

To Protect Lives of Railroad Men.

An ingenious and simple instrument has been devised for the protection of surface men at work on the railways. The inventor, Sir William Arrol, was led to apply his mind to this matter in consequence of the numerous fatalities which have lately occurred among that class of railway servants in England. The instrument consists of a steel spring connected with a portable electric battery and bell by a coil of wire two or three hundred yards long. When the spring has been bolted into position on the inner side of the rail and almost flush with the top of the rail the battery is carried to the neighborhood of where the workmen are engaged, the connection being kept up by the coil of wire, which is unwound to the necessary length.

When a train comes along the spring is depressed by the flanges of the wheels as they pass over and two metallic buttons, one on the under side of the spring and the other on the upper side of the sole plate, are brought into contact and complete an electric circuit supplied from the battery, ringing the bell at the battery and thus warning the workmen of the approaching train. The instruments are to be kept at the signal boxes along the line so as to be readily available by the workmen. Sir William Arrol does not intend to patent the invention. His sole desire is to render the surface man's life a less dangerous one and he gives all railway companies permission to manufacture as many as they please.—Chicago News.

Big Guns in China.

The Pekin Gazette contains a curious memorial from the viceroy of Canton respecting 102 74-centimeter guns manufactured by Krupp on the order of Chang Chihung, the late viceroy of the province. The viceroy says the guns are excellent in every respect, but they do not suit the fortifications for which they were intended. The damp climate of the province and the white ants, "which eat anything and everything," would destroy them; the district is so hilly that they could not be moved, the coast is composed of wet sand, in which the wheels would get fixed immediately; the guns are too long for the embankment on which they were to be placed and could not be turned around; there are no horses in the province to drag them, and if there were there is no forage for them; finally, the horses in the adjacent provinces are so small that if they were imported they could not drag such heavy guns. The obstacles being so numerous and insurmountable, the memorialist asks that he may be allowed to transfer the guns to his brother, Li Hung Chang, for use in the north, payment to be made for them when he can. Should he receive any money from his brother on this account, the memorialist promises to report the fact. The emperor authorizes this course to be followed.

Death Above Her and Death Below.

Clinging for her life to a rough beam while a flying express train thundered and swayed above her head! Swinging in midair, with death above and below her, until almost exhausted by fatigue from the terrible strain!

This was the dire predicament in which Miss Norah Oldham, of Nashville, was placed, and it was only due to her cool judgment and calm presence of mind that she was saved from death. In attempting to cross the railroad trestle which extends from Cedar street to beyond Line, she was run down by an express train, the engineer of which, Dickson, was trying to enter the Union depot on time and had been running unusually fast for some minutes. She was compelled to let herself down on the outside of the track and hang on until she was rescued.—Memphis Appeal-Avalanche.

Kept Money in the Parlor Stove.

One of our well known school teachers and her mother met with quite a loss recently, and a novel though costly one it was. They had saved some money during the summer, and had placed it for safe keeping in the parlor stove, this stove being unused, of course, during the summer. With the coming of the cold snap a fire was lighted the money for the time being forgotten. When the purse was thought of, it had been entirely consumed. The ladies lost fifty dollars. They had used the stove before for a saving place, but everything had turned out well.—Lawrence American.

A Curious Orange Tree.

H. H. McClure has produced a curiosity in the shape of an orange tree, which in all probability is not exceeded by anything of its kind in this or any other country. Mr. McClure calls it his "World's Fair Tree," and intends, if possible, to place it on exhibition at Chicago. The tree is budded with no less than thirty-one different varieties of citrus fruits, including lemons, shadocks and most of the fine varieties of oranges. The buds on the tree are only two years old, yet many of them are fruiting.—Apopka (Fla.) Advertiser.

To win a bet of \$1,000, Baron Paul de Side, a young French nobleman, shipped as a common sailor on the Red Star steamer Noordland during her last trip from Antwerp to New York. He says he wouldn't try it again for ten times the sum, as he was very severely worked during the voyage.

The new Maxim flying machine will be propelled by a light screw making 2,500 revolutions per minute. Its suspending power will be a kite 110 feet long by 40 feet wide. The motive power will be a petroleum condensing engine.

Five century plants, all in bloom, is the interesting and very rare sight, now to be seen in Los Angeles in the garden of the Church of Our Lady of All Angels. They are said to be growing about a foot a day.

A gentleman at Eastman, Ga., a day or two ago on opening a freight car discovered a hen hatching a nest of eggs which she had laid during a long railroad journey from another state.

Dr. Talmage's Athletic Son.

