

THE LANCE IN WARFARE.

At Present It Is Not Very Dangerous—Wounds Can Be Easily Cured.

When the war in the Transvaal broke out Dr. Frederick Schaffer, a distinguished German army surgeon, obtained permission to accompany the British troops, his object being to ascertain to what extent the lance is effective as a weapon in war.

This suggestion is exciting a good deal of comment in Europe. The Frankfort Gazette, apparently appalled at the thought of transforming a humane weapon into a cruel one, says sarcastically: "We propose that the point of the lance be made of such a shape that it will cauterize every organ in the body and render the cure of every wound utterly impossible."

BURIED HOUSES IN MEXICO.

A dispatch from the City of Mexico, Mexico, says: The party of Mormon archeologists and students who left Provo City, Utah, nearly a year ago on an overland trip to Valparaiso, Chili, have arrived here. They spent some time in the Garcia valley, in the state of Chihuahua, where they made some extensive excavations and explorations of ancient ruins which had never before been visited by archeologists.

AVERAGE MAN IS IMPORTANT.

On His Well-Being Depends the Progress of Every Civilized Nation.

The average man rules the nation, says Mme. Sarah Grand in the London Express. Elevate the individual and you make the nation great. It is a truism, but, like most truisms, will bear repetition.

"By contrasting the condition of countries in which the majority of the people are gagged and enslaved with that of countries in which wealth and freedom are more equally distributed we have learned the fact that it is not riches of the rich nor the poverty of the poor, but the position and the character and the conduct of your average man that gives its tone to a nation—the mere man who asks but to be allowed to live as a decent human being asks for a time of rest, for love and affection, for wife and children—for a life of dignity, an old age of pleasant memories, a happy death."

"When that is the honest ambition of the mere man of a nation that nation must be great. Given the condition of mere man, does he progress or is he down-trodden and oppressed and you have the condition of the nation and its place in the estimation of the world."

Changing Significance of a Word. The word preparation originally meant a process of reversing the natural order of things, such as indicated by the common expression "putting the cart before the horse."

Quaint Wedding Ceremony. William Wombwell, aged 70, and Catherine Heley, aged 37, jumped over a broomstick at Cowle, near Doncaster, England, recently, and thereupon became according to Romany custom man and wife.

PAYING THE POLICE.

How the Thing is Done in the Great City of Chicago.

The Money is Distributed by a Wagon Built for the Purpose, and It Has Never Been Waylaid.

It takes over \$200,000 every month to run the police department of Chicago. The amount varies according to the times imposed at police board trials or extra men employed on extraordinary occasions.

The 15th of each month is pay day in the department, money usually falls on that date. On that day a wagon containing a paymaster, 15 or 20 specially detailed officers and the driver, the last also a policeman, leaves the city hall in the morning. The wagon contains a safe, and it is full of checks—paid cash. The driver knows the route. The paymaster has the payroll. The first stop is made at Battery B, of the First precinct.

The chief's check is always handed to him personally. If he is in the city, and he always scrutinizes it to see if it calls for \$500. That is his monthly salary. Then he deposits it in his bank.

The pay wagon of the department is a gray outfit, built for the express purpose, and some of the best highwaymen of Chicago should conclude to hold it up as they do the cashiers of stores. It is not likely that they would be able to "blow" the safe before assistance arrived, and the police are usually called on the 15th. If the wagon should be ten minutes late at a station the whole force would be on the quiver.

The check of the city treasurer of Chicago, according to an attaché of the police department, is "good at any bank, saloon, or brewery." If there is a bank near the station the former always stocks up with cash the day before the monthly pay. If there is no bank in the vicinity, the saloons, or brewery, if there be one, cash the checks, as that usually means a "little business."

PEN AND INK DRAWING.

Modern Imitation of the Ancients by a New Process.

It is easy, of course, to understand how pen drawing should have come to be so largely employed and elaborated. It is a matter of reproduction for illustration. An etching will not print with type, nor with a steel engraving. This, says the London Spectator, led in the early part of the century to the imitation of steel engravings by wood engravers, who did the business most skillfully with immense labor. The drawings for them were mostly made in pencil. But photographic process rendered the intervention of the wood engraver needless, if the artist made a pen drawing that would photograph and process well. A pure technical difficulty can be overcome by large numbers of craftsmen; large numbers, accordingly, have learned to make pen drawings to supplant wood engravings. But it should be noted that to do this is itself a kind of reproductive process.

Few elaborate pen drawings are made without a stoneware foundation in some other material. The pen line must frequently be traced or drawn over the pencil line, very much like the engraver's tool.

