

BOMBARDMENT AVERTED.

Santiago's Narrow Escape from Destruction—How Hobson and His Men Regained Their Freedom.

Gen. Shafter, writing of "The Capture of Santiago," tells how he procured the release of Lieut. Hobson and his men.

"At the request of the foreign consuls and in the interest of the women and children, I gave notice that the threatened bombardment would not take place until noon of July 5. On that day I telegraphed to Washington that I should not open fire until I got Lieut. Hobson and his men out of the city and should not then if the taking of the place required an assault, as I considered that starving the enemy out was better.

"Having a number of Spanish prisoners, I determined to effect the exchange of Hobson, if possible. On the 6th Gen. Toral assented to my proposition, and Lieut. Miley was sent to effect it. The commissioner appointed by the Spanish commander was Maj. Yrles. The meeting took place under the broad eaves of the barracks where the broad cable-tree where the surrender afterward was made. After an hour was consumed in arranging the details, three Spanish soldiers were taken out blindfolded. To Lieut. Miley's surprise, the Spanish commissioner selected an officer who had been wounded in the arm at the battle of San Juan, an acquaintance of his. We had intended to parole him if he had not been taken, and Lieut. Miley had a paper in his pocket for that purpose. Seven Spanish soldiers were exchanged for the seven American sailors. Lieut. Hobson was then brought within our lines, where he was enthusiastically cheered by the army.

"I had learned from the English consul that Hobson was confined in one of the large buildings nearest us. It was in plain sight, and from it floated the red cross. It was under rifle fire, and as it was a building full of windows, I was afraid he might be in danger; gun fire would not have been directed toward it, but shots will go astray, especially rifle-shots. The fleet, which was bombarding eight miles away, would be likely to hit it. I was very glad to get Hobson and his men out of the way. The fact that they were released by the army has never been acknowledged by officers of the navy, who simply speak of the return of Mr. Hobson to his duty."—Century.

THE DOUKHOBORTS.

Russian Refugees Who Cling to Their Religious Faith Through Everything.

The new world has welcomed many kinds of refugees from political and religious oppression, but has probably received no more picturesque and striking immigration than that of the Russian Doukhoboris, or "spirit-wrestlers," lately on their way from the Caucasus to the far northwestern Canadian plains.

These people, to the number, in the present immigration, of more than 1,800, comprising the entire population of several villages, have embarked at the Russian port of Batoum, and traversing the Black sea, the Mediterranean and the Atlantic in a single voyage, will disembark at St. John, New Brunswick, to begin then a long winter journey to Winnipeg.

Few people have suffered more for their faith than these Doukhoboris. They are, in fact, primitive Christians, who try to obey quite literally the injunctions, as to faith and life, of the New Testament. They have been banished from place to place there, and treated so badly that they are in the utmost poverty.

They could not be brought to the United States, because they could come only by assistance, and their admission would be contrary to the law. Canada is more hospitable to such refugees than we are, being much more in need of immigrants, and having suffered less from the influx of undesirable ones. In the far Canadian northwest there is abundance of room, even for immigrants for whom everything must be done.

These refugees of faith, who prefer to die rather than give up any jot or tittle of their principles, and who unhesitatingly submit to a terrible journey half-way round the world, and undertake to fight out a new battle for existence on the frozen and trackless plains of the Saskatchewan, have already won the admiration of Christendom, and their future will be watched with interest.—Youth's Companion.

Queer Hiding Place.

The fancy of secret drawers and out-of-the-way hiding places is a curious trait with many people. A Chicago electrician tells that while following up the wire of an electric bell in a North side house his search led him behind a door. Kneeling down, he rested his hand on the wooden knob fastened in the wall to prevent the door handle from touching the plaster and was surprised to find that it yielded to his grasp. A slight pull disclosed the fact that it was the handle of a secret drawer which was almost filled with jewels, watches and money. Hearing an exclamation behind him, he looked up to find the lady of the house bending over him, apparently horror-stricken. Without speaking he closed the drawer and resumed his search for the wire, and, though neither mentioned the incident, the lady kept her eye on him until he finished his work and left the house.—Chicago Evening News.

A Sufficient Income.

What do you consider a sufficient income? earnestly asked one club woman across the tea table the other day.

"Always a little more than you have," snarled back the fair philosopher, with a smile.—Woman's Home Companion.

THE FAIR AT PARIS.

Great Progress Has Been Made with the Buildings.

Yet It Is Feared That Some Will Be Unfinished in Time and the Opening Will Be Postponed.