Mr. Edward T. H. Talmage, the second son of Dr. John F. Talmage, was born twenty-four years ago in the house in which he now lives, at the corner of Jerome and Clinton streets. He was educated at the Polytechnic institute, afterward completing his studies under private tutelage with Professor Caskie Harrison at the latter's school on Montague street. At the age of nineteen Mr. Talmage entered the office of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroad, where he remained for some time. His health becoming somewhat impaired, Mr. Talmage spent a year in California, which he devoted to the outdoor life of a sportsman, gaining much benefit thereby. Two years ago, shortly after his return from the west, he was made a member of the New York Stock exchange, being at the time of his admission next to the youngest member on the floor.

Mr. Talmage is a member of the Crescent club, and is one of the financial committee recently engaged in negotiating the funds to carry through the building of the Bay Ridge house and making other improvements contemplated in connection therewith. He is a member of the Hamilton club, and his name has recently been added to the membership list of the Riding and Driving club. Mr. Talmage is an enthusiastic lover of equestrian pastime, and is a sportsman of considerable skill. He is active in the social interests of the Heights, and is a member of the Brooklyn Heights assembly.—Brooklyn Life.

Clement Scott Coming to America.

A private letter from London brings the information that Clement Scott, the dramatic critic of the London Telegraph, is to visit America this winter. Mr. Scott is one of the best known first nighters in the English capital. He is stout, gray haired, has a gray mustache, wears eyeglasses and is rated the best authority on the drama in England. He has many friends, but an army of enemies. He has made and unmade many playrights and actors. His dramatic column is still regarded as the standard authority, and his article is nervously awaited after the performance of a new play. His judgment is usually good. He finds a good deal of fault, but is lavish in praise for good work.

A nice paragraph from him will sometimes mean five pounds more a week on the salary of some deserving actor or actress who is little known and not appreciated, and his condemnation of a new play is usually the end of the venture. Taken all in all, he is regarded as eminently fair and just. He has never used his position to injure any one. What he has done has been from conscientious motives.

Mr. Scott is a patient student of the drama. He has the best theatrical library in England. He will be warmly welcomed in America, for he has been particularly agreeable to American actors and actresses, and many dinners and receptions will be given in his honor.—Foster Coates in New York Mail and Express.

A Chinese Governor.

Tahang Yao, the governor of the province of Shantung, who died recently, was one of the highest dignitaries of the Celestial empire. He had a highly adventurous career. Born in lowly position, he was obliged to flee in his youth on account of having murdered the tormentor of an old man. He became a robber and soon stood at the head of all the brigands who made the province of Hunan unsafe. When, during the rebellion, the chief town of the province was threatened, the governor issued a proclamation in which he promised the hand of his daughter to the man who would save the town from the enemy. At the head of 500 bandits, Tehang beat off the attack of the rebels, and led home on the next day, as a reward for his bravery, the almond eyed beauty. Then he made rapid progress. He was not able to read or write, but was of great integrity, and died poor as he was born. He was called by his people, on account of his charity, Tehang, "the blue sky." It is said, however, that he was not always just toward Europeans, and especially the missionaries.—London News.

A Snake Attacks a Wagon.

The following snake story is evolved from a Texas exchange: Thursday evening last while Judge A. McFarland and his son Guy were driving homeward they saw a large snake lying in the road. The judge attempted to kill the snake by crushing it with the wheel of his gig, but instead of "bruising the serpent's head" the judge's wheel passed over its tail. Instantly the snake coiled itself around a spoke, and at every turn of the swiftly revolving wheel made vicious strikes at Guy's face. Guy's only means of escape was a backward tumble from the gig, which he took, falling into a pool of dirty water. Then there was a mad boy as well as an angry snake. Strange to relate the snake freed itself from the wheel and attacked Guy in the pool. A shower of stones from Guy's hand finished the snake.

A Turtle's Unavoidable Delay.

During a windstorm in the early days of last June a tree on the farm of Mortimer Hamilton, in Jackson county, Ind., was blown down, and in falling a limb struck squarely across the back of a large snapping turtle and forced it down into the earth. A day or two since the limb was cut away and the snapper, released from its imprisonment, trudged away, apparently uninjured, from its prison, where it had lain immovably fixed without food or water for over four months.—Cor. Chicago Tribune.

The damp weather at Lancaster, Kan., caused a package of 5,000 postage stamps to become glued together in a solid block, making it necessary to return them to Washington.

When Queen Victoria's head gardener left her service recently the queen presented him with a superb silver tea service as a token of the esteem in which she held him.

Radical English Fashions Don't Go.

The recent refusal to sanction with the customary prompt enthusiasm several of the most radical changes in the regime that have been made of late years by London swells has had a decidedly disconcerting effect upon our English cousins. Their confidence of leadership has received naturally a severe shock in consequence. From all accounts the London swell mob is passing through a period of experimentalism. As a result men's fashions abroad have not been so unsettled in fifty years.