The point about the moderns and ancients, then, resolves itself into the imitation by the moderns in a new medium of the technique of an old. It is certain that the ancients could have performed this feat if they had chosen, not altogether certain that they would have chosen. For, to consider those other points of reproduction and dissemination, the modern master seems to be in no greater hurry than the ancient to make use of the new facilities. When such a master does take up the pen, he handles it to much grander effect than do its devotees.

A PICTURESQUE SPOT.

Fertility and Beauty of Strawberry Point, Alaska.

The Best Place in the Northwestern Territory for Agricultural Pursuits—A Perfect Wilderness of Plants and Grasses.

The season that is just finished has been the most profitable in the matter of Alaska has ever had. Now that it is over, and the regular inhabitants of the territory have had a chance to think about it a little, they are beginning to talk about the great things in store for them. Alaska is gorgeous in summer. Nowhere else in the world is there such a scenery as along the island-dotted channel from Port Townsend to Juneau. Not only is nature dressed in her best to receive the tourists who are going there in ever-increasing throngs, but the inhabitants also get on their good clothes and their good behavior, and for four or five months the whole territory is arrayed in its Sunday best.

Strawberry Point is one of the most beautiful and picturesque spots in all Alaska. It lies between Juneau and Sitka at the entrance to Glacier bay. It is a glacial moraine, which extends out into icy straits about ten miles from the mainland, and separates the entrance to Glacier bay on the east from the little narrow strait between Pleasant island and the mainland on the west. The moraine has an elevation of from 50 to 100 feet above high tide, and contains hundreds of acres of fertile level land. If there is a place in the territory where agriculture pursuits can be carried on it is at Strawberry Point. The soil is a rich, sandy loam, and the beaches are mostly free from stones and bright sunshine. But at Strawberry Point the precipitation of rain in summer, and the corresponding fall of snow in winter, are much less than at Juneau. This is because around the bay in the west the lofty Fairweather range lowers like an army of giant sentinels stationed there to protect this little garden spot from the terribly hot winds that would sweep across from the Pacific if these mountains did not hold them back. The rainfalls in summer are like those of the interior, and not like the long, steady drizzles and downpours of Sitka and Juneau. Strawberry Point is probably the only place in Alaska where the lightning plays and the thunder roars in a typical summer shower. In places on the beaches there are bunches of young cedar and spruce, with occasional thickets of alders, in most of the ground in clear and rolling.

The climate of Strawberry Point is much pleasanter than at most other places in Alaska. At Sitka, for instance, the average is 220 days of rain, snow or fog in a year. Juneau is about as bad. It never gets very cold because of the influence of the warm Japan current, but there are very few days of clear skies and bright sunshine. But at Strawberry Point the precipitation of rain in summer, and the corresponding fall of snow in winter, are much less than at Juneau. This is because around the bay in the west the lofty Fairweather range lowers like an army of giant sentinels stationed there to protect this little garden spot from the terribly hot winds that would sweep across from the Pacific if these mountains did not hold them back.

The grandest scenery in Alaska is on view from Strawberry Point. Besides the giants of the Fairweather range, there are the great ice cathedrals of the Muir and Pacific glaciers, which loom up 20 miles away and send off a continuous procession of tremendous icebergs, which pass down by the point like a great fleet of white war ships in review. The waters about the point seem wild and there is game aplenty in the nearby woods. Already the enthusiastic Juneau men are planning their summer hotel and calling Strawberry Point the "Saratoga of the Northwest."—N. Y. Sun.

COLORADO HOTEL ETIQUETTE.

"Gents" Are Prohibited from Doing Many Things.

A gentleman of Carrollton who has lately returned from the west has brought with him a copy of some rules for good conduct in a hotel dining-room. The hotel was the "Busters' Rest" at Little Creek, Cal. The "Rules for the Guidance of Guests" follow:

WASHINGTON'S JACKASS.

It Won the First Prize at the South Carolina Fair in 1790.

The collection of colonial relics for the ladies' exhibit at the Atlanta exposition has a curiosity which seems to be proof positive that Gen. George Washington was somewhat of a stock grower, and took a hand in making exhibits at fairs himself. This relic is a large solid silver cup with the date 1790 upon it, and by its appearance it was without doubt made about that time. It bears the following inscription in fine lettering just under the rim: "A premium from the Agricultural Society of South Carolina to Gen. Washington for raising the largest jackass."

Notice to Delinquent Taxpayers

The delinquent tax roll for the year 1900 has been placed in my hands for collection and I must insist on prompt payment of such taxes. Ample time will be given to delinquents to pay up before levy, but I must collect the taxes before winter. JAMES G. WALKER, Sheriff.

STRANGE COINCIDENCES.

Some Instances of the Efficacy of the Queer Orders.

