Prove a Success.

By plunging daily into ice baths, wearing scarcely enough clothing for late spring weather, living in rooms not only without artificial heat but with all the windows open, William J. Peters, explorer and topographer for the United States government, prepared himself for the perilous journey within the arctic circle and the coast of the Arctic ocean, upon which expedition he has just left Washington.

The trip as laid out embraces a tramp on foot over untried ice fields of 1,600 or perhaps 3,000 miles, and is considered by old explorers and government scientists to be the most judiciously planned as well as the most heroic journey ever undertaken. Though part of the way has been undertaken by former explorers, that part lying within the arctic circle is unknown, but, as an old explorer said:

"It will not long remain unknown, for, with Peters' heroic character and magnificent determination, accompanied by his superior intelligence, that part of the United States now untried will lie before us like an open book, just as soon as he gets back to tell the story."

Not only has Mr. Peters prepared himself physically for the hardships and deprivation of his frozen journey, but since the expedition was planned first, over two years ago, he invented many of the instruments susceptible of use under the extraordinary conditions that surround a survey in that part of Alaska. Among these is a camera for determining the frost of the arctic climate. He is an expert photographer, and should he ever return, will bring back a rich pictured story of the untried ice field, as well as other material that will assist the government in determining the wealth of the great northern possession.

The sum of \$25,000 was appropriated by congress for making the first survey of the northern coast of Alaska. Mr. Peters was at once put in charge of the plans of the trip, and last summer provisions enough for eight months, along with other necessary equipment for the journey, were sent from San Francisco to St. Michaels, and then to Hergman, the objective point, from which the real perilous part of the journey will begin.

BIG SEARCHLIGHT FOR FAIR.

Large Projector to Be a Feature of the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo, N. Y.

The electric searchlight that is to be installed on the electric tower of the Pan-American exposition is destined to attract much attention. The Chicago searchlight was a 36-inch projector, while the Pan-American searchlight for the electric tower will be a 30-inch projector. There is six inches difference, but the 30-inch projector of today is a far more wonderful machine than was the 36-inch projector of world's fair days.

The beam from this light will flash through the sky with a brilliancy that will cause it to be seen for many miles. It has been said that the searchlight used to light up the whirlpool rapids of the Niagara gorge at night has been seen at Wilson, which is 12 or 14 miles away. The power of the Pan-American searchlight will be much greater than the Niagara light, and it will cast its rays from a point 360 feet above the ground. The searchlight will be visible at a distance of at least 50 miles. This is more than twice the distance between the exposition grounds and the falls of Niagara.

GAS INSTEAD OF OIL.

American Petroleum Being Displaced in Germany by Acetylene Gas as an Illuminant.

Council Hughes of Coburg reports to the state department that up to the present time Germany has imported each year from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000 worth of American petroleum. This industry, however, seems to be threatened somewhat by the introduction of acetylene as an illuminant in a convenient and safe form for house, store and other purposes. This has resulted from the low price at which calcium carbide is being produced here, and also from the rise in the cost of petroleum in the German markets.

DISCOVER AN EDIBLE BAMBOO.

Plant Yielding "Manx" Found Which Supplies Famines-Stricken Natives with Food.

A remarkable incident is officially reported from the central provinces of India. Bamboos have been found yielding "manx" of a kind and quality hitherto unknown and have been of invaluable help to the famine-stricken people. A government analysis revealed that it is a composition of saccharose, almost identical with cane sugar, the ingredients being sugar, 95.63; water, 2.66; ash, .96; glucose, .75. Expert officials and natives never heard of such a product of bamboo, and the natives regard the discovery as a special act of providence.

An Opportunity.

A deer has been discovered in the Philippines that barks like a dog. Can't Markham give us something on this subject, asks the Chicago Times-Herald, that we may offer as a companion piece to Kepling's bear that walks like a man?

TOLD BY THE OLD PUGILIST.

"Staging" in the Old Days Before John L. Had Brought the System to Perfection.

