

USE SIGNALS OF INDIANS.

Army Experts Adopt Many Ideas of the Aborigines.

Just as the fighting men of the United States army many years ago took lessons from the Indians and from their methods of warfare devised and perfected the system of extended order or skirmish drills which have proved so effective, so the signal corps of the army has followed to a large extent the red men's methods of conveying information from point to point where there is not time to string telegraph or telephone lines or where wireless telegraph is unavailable.

As the Indians since prehistoric times have used columns of smoke in various combinations to signal the approach of an enemy or to transmit other messages, so the army signalmen have found most effective what are known as smoke bombs or smoke rockets. The former are fired from a small mortar, the latter in the same way as Fourth of July fireworks. Each when reaching a desired height, regulated by a fuse, bursts and liberates a picric acid compound, which ignites and burns colored fires, one after the other, so arranged in the cartridge as to convey a message to those who may be watching for it. These cartridges are made in sections, each containing its own different colored fire, and threaded to screw together in a fraction of a minute.

These military fireworks, as they might aptly be called, are packed in hermetically sealed cans, much in the same manner as tinned meats, with the same sort of thumbscrew attachment for opening them quickly. In this way they keep indefinitely in any climate and have been found particularly effective in the campaigns in the Philippines.

While the navy does not employ so complicated a system of rocket and bomb signaling as does the army, every warship carries a supply of powerful rockets, which liberate on bursting a series of brilliant white stars for the purpose of calling attention to other signals which are transmitted by a system of combinations of colored electric lights strung from a masthead and operated from a switchboard much on the plan of a typewriter, called the Ardois system. But both branches of the service employ an odd sort of pistol, the invention of a naval officer, which shoots from cartridges "stars" similar to those of a roman candle of any color. The combinations which can be made in this manner practically are numberless.—Popular Mechanics.

FATE OF THE BRAAKE.

A Treasure Ship That Lies Buried Off Cape Henlopen.

Somewhere in deep water off Cape Henlopen lies over half a million in British gold, and how much more in gold and silver bars and plate and other treasures can only be guessed at. In 1798 the British privateer Braake sailed for the west Atlantic bearing enough gold to pay off all the English troops stationed in various parts of the new world. As the soldiers had not been paid in many months the sum was a large one.

Whether the captain of the Braake

decided to turn pirate or whether he merely was showing excessive zeal in making war on all the enemies of England that he met on the high seas and intended to turn over his loot to the crown on his return will never be known, but the fact that the Braake took no prisoners and sank every prize goes a long way toward proving the piracy theory. The Braake captured a Spanish merchantman coming up from South American ports laden with rich tribute from the Spanish colonies there, transferred the precious cargo to her own hold and burned the vessel. Another Spanish ship bringing a church service of richly jeweled gold plate to a new world cathedral encountered the privateer and suffered the same fate. The next to fall a victim to the Braake's rapacity was a Frenchman carrying silks, spices, brandy and bars of silver. That, too, was sent to the bottom after it was despoiled.

The Braake was overtaken by a hurricane when nearing the American coast, was blown far out of her course and sank off Cape Henlopen. Several of the crew escaped in a small boat and reached land. Their tales of the treasure on the sunken ship caused several expeditions to be fitted out the following year, but nothing was brought up save pieces of the anchor chains and a cannon or two. During the last hundred years every effort to raise any part of the treasure has failed.

The last attempt was made by Captain Charles Adams, who fitted out a ship under the auspices of the navy department, but was unable to locate the wreck, which is probably by this time deeply submerged in the ooze and mud of the ocean bed.—New York Press.

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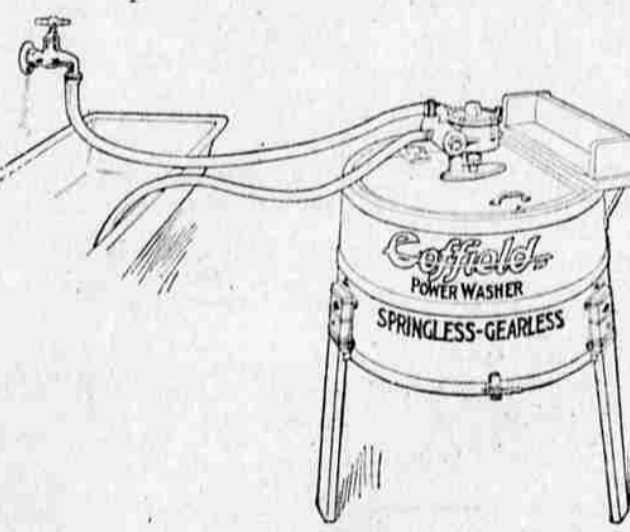
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