The heavy swells continue groping aimlessly after the elusive innovation. For their independence at this time, therefore, Americans have cause for self congratulation—the more particularly so on account of the very divergent character of some of the foreign ultra speculations. Advanced copies of the recent London fads in coats and top coats, had they been tried suddenly on the New York public, would have created almost a riot in the streets. The English swell, be it known, can dress himself up as his fancy dictates and the yeomanry makes no outcry.

Now that we have thrown off the shackles of slavish emulation and blithely accept or reject what we want, or what does not appeal to the sense of the fitness of things, the English fashion framer will come down from his oracular eminence and in the future pose with ameliorated despotism in the light of guide, philosopher and friend. I am aware that the sentiments above set forth would have been regarded a few years ago as rank heresy, but they verify the aphorism of Brer Rabbit that "the world do move."—Clothier and Furnisher.

An Ingenious Prisoner.

It is seldom that a convict turns the hours of his enforced confinement to such good purpose as an inmate of a Maryland prison. His term of imprisonment is thirteen years, on a conviction of horse stealing, of which he insists he was innocent. By working overtime he has earned such sums of money as to enable him to purchase books, of which his cell contains over 200. A short time ago, when electric light wires were being placed in the prison, he became interested in electricity and bought some standard works on the subject. The result was the construction of half a dozen different electrical appliances, including a burglar alarm, which he has just completed for the bedroom of the warden of the prison.

Another result of his industry is a lock which is so arranged that hammering on it drives the bolts deeper into their fastenings. He exhibited a model of this lock to the warden, who was so pleased with it that it was at once adopted for use in the prison. Castings for the locks were made in the prison foundry, a lathe was set up in the prisoner's cell and he was relieved of all other tasks so that his entire time could be devoted to the manufacture of his locks, with which in a short time all the dormitories of the prison will be provided.—Exchange.

Against the Insurance Company.

A merchant who was a member of a mutual accident insurance association was killed, while hunting for recreation, from an accidental shot. The association provided for the payment of sums ranging from \$5,000 to \$500, according to the occupation of the member. Merchants' certificates call for \$5,000; but the company paid the beneficiaries of the man in question only \$500, on the strength of a provision that any member receiving an injury while engaged temporarily in another occupation more hazardous than the one given in his certificate, he shall be entitled only to such sum as provided for in the occupation in which he is engaged at the time of injury.

The Illinois supreme court held that the beneficiaries were entitled to the whole \$5,000 as the word "occupation" in the bylaw has reference to trade, vocation or profession, and does not preclude a member from the performance of acts which are simply incidents connected with the daily life of men in all pursuits.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Amusement for the Baby.

Mr. Waldrige surprised his baby Sunday night. He didn't intend to surprise it; he intended to amuse. He had been to church, and on reaching home drew his revolver from his pocket to put it away. Baby reached for the weapon. If baby wanted it, baby must have it, so papa took out the cartridges—every one of them—and then to show baby how to operate the toy, he pulled the trigger. That was where the baby was surprised! It would surprise any baby to see its papa shoot the cook stove on a quiet Sunday night with an unloaded revolver, when the cook stove was quietly pursuing its vocation and digesting hard wood at the rate of an armful an hour.—Myrtle Point West Oregonian.

It Was Hot.

Some wretch, who evidently delights to see mankind sweltering in perspiration, played a rascally practical joke on about two hundred passengers who were in the waiting room of the Staten Island ferry. For some reason, the arrival of the long expected boat was delayed; the crowd was therefore large, and as the night was intensely warm, the atmosphere in that close room was not only enervating, but distressing. The weather was unanimously voted to be the warmest of the season—hot enough to parboil a Hottentot. It was then discovered that the Turkish bath temperature had been caused by a practical joker, who had unfeelingly turned on the steam heat.—Yankee Blade.

The Potato with the Iron Mask.

J. T. Choate, Esq., showed us this morning a veritable curiosity taken from the ground by his father while digging potatoes on his place. It was a heel iron from a lady's boot, through the center hole of which had grown a potato. The iron was nearly in the center, and on each side was a growth nearly large enough to hide the iron, which formed a metallic collar around the center of it.—Amesbury Cor. Newburyport News.

Climbing Mountains in Iceland.

The highest mountain in Iceland was ascended last summer for the first time. The successful mountaineer was Mr. F. W. W. Howell, who was encouraged when he started for Iceland by information from the Royal Geographical society that the difficulties in the way of climbing the Orefa Jokull were supposed to be insuperable. The mountain is near the southeast coast, and is an imposing sight from the sea. Mr. Howell made an attempt in 1890 to climb the mountain, but was defeated by the weather.

On Aug. 17 last he left Sandfell, a little settlement on the coast near the base of the mountain, at 4 a. m., when of course it was broad daylight in that latitude? He was accompanied by two Icelanders as porters. He struck the snow slopes at 10 a. m., and it took him nine hours and a half to reach the top of the mountain whose sides are quite steep and covered with ice and snow.