"One winter, when things were rather slow in the city—it was just before John L.'s time"—said the old pugilist, according to the New York Sun, "we made up a little party and hired a hall in one of the fishing towns not far away. We advertised a prize of ten dollars for anyone who could stay on his feet against our men for five rounds. It was safe money, although when two or three of the boats came in at the same time we had all we could handle.

"But one night a fellow as big as the side of a house came along, and we smelled trouble. We put him up against the heaviest man in our party, who, though he only tipped the scales at 180 pounds, had two good hands and a head that you couldn't hurt with a piledriver. But the stranger was no slouch, and at the end of the fourth round we began to worry about the tinner.

"The ring was on the stage at the front of the hall, and at the rear of the stage there were two windows. So I says to our man as I sponged his mouth: 'Work him over to one of the windows.'

"It wasn't no easy job, but he did it before time was half up, and as the duffer backed up near the window he got a crack in the head from behind that dumped him in a heap. That's the way we saved our ten.

"But the funny part of it is that our champion had caught the local guy on the jaw the same moment and we could never persuade him that it wasn't himself that secured the knockout."

PRESERVING THE BIG TREES.

Efforts to Prevent the Destruction of the California Forest Giants.

The women's clubs of this state are persevering in their efforts to save the Calaveras grove as a legacy to posterity. Mrs. Emma Shafter Howard has opened correspondence on the subject with many influential men in Washington. Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, suggests in a letter written on the subject that California ought to have intelligence and public spirit enough to save her wonderful trees, says the San Francisco Chronicle. The suggestion is pertinent, but the nation as well as the state has an interest in their preservation. The senator adds that his state would not ask any help of the federal government if she had them, which is probably true; but Massachusetts has a larger permanent population and greater wealth than California, while the proximity of the grove to a national park in this state naturally suggests their union and their subsequent care under one patrol. Mr. Hoar promises, however, to aid the senators from this state in their efforts to secure favorable action by congress.

Another letter of special value on the subject has been received from the secretary of the American Forestry association, in which the cooperation of the women's clubs of California with that organization in all kindred projects to that of the preservation of Calaveras grove is cordially invited. In this letter there is a friendly intimation that heroes should supplant hysterics in the work of saving the forests of the country from destruction, and the hint will probably not be thrown away.

SHRINKAGE OF THE SUN.

An English Scientist Estimates That It Amounts to Six Inches a Day.

The usual Christmas course of lectures was begun at the Royal Institution by Sir Robert Ball. The sun, he pointed out, was the source of all the heat received by this earth, says the London Times. Now, it was a well-known fact that most things in cooling became smaller; a poker, for example, was shorter when it was cold than when it was red hot. The sun, too, must obey this fundamental law, and must therefore be getting smaller. If we could measure its diameter on two successive days we should find it had decreased by nine inches—that was to say, it was shrinking at the rate of, roughly, five feet a week, or a mile in every 20 years. In view of this shrinkage, some of the younger members of his audience might feel anxious lest the sun should not last their time. Such anxiety, however, was groundless; he was 860,000 miles in diameter, so it would take 40,000 years for him to be reduced by 2,000 miles to 858,000, and the lecturer was sure that if there were two suns in the sky, one 860,000 miles in diameter and the other 858,000, no one would be able to tell by looking at them which of the two was the smaller. But as the sun was shrinking nine inches every day, and had been doing so for ages, it followed that in the past he was very much greater than he was now. But he always had the same amount of material in him and weighed no heavier than at present; hence the inference was that he was once a huge mass of rarefied gas—a great glowing nebula.

Cholera and Perfume.

The cholera repeatedly during the last century visited London and Paris, but at no time was there a death from that disease among the operatives of the perfume factories.

German Exhibition of Asses. Germany has just held its first national exhibition of asses near Berlin. There were over 4,000 entries.

Pawning in London. Over 1,000,000 pawn tickets for sums under ten shillings are issued weekly in London alone.

TWO WOMEN KNIGHTED.

Earned the Honor by Gallant Duty During Siege of Legation in China.