The London Spectator lately had a clever article entitled "The Tyranny of Coincidence." The example given is of a lady who was driving outside of Athens. When the horses were halted one of the team refused his oats. The Greek coachman insisted that the horse was under a spell. The young English lady had an "evil eye." The man told Miss Symonds to spit—that was the only cure. The young woman was forced to go through the un lady-like performance, and at once the horse took to his feed. "The coincidence riveted the chains of superstition upon the driver tighter than ever." Many coincidences of a similar character must occur to the reader. Here is a case: A child was told to put a four-leaf clover in his left shoe, and was assured "that he would be sure to find something." The little boy did so, and had hardly moved out of his tracks in a large grass-grown pasture before he found an old half-dollar of an ancient date, evidently lost years before. The child was not superstitious, and fortunately the parents were not. The matter of coincidence was explained to him, and among other things he was plentifully supplied with four-leaf clovers, but he never found anything. The origin of superstition associated with amulets or any material objects must owe its being to just such coincidences. Among those who are not educated it may be that the tyranny of coincidence does exist, but it should not hold with those having sound minds. We all have, however, a dark chamber in our brains, and it is there that the owls and bats of superstition flap their wings.

RUN GREAT RISKS.

Insurance Companies Are Chary About Reinsuring Delayed Ships.

Reinsuring risks on vessels long overdue and supposed to be lost is a game of chance in which speculative marine underwriters have been indulging. One of the vessels on which such big odds have been taken, says the Philadelphia Record, was the British bark Commandant, which sailed on April 11 from Chittagong, India, for the West Indies and the Delaware breaker, and has been given up as lost. Both vessel and cargo were insured as ordinary risk at the rates then current for vessels trading on long voyages. After three months had elapsed without the arrival of the vessel the original insurers placed their risks with other companies, paying twenty guineas premium and accepting the payment of the cargo. Those who took the new risk became alarmed at the continued absence of the vessel, and to protect themselves they reinsured the vessel and cargo at forty guineas premium. As the loss of the vessel now appears to be beyond doubt those who last took the risk will be called upon to pay a total loss.

The British ship Munster sailed in ballast from Rio Janeiro on May 10 for Newmarket, N. S. W., and is believed to have been lost off Cape Horn. She is now being reinsured at eighty guineas premium. The ships Lord Spencer, which sailed from San Francisco for Queenstown on April 9, and the Star of Austria, which sailed from Santa Rosalia on March 25 for Falmonth, are believed to have been lost, and the vessels and cargoes are being reinsured at seventy guineas premium.

AN ENERGETIC NEW WOMAN.

She Can Make Her Way in the World and Look Out for Herself.

"Don't take much stock in these new woman ideas," remarked a man from south Georgia the other day, according to the Atlanta Constitution, "but I saw one to-day I would like to have in my corn field in fodder season to pull fodder. Say, that woman was a James D. She saw a street car about a block and a half away and made up her mind to get it, but she did not get it. She made a plunge for it and whistled for the conductor to stop the concern. The conductor didn't think she would ever reach the car and consequently did not stop. But that woman was one of the up-to-datists, and she had different notions from those of the conductor. She ran like a rabbit, and it wasn't long before she had planted her tiny foot upon the step of the retreating car.

"I felt disposed to applaud her for this feat, but about that time she reached up and pulled the bell cord and stopped the car herself. "The conductor and motorman looked up in astonishment. 'I simply want to wait for my dog to catch up,' she replied, to their inquisitive glances. "Now, all I have to say is this—that if that woman is a new woman, we need more of them to run this country. We need them particularly in the corp fields."

"Save the Child!"

That is the heartfelt cry of many a mother who sees her beloved child wasting and fading day by day. Sometimes it is too late for medical aid to help the child.



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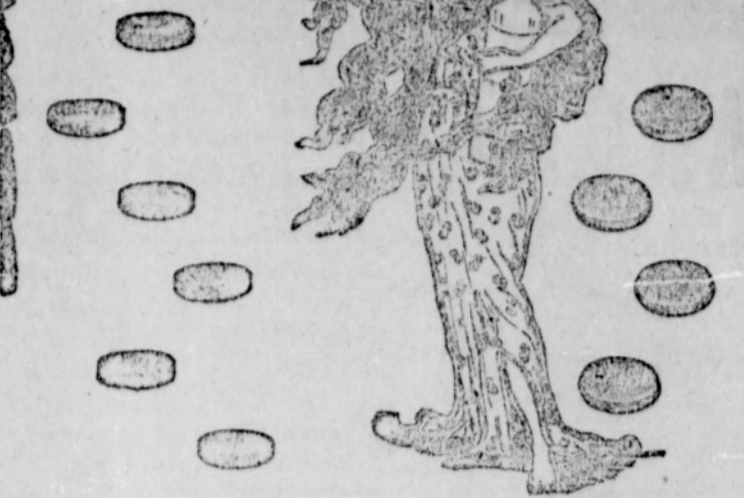
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