The buildings of the exhibition have been making most remarkable progress in the course of the last two months, so much so indeed that the work of the building is considered to be more than a month ahead, and as far as the officials are concerned, it will be possible to open the exposition at the beginning of 1900, instead of waiting until April. It is a pity that the executive work has not been able to make the same progress, but we learn now that the plans are rapidly being distributed to the various countries, so that there is not much longer before the exhibitors will be able to know the exact space that has been portioned out to them. With regard to the British section this will not be done until final plans have been received for every section. This is being done to assure of no discontent or jealousy between one branch of exhibit and another. These plans have been most successfully drawn up marking where every pillar or other obstacle will stand. There will consequently be no disappointment when exhibitors arrive to make their final installations.

A historic tableau is being prepared which is likely to cause a sensation at the Paris exhibition. This is no other than a faithful reproduction of the Malmaison salon on the evening of a grand reception in the year 1800. More than 50 figures will appear in this scene, besides Napoleon and Josephine. The furniture, which will consist almost entirely of authentic pieces of the period, promises to be a veritable curiosity in itself. By the way, to the list of royalties who will visit the exhibition must now be added the shah of Persia. His majesty has definitely decided to make the trip, and Parisians are naturally delighted.

Read in the light of Col. Jekyll's recent remarks at the British chamber of commerce banquet, the following leaderette from the Daily Telegraph is of interest:

"The whole civilized world is called upon to face the contingency of a very grave disappointment. We must all hope that it will not be realized, and certainly at present we need not despair of its being averted; but it is discouraging to find that the bare possibility of a postponement of the French exhibition of 1900 has forced itself upon public discussion. Only sixteen months more have now to elapse before the date fixed for its opening, and it is doubted in some quarters whether the loss of time occasioned by the recent strike and the difficulties which arose between the municipality of Paris and the government can within the prescribed period be made up. The president's visit to the site, however, and to the workmen engaged upon it, has given a stimulus to the energies of all upon whose labors success depends, and every effort will be made, we have no doubt, to prevent mishap which would involve very pecuniary loss to begin with, and would assuredly detract not a little from the prestige and popularity of the great show when at last it threw its doors open to the world. Rather, indeed, than adjourn this ceremony for another year, the general feeling seems to be in favor of commencing on the day fixed, even though the preparations should be in one sense incomplete. There seems to be no doubt whatever that the two parallel palaces which will contain the principal exhibits will be roofed and ready by the appointed date, but it is feared that they may not be finished in the architectural and decorative sense of the word. To open even under these conditions would perhaps be better than postponement for another year, but to do so would, all the same, be felt, we suspect, as little short of humiliation to the pride of so art-loving a people as the French. We sincerely trust that they may be spared it, and we would suggest that they should concentrate upon the work before them an attention which has of late been suffering from too many distractions. Would it not be well for France to give herself a little 12 months' rest from her unduly agitating politics?"—English and American Gazette of Paris.

A Great Mineral Find.

The reported discovery on Mad river, in the state of Washington, of a ledge of remarkably rich platinum ore is a matter of much interest to the scientific world, especially as this metal has never been counted among our economic products. Years ago small quantities were found at Plattsburg, New York and Port Orchard, Ore., but in neither place were there indications of paying deposits, and in 1897 the entire product of the United States was only 150 ounces. The great bulk of the world's supply comes from the western slope of the Ural mountains in Russia. Platinum has a steel gray color, and derives its great commercial value from its infusibility in the most intense heat and its insolubility under extreme conditions. It is used by chemists, jewelers and manufacturers of incandescent electric lights and for many other purposes requiring a wire that will resist intense heat. Commercially, it is worth about \$15 per troy ounce.—Philadelphia Post.

To Prevent Duelling.

At a certain church near Ledbury, England, an annual sermon is still preached against the vice of duelling. This is done in accordance with the will and testament of a damsel whose rival lovers died fighting for her hand.—N. Y. Sun.

A RIPE OLD AGE.

A Colored Woman Believed to Be 124 Years Old—Shows Her Birth Record.

The recent death of Robert Taylor, the oldest person in Great Britain or Ireland, whose age was 124 years, has caused considerable comment in all parts of America. Last April Queen Victoria sent him a picture of herself as a birthday gift.

The death of Taylor recalls the fact that Ohio has a resident who has long since passed the century mark in life. The person referred to is Aunt Mirah Davis. She is reputed to be 124 years old, and she lives about four miles from Swiss Elm, Highland county, O. Mrs. Davis lives with her grandson, who is himself an old gray-haired man. The aged woman is colored, and she is known to most of the residents in Highland county. For a woman who has attained such a remarkable age, "Aunt" Mirah is spry and manages to get around and do her share of housework. According to residents of Swiss Elm, the aged woman can still do a day's washing without suffering any evil effects. She was born and reared in Alabama, but for the past 100 years she has lived in various parts of the north. For the last half century she has been a resident of Highland county. She delights in telling stories and anecdotes of the cotton fields before the rebellion, and she says that she intends to visit the place of her birth before she ends her earthly existence. Aunt Mirah appears to be perfectly well, with the exception of a slight attack of asthma now and then.