In the list of honors proposed by the French foreign office and just signed by the president of the republic are the names of two ladies, Mme. Leulier and Mme. von Rosthorn. The two new feminine knights of the Legion of Honor have both been decorated for gallant conduct in China. The former is the lady superintendent of the French hospital at Peitang, the latter the wife of the charge d'affaires of Austro-Hungary at Peking, who has been made an officer of the Legion of Honor. M. and Mme. von Rosthorn, after the destruction of the Austro-Hungarian legation, sought refuge in the French residence, where both husband and wife helped in the defense of the besieged building with untiring energy.

Lieut. Darcy describes a fierce struggle which took place on June 23 and in which M. and Mme. von Rosthorn displayed great bravery, the lady being badly wounded about the face and hands while assisting her husband in setting fire to a Chinese barricade by throwing handfuls of ignited straw saturated with petroleum on the structure. Mme. von Rosthorn is the second woman of foreign nationality upon whom the French government has bestowed the cross of the Legion of Honor, says the London Telegraph. The first was a Belgian, Marie Jeanne Shellinck, who fought in the wars of the first revolution, under Dumouriez, and of the empire under Napoleon, taking part in the battles of Jemmapes, Arcole, Austerlitz and Jena. In 1809, when she left the army, at 52 years of age with the rank of sublieutenant, she had served 17 years, fought in 12 campaigns and had been wounded eight times. On her retirement Napoleon gave her the cross of the Legion of Honor, which he himself pinned on to her soldier's coat, telling the officers to salute her as he did so, because she was one of the "glories of the empire."

A GIANT INDUSTRY.

The Steel Industry as It Has Been Developed in America in Recent Years.

According to Prof. R. H. Thurston, who writes of "The Steel Industry of America" in Century, Sir Henry Bessemer's invention has added more to the world's wealth than any other save the steam engine. The following figures give an idea of the extent of the production of steel throughout the world:

"The world's product of Bessemer steel in 1892 would have made a colonnade of pillars 20 feet in diameter and 100 high, 1,572 in number, extending over three miles, 836 on each hand, or a single row over six miles long. Every working day in that year there was produced the equivalent of between five and six such columns, and a day's work resulted in the output of nearly as much as was the total annual product of the great city of Sheffield at the time of Bessemer's invention. The annual production of Bessemer steel was, in another comparison, shown to be the equivalent of a column 100 feet in diameter, the size of a moderately large gas holder, and 6,634 feet 6 inches high—a mile and a third. This would be 16½ times as high as the cross on the dome of St. Paul's in London. One-twelfth of its altitude would measure the production of a single month and would rise to above the height of the Washington monument. A single hour would yield a pillar of steel nine feet in diameter and about 140 feet high, the altitude of a tall church steeple. The work of a year would construct a steel wall five feet in thickness, 20 feet high and 100 miles long, which would be enough to inclose an area of about 800 square miles, 3¼ miles in diameter, sufficient to inclose London and its suburbs in a circle radiating over 30 miles from St. Paul's or the bank. The foundation of the wall itself would occupy 60 acres.

"The United States enters the new century with just about this total production of steel."

LONGEST BALLOON VOYAGE.

French Count Who Sailed in the Air from Paris to Kiew, a Distance of 1,304 Miles.

The science of aeronautics is attracting more attention at the present time than ever before in its history. Several new and ingenious air-ships have been tested before the public in the past few months, including the remarkable machine of Count Zeppelin, and there is reason for the belief that the world is to be favored at an early date with a successful solution of the problem of aerial navigation. An event significant of the large possibilities in that direction was the recent balloon voyage of Count Henry de la Vaul, the French aeronaut, from Paris, France, to Kiew, Russia, a distance of 1,304 miles. This is the longest balloon voyage ever made. The air-ship in which this remarkable flight was made is called the Centaure, and was built according to plans invented by the count himself. The count was accompanied on the journey by one friend only, Count Castillon de Saint Victor. The balloon was well stocked with provisions and equipped with all needful apparatus for aerial observations. Not a single unpleasant incident marred the trip, which goes on record as the most notable voyage through the air ever accomplished.

Flowing by Alcohol Power. Alcohol power locomotives are now in use in Germany. The machine uses about a pint of alcohol an hour for one horse-power.