Though this mountain is the highest in Iceland, its elevation was found by Mr. Howell to be only 6,550 feet, but owing to the latitude the phenomena of the snow slopes compare most favorably with those of mountains 10,000 feet high in Switzerland. Mr. Howell says the icicle galleries in the upper crevasses are particularly fine. This is undoubtedly one of the most successful feats of mountain climbing of the year, for the mountain presents as many difficulties as any of the Alps, with two or three exceptions. It is comparatively easy to ascend Mount Hecla, and the climb is made every once in a while by one or more tourists.—New York Sun.

After many trials it is now shown that color can be given to cotton while growing, and a beautiful red variety of this article is now being raised in Georgia.

CONSTITUTION.

At least half the American people yet there is only one preparation of Sarsaparilla that acts on the bowels and reaches this important trouble, and that is Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla. It relieves it in 24 hours, and an occasional dose prevents return. We refer by permission to C. E. Elkington, 125 Locust Avenue, San Francisco; J. H. Brown, Petaluma; H. S. Wilm, Geary Court, San Francisco; and hundreds of others who have used it in constipation. One letter is a sample of hundreds. Elkington writes: "I have been for years subject to bilious headaches and constipation. Have been so bad for a year back have had to take a physio every other night or else I would have a headache. After taking one bottle of J. V. S., I am in splendid shape. It has done wonderful things for me. People similarly troubled should try it; and be convinced."

Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla. Most modern, most effective, largest bottle. Same price, \$1.00, six for \$5.00. For Sale by SNIPES & KINERSLY THE DALLES, OREGON.

REAL MERIT. PEOPLE. Say the S. B. Cough Cure is the best thing they ever saw. We are not flattered for we know REAL MERIT will win. All we ask is an honest trial. For sale by all druggists. S. B. MEDICINE MFG. Co., Dufur, Oregon.

A Severe Law.

TEA. The English people look more closely to the genuineness of these staples than we do. In fact, they have a law under which they make seizures and destroy adulterated products that are not what they are represented to be. Under this statute thousands of pounds of tea have been burned because of their wholesale adulteration.

Tea, by the way, is one of the most notoriously adulterated articles of commerce. Not alone are the bright, shiny green teas artificially colored, but thousands of pounds of substitutes for tea leaves are used to swell the bulk of cheap tea: ash, sloe, and willow leaves being those most commonly used. Again, sweepings from tea warehouses are colored and sold as tea. Even exhausted tea leaves gathered from the tea houses are kept, dried, and made over and find their way into the cheap tea. The English government attempts to stamp this out by confiscation; but no tea is too poor for us, and the result is that probably the poorest tea used by any nation are those consumed in America. Beech's Tea is prepared with the guaranty that it is uncolored and unadulterated; in fact, the sun-dried tea leaf pure and simple. Its purity is of superior strength, about one third of the leaf required for an infusion than of the artificial teas, and its fragrance and exquisite flavor is at once apparent. It will be a revelation to you. In order that its purity and quality may be guaranteed, it is sold only in pound packages bearing this trade-mark:

BEECH'S TEA. "Pure As Childhood." Price 60c per pound. For sale at Leslie Butler's, THE DALLES, OREGON.

Still on Deck. Phoenix Like has Arisen From the Ashes! JAMES WHITE, The Restaurateur Has Opened the Baldwin Restaurant —ON MAIN STREET— Where he will be glad to see any and all of his old patrons. Open day and Night. First class meals twenty-five cents.

YOUR ATTENTION Is called to the fact that Hugh Glenn, Dealer in Glass, Lime, Plaster, Cement and Building Material of all kinds. —Carries the Finest Line of— Picture Mouldings To be found in the City. 72 Washington Street.

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R. B. HOOD, Livery, Feed and Sale STABLE. Horses Bought and Sold on Commission and Money Advanced on Horses Left for Sale. —OFFICE OF— The Dalles and Goldendale Stage Line. Stage Leaves The Dalles Every Morning at 7:30 and Goldendale at 7:50. All freight must be left at R. B. Hood's office the evening before. R. B. HOOD, Proprietor. Opposite old Stand. The Dalles, Or.

THE Dalles, Portland & Astoria NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Elegant Steamer REGULATOR Will leave the foot of Court Street every morning at 7 A. M. for Portland and Way Points Connections Will be Made with the Fast Steamer DALLES CITY, At the Foot of the Cascade Locks. For Passenger or Freight Rates, Apply to Agent, or Purser on Board. Office northeast corner of Court and Main street. NOTICE. R. E. French has for sale a number of improved ranches and unimproved lands in the Grass Valley neighborhood in Sherman county. They will be sold very cheap and on reasonable terms. Mr. French can locate settlers on some good unsettled claims in the same neighborhood. His address is Grass Valley, Sherman county, Oregon.