An account of the death of Robert Taylor was read to the aged woman of Highland county the other day, and she displayed great interest in the history of the Irish postmaster. Taylor was appointed postmaster at Scarva, County Down, just after the introduction of penny postage, and he held that office to within a few days of his death, attending to the many little details of the place. According to the Westminster Gazette he was born in 1764; others put his age at 119. At any rate it is on record that he was a fier for the British troops during the rebellion in 1798 in Ireland. He was a Methodist and had built a large hall back of his residence for religious purposes. Aunt Mirah Davis is also a Methodist, and she attends services regularly. Her appetite is good and she thinks she will live to a greater age than that attained by Robert Taylor.

Many strangers who have heard of the great age attained by Aunt Mirah have called on her, and she always receives them in the most cordial manner. The residence of the aged woman is eight miles from Hillsboro, on the Petersburg and Hillsboro pike. In the case of most aged colored people there is no record to show in reference to their birth. In the case of Aunt Mirah, however, there is an inscription in an old, time-worn Bible which shows that she was born on April 23, 1774. This book is yellow with age, and most of the leaves are worn away until they are now as thin as tissue paper. The relatives of the aged woman are very careful about showing the book, as they do not care to have it handled unnecessarily and thereby incur chances of having it mutilated. Aunt Mirah never indulges in the use of stimulants, but occasionally smokes a cob pipe. She is a familiar picture, seated in front of her little cabin, which is surrounded by a cluster of shade trees.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

THE HOSE LEAKED.

But It Was Fixed That Way and Did Its Work as Well as Desired.

"I have never had any kind of a sprinkler but that," said Mr. Suburban, referring to a line of what seemed to be very leaky hose that was laid around on his lawn, scattering water in all directions; "no spraying nozzles, no twisting sprinklers, no nothing, not even a pipe on the hose. I had ideas of my own about sprinkling lawns, and when I came here I put 'em into use.

"I bought hose enough, as you see, to go quite around the lawn, and instead of having a pipe on the end of it, I plugged the end up. Then at regular intervals along the hose, I cut little slits to make it leaky. I had first secured to the hose what I call feet, little strips of wood fastened to it crosswise to keep the hose in one position, that is, with the same side uppermost. The slits were cut so that they would throw spray, some of them on one side and some on the other. In use the hose is laid around at such a distance from the border of the lawn that the spray from the series of leaks along that side of the top of the hose just reaches the border; while the spray from the series of leaks along the inner side just covers the square enclosed. All I have to do is to lay the leaky hose and turn on the water.

"The first time I had the hose out, a day or two after we had settled down, a neighbor of mine came along, stopped and said:

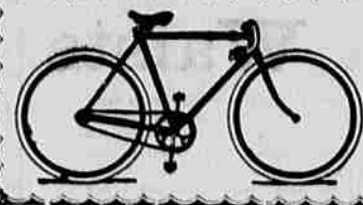
"H—m. Your hose is leaking a little? Just a little?"

"And I said yes; it did seem to be a little bit leaky, and the next morning my neighbor found the leaky hose out just the same, and on the next morning it struck him that the spray from it made a complete canopy over the entire lawn, sprinkling every part of it perfectly.

"Now, as you will discover when you go out in the morning, there is not in all this town in use a spraying nozzle, a flower pot sprinkler, or a whirligig. Everybody here has adopted the leaky hose system, and, as to the results, I think you will say, as you look through the town, that you have seen no other place where the lawns were so uniformly green and beautiful.