WILL REIGN LIKE A QUEEN.

Former Baltimore Girl as Wife of the Governor of German East Africa.

The proposal of the imperial government of Germany to make Count von Goetzen the governor of German East Africa will place a one-time Baltimore girl on a high social plane. As the wife of the governor of German East Africa Countess von Goetzen will be the first lady among 6,000,000 people and her position will be akin to royalty.

Many Baltimoreans remember the countess when, before her marriage, she was Miss May Stanley Loney. Her beauty and wit are still vividly recalled by her many friends. Her first husband was the late William Matthew Lay, who left his widow a large fortune.

At the time Mrs. Lay met Count von Goetzen he was military attaché to the German embassy and was a guest with her at a New Year's dinner given by Senator and Mrs. Calvin S. Brice. He had a short time before returned from a very remarkable expedition into the darkest of dark Africa. With a party organized at his own expense he made a journey into Central Africa and explored the Congo, going over the same territory made famous by Stanley. The expedition started in 1893, and upon his return home and the announcement of his engagement to Mrs. Lay soon afterward it was hoped that he would be attached to the Washington embassy for a lengthy stay. But, as is generally the case when a foreign diplomat weds an American girl, he was soon recalled by the government.

The count and countess took a wedding trip to California and upon their return to Washington Count von Goetzen was recalled to Berlin by his government. Soon after their establishment in the fine home of the count in that city the imperial government hastened to bestow favor upon him, and he was made a captain in the Ulan regiment, an office seldom held by so young a man. His mission in Africa is regarded as a very high honor, with large responsibility and power.

A CURE FOR DEFORMITIES.

Austrian Surgeon Reports a Discovery Which is Considered of Great Merit.

Prof. Robert Gersuny, one of the most eminent surgeons of Austria, reports an important discovery which he has just made. This discovery consists in the use of a mixture of paraffin and vasoline in curing physical deformities and filling cavities caused by the removal of portions of the bones. In a large number of experiments this treatment has proved perfectly successful.

The mixture is injected beneath the epidermis at a temperature of 104 degrees. It hardens quickly and remains in position without the possibility of shifting. It does not irritate the surrounding parts, and is in no way harmful to the blood. In a case where a part of the jaw was removed this injection filled out the hollowed cheek to a perfect contour. Another patient suffered from a defect in the palate which caused an impediment in his speech. After an operation the malformation in the palate was corrected by the injection described and the speech became distinct.

It is believed possible that this injection may also prove of great use in cases of muscular constriction, but experiments in this direction are not complete. A number of surgical authorities have declared that the mixture will possibly be invaluable for developing thin persons, concealing deformities of the body and face.

Prof. Gersuny declines to allow the discovery to benefit him financially, declaring that he values it purely from the medical and scientific standpoint.

TO INVESTIGATE MIRAGE.

Scientists Will Try to Locate the "Silent City" of Alaska.

Plans are being made for a party of scientists to leave Victoria, B. C., in June for the big glacier on Mount Fairweather, where the "silent city" of Alaska is seen every year about that time. The expedition will be backed by some Californians. Tents and photographic and surveying apparatus will be taken.

The mirage, which stretches for a distance of five miles across the great glacier, is said to be a representation of the town of Bristol, England, and in order to investigate this the expedition will note the time and weather when their observations are made and all characteristics of the mirage. Then as soon as one of their number can get into communication with the city of Bristol inquiries will be made by telegraph with scientists of that city of the weather conditions prevailing at Bristol when the observation was made.

When the duke of the Abruzzi climbed Mount St. Elias four years ago he made a pen and ink sketch of the "silent city."

Wants More Settlers.

A body of capitalists has contracted with the Ontario government under heavy bonds to place in Algoma, western Ontario, 500 settlers per month for five years. The representative of the capitalists, Mr. Clergue, sailed for England recently and will open emigration agencies forthwith. It is expected and hoped that the emigrants will be chiefly British and will consist largely of skilled workmen.

EYES ON GERMANY.

Hastening the Completion of Her Navy by Emperor's Order.