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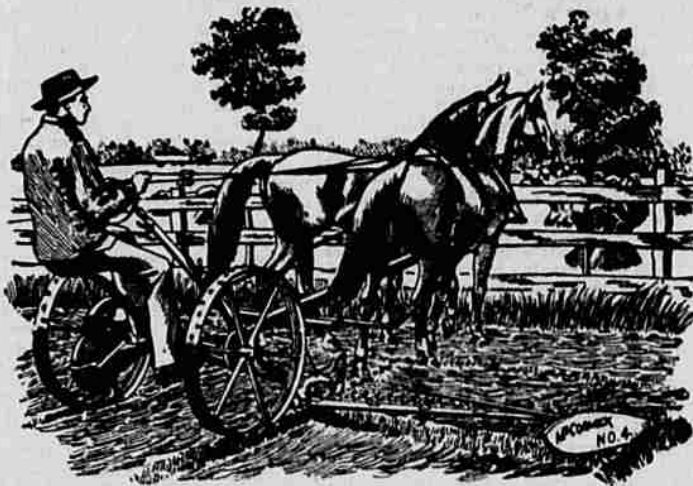
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- I. O. O. F.—Horus River Encampment, No. 35, meets 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th, 19th, 21st, 23rd, 25th, 27th, 29th, 31st, at 8 p. m. D. T. LAWTON, C. P. W. T. YORK, Sec.
- Olive Rebekah Lodge No. 28, meets 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th, 19th, 21st, 23rd, 25th, 27th, 29th, 31st, at 8 p. m. in Masonic hall. Visiting sisters invited to attend. MYRTLE NICHOLSON, N. G. LILLIE WEAVER, Rec. Sec.
- A. F. A. M.—Meets 1st Friday on or before full moon at 8 p. m. in Masonic hall. N. L. NABHEGAN, W. M. W. V. LIPPINCOTT, Rec. Sec.
- K. of P.—Talisman lodge No. 31, meets Monday evening at 8 p. m. Visiting brothers always welcome. F. M. WILSON, C. C. S. E. COLE, K. of R. and S.
- Knights of the Maccabees—Triumph Tent No. 14, meets in regular review on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month in A. O. U. W. Hall at 7:30 p. m. Visiting Sir Knights cordially invited to attend. G. I. WEBB, Commander. W. T. YORK, R. M.
- A. O. U. W.—Degree of Honor—Eather lodge, No. 66, meets every second and fourth Tuesday evening of each month at A. O. U. W. Hall. Mrs. CARLIE M. CROUCH, C. of H. Mrs. DELLA DODGE, Rec.
- A. O. U. W.—Lodge No. 98, meets every first and third Wednesday in the month at 8 p. m. in their hall in the opera block. Visiting brothers invited to attend. J. W. LAWTON, M. W. N. L. NABHEGAN, Recorder.
- Woodmen of the World—Camp No. 98, meets every Friday evening in Adkins-Deuel block, Medford, Oregon. W. H. MERRICK, C. C. JOE SHORE, Clerk.
- Chrysanthemum Circle, No. 84, Women of Woodcraft—Meets second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 p. m. in Woodmen hall. Visiting sisters invited. BASSIE WEBB, G. M. ADA M. MILLS, Clerk.
- W. R. C.—Chester A. Arthur Corps No. 34 meets second and fourth Friday of each month at 2 o'clock p. m. in Woodman's hall. Visiting sisters invited. Mrs. J. H. WHITMAN Pres. Mrs. N. B. BRADBURY, Sec.
- G. A. R.—Chester A. Arthur Post No. 47 meets in Woodman's hall every second and fourth Saturday night in each month at 7:30 p. m. Visiting comrades cordially invited to attend. A. T. DRISKO, Com. M. S. DAMON, Adjutant.
- W. O. T. U.—Meets every other Wednesday in the Halley block. ADDIE HALLEY, Pres. Mrs. MAY COX, Sec.

CHURCHES OF MEDFORD.

- Saint Marks Episcopal Sunday School meets at Episcopal Church every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. Rev. Wm. Hart, Rector; S. S. Pentz, Superintendent.
- Methodist Episcopal Church—H. N. Rounds, pastor. Preaching every Sabbath at 11 a. m., and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school at 10 a. m. H. L. Gilkey, supt. Class meeting every Sabbath at close of sermon. Levi Faucett, leader. Epworth League every Sabbath evening at 6:30. G. Faucett, pres. Regular weekly prayer meeting every Wednesday evening at 7:30. Ladies' sewing circle every week. Missionary society meets the first Friday in each month.
- Presbyterian Church—Rev. A. Haberly, pastor. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school at 10 a. m. Y. P. S. C. E. 6:30 p. m. Junior Endeavor Society at 9:30 p. m. Sunday prayer meeting on Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock.
- Baptist church—G. N. Annes, pastor. Worship and preaching every Sunday morning and evening at usual hours for church services. Covenant meeting on Saturday at 2 o'clock preceding each first Sunday. Prayer meeting on Wednesday evening. Baptist Young Peoples Union meets at 6:30 on Sunday evening. Sunday school at 10 a. m.
- Christian church—Corner of Sixth and I streets. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday school at 10 a. m. Junior Endeavor at 9 p. m. Y. P. S. C. E. at 6:30 p. m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening. Ladies' Missionary Auxiliary to C. W. B. E. first Thursday 7:30 P. M. each month. Chorus Union every Friday at 7:30 p. m. The people welcome. O. J. Glat pastor. Resides at the church.
- Methodist Episcopal Church South—Rev. E. F. Wilson, pastor. Preaching every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Sunday school at 10 a. m.; Epworth League, prayer and praise meeting each Sunday at 8 p. m.; Prayer meeting every evening at 7 o'clock; Woman's Home Mission Society meets first Thursday in each month at 2:30 p. m. Mrs. E. H. Pickett, president.

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