Battleships and Cruisers to Be Ready Ten Years Sooner Than Originally Planned—Possibility of War with United States.

Germany has so laid out the work in connection with the naval shipbuilding programme adopted in 1899 that, instead of being completed in 1916, as originally contemplated, says the Washington correspondent of the New York Herald, all the ships will be ready for service by 1908.

This important information has been received by the navy department and has been given consideration by the Dewey policy board. The programme now being carried out will add to the German navy 34 battleships, 20 large cruisers and 48 small cruisers, all thoroughly modern. There will be other and older battleships available for duty, and the German fleet will consequently have a strength of more than 40 battleships.

The haste being observed by the German emperor in the construction of his new navy is directly traceable, of course, to his desire to provide his government with a navy which shall properly project its interests.

No one here expects hostilities with Germany or any other nation, and the president is doing everything in his power to foster friendly relations. There is no doubt that he and other administration officials sincerely regret the course Germany has pursued in the Chinese negotiations.

The Berlin government has recently shown a willingness to make a solution of the Chinese problem more probable, and this change of attitude is a matter of much gratification in official circles here. It is hoped by the administration that the haste being observed in the completion of the shipbuilding programme has no reference to the United States, and it is to be expected that the Berlin authorities will disavow that this is so.

At the same time this government understands the necessity of being prepared, and will probably urge congress to continue the policy of increasing the navy. With the two battleships authorized in the pending naval bill, the United States will by 1904 have a fleet of 18 battleships and ten armored cruisers. This will be less than half the strength of the German navy in 1906.

TURK IS HAZED.

Students at Philadelphia School Take Mustache of a Companion—International Row Probable.

It is possible that the loss of a mustache, which adorned the lip of John Loutifian, a student at the Medico-Chirurgical college, Philadelphia, may lead to the demand for an investigation of college hazing by the Turkish minister.

Loutifian is a Turk, and it is said he was sent to Philadelphia by order of the sultan. He is a great big man, and, in addition to fondling the slight growth of hair on his upper lip overmuch, he treated his classmates rather disdainfully. The other day they determined to reduce his pride, and so about a dozen of them attacked him in the reading room and after a scuffle overpowered him, laid him on his back with arms and legs pinioned, and, while two men held his head, another skillfully removed his mustache with a scalpel. When Loutifian was allowed to get up he shouted that he had been disgraced by being shaved by an infidel. One of the tormentors made out a bill, "One mustache, five hairs on one side, six on the other; eleven hairs at \$10 each, \$110," and gave it to the Turk, telling him to present it to Uncle Sam for collection.

This enraged Loutifian more and he went with the bill to Dean Egbert and then to the superintendent of police, lodging a complaint with each. Later he announced that he would acquaint the Turkish minister with the fact and ask that the hazers be punished for the indignities to which he had been subjected.

RARE SPECIMEN IS CAUGHT.

A Member of the Periprotelmum Family Is Taken in Florida.

Something new in the way of Florida fishes or reptiles was caught by Alfred Lucas, while fishing in Nasau sound, near Fernandina, the other night. It was a fine specimen of the periprotelmum family, a species that are supposed to be confined strictly to the African waters.

This specimen is a fine one; it has arms and elbow, with wrist, and a five-fingered hand, like its African cousin. It is also fitted with members under its chest, with membranous feet for walking—these feet having separate and distinct toes. The head is not so sharply cut down as its African prototype, the face has a more intellectual appearance, so to speak, and its eyes are more humanlike. The animal is prehensile at the points and aids the fish in climbing, but here the arm and hand have not been developed.

The fish has been preserved in alcohol and photos sent to the Smithsonian institution at Washington for examination.

Population of Russia.

The last census of Russia gives the population at 136,000,000. This is a gain of 71 per cent. since 1780. A good part of the growth has been by annexation.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS

Est très répandue en Louisiane et dans tous les Etats du Sud. Sa publicité offre donc au commerce des avantages exceptionnels. Prix de l'abonnement, pour l'année: Edition quotidienne, \$12.00. Edition hebdomadaire \$3.00.