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COAL AT A DOLLAR A TON

AN INVENTOR CLAIMS TO BE ABLE TO MANUFACTURE FUEL.

His Process is a Chemical One and Simply Endows Lignite or Inferior Coal, Which is Common Everywhere, with Burning Qualities—How He Worked.

Many inventions are in the field. Another inventor has come to the front with an invention which he believes will rival even those of Edison and bring to mankind generally a degree of benefit which will be in direct inverse proportion to the woe inflicted upon the individuals commonly known as the coal barons.

What he has to offer is no less than a scheme to manufacture a coal which will be superior in its results to either bituminous or anthracite coal, to which the world has been so long accustomed to look for its chief supply of fuel.

So many vast conceptions have been already brought to the attention of the public only to end in disappointing failures that every new great scheme is apt to be regarded with suspicion. We have not suffered from the Keely motor project and the many plans for navigating the air, to say nothing of the many ideas for submarine craft, without having our confidence in such matters seriously impaired.

The new aspirant for undying fame and incidentally for the millions of money that are attendant upon great discoveries which are world wide in their uses has at least the courage of his convictions, and his ideas are entitled to respect.

Mr. Albert Edelmann claims for his invention that it will enable him to manufacture his coal at a cost of only one dollar per ton. Besides the exceeding cheapness of the new article Mr. Edelmann claims for it the merit of being absolutely odorless and capable of being burned without smoke and being consumed so utterly that it leaves but 1 per cent of ashes.

Mr. Edelmann was born in Warsaw, Poland, in 1823, and was educated at the university at Dorpat, one of the provinces of Livonia, on the Baltic sea. He was graduated there as a civil engineer, and then made the grand tour of Europe. In 1852 he went to Australia, the voyage from London to Sydney occupying six months.

His first inspiration. In Australia Mr. Edelmann devoted himself to his profession and spent his time in building railroads and in other engineering enterprises. In 1860 he first turned his attention to the discovery of cheaper coal, and since then he has devoted all his time and money to that pursuit.

In the first place he argued that it was a well known fact that there exists upon the surface of the globe a large quantity of what may be termed inferior coal, which is commonly called lignite. Briefly defined, lignite is a coal formed at a much later period than either bituminous or anthracite coal, and therefore without those chemical properties which would enable it to burn as well as either of them, and which, therefore, renders it practically useless for fuel or other purposes.

That this lignite would, in centuries to come, develop into a fuel which might be utilized exactly as well as that which was already known as bituminous or anthracite coal was a source of pain and vexation to Mr. Edelmann. He could not sleep at night from his continual study of the problem. He was actually jealous, he says himself, to think that a people a thousand years hence would avail themselves of that which the world might use today could he but solve the problem of effecting by chemical processes that for which nature would take centuries.

A GLEAM OF LIGHT. After a study of many weary years Mr. Edelmann believes that he has solved the problem whose solution he so faithfully sought, and is satisfied that he has found a process for transforming this worthless lignite into coal, which for all purposes is equal, and in many instances superior, to either anthracite or bituminous coal.

In other words, the inventor believes that by the mixture with lignite of certain chemical bodies a coal is produced which is as perfect as any that was ever mined, and this lignite, he claims, were it allowed to remain in the earth, would require a thousand years for its transformation into perfect coal.

In his technical description of the process alluded to the inventor says: "To accomplish this result the lignite and certain chemical bodies (which have first been reduced to a powdered condition in order to permit of their perfect commingling) are placed in molds and subjected to great pressure in machinery expressly constructed for the purpose, and from which the mass comes in the shape of what are termed, for want of a better name, 'brickets.' These brickets can be made of any size or shape in order that they may suit different conditions, as, for instance, if the material is to be used for furnaces they would be in the neighborhood of eight inches in size (either square or oblong), whereas for stoves they would be made correspondingly smaller.—New York Herald.

Objections to Hand Shaking. Hand shaking is said to circulate yellow fever, smallpox, gangrene, cancer and all other infectious diseases; it is absurd and inconvenient, and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred it is insincere. In hot weather no one wants to clasp a still warmer hand. In cold weather no one cares to remove a warm, comfortable glove and run the chances of catching cold by bringing the palm into contact with a hand that is several degrees colder than an icicle. Let lovers intertwine their digits and poets rave about the warm, true clasp of hands, but let us arrest and punish those thoughtless, foolish people who delight to meet in our busiest thoroughfares and shake hands across the walk while the crowd must pass around them.—Chicago Herald.

The rage for blond locks has infected Italy to such an extent that even the children's heads are blossoming out in golden curls. At this rate the raven tresses of Italian song and story will soon be a misnomer.

This country has nearly 2,000,000 acres devoted to the raising of flax and hemp. It is proposed to make a grand showing of these industries at the World's fair.

Steam whaling vessels are soon to try the waters of the South Pacific, as recent reports show that whales are again frequenting that locality.

Puzzles in Relationship.

A strange relationship exists in the family of a couple of Englishmen in this state. Some ten years ago two brothers named Beers came to this country from England and settled on a small farm in Menefee county. Things prospered with them, and soon one of the brothers, Philip, becoming tired of lonely life on the farm, wooed and won Miss Lizzie Johnson, a young rural beauty. They were married and lived happily together nearly eight years. Something, however, disturbed the harmony of their married life, for last summer Philip applied for and obtained a divorce. Life seemed to have lost all charms for him.

In the mean time the other brother, Louis, also tired of the unlovely lot of the lone bachelor, began to cast about him for a helpmate, and must have discovered in his brother's late wife the sum of all his future happiness, for the little village near which the brothers resided was one day suddenly electrified to hear that Louis and the grass widow had been made one. The news came to Philip, who simply smiled and replied, "Never mind; my inning comes next."

Little attention was paid to the remark, and certainly no one thought of the strange denouement that would follow. The ordinary routine life of the mountain village went smoothly on until, only a day or so ago, the villagers were astonished to hear that Philip Beers and Mrs. Johnson, his ex-wife's mother and his brother's mother-in-law, had been quietly married. Then there was consternation in the family of Mrs. Louis Beers.

The neighbors and friends of the several parties are now busily engaged trying to figure out the relationship of the several parties to each other's relatives.—Kentucky Cor. Philadelphia Times.

A Great Day in China.

Within a short time the great day for state worship will again come in China. At the coming of the winter solstice the whole nation is supposed to pray, at least in the person of the emperor. This great worship takes place at night. The emperor squats on the bottom of a great elephant car, and drawn by the white elephant which the king of Siam sent him, is escorted by 2,000 grandees, princes and attendants, while bands of music play along the way to the great temple. He first goes into the palace of fasting. There he meditates before a copper statue representing a priest with his mouth covered by his fingers, indicating silence.

Upon the altar of heaven he should sacrifice burnt animals—calves, hares, sheep and pigs. How this worship will take place, now that the altar of heaven is burned down, I do not know; but the occasion may call out some expressions of opinion from different parts of the empire which will be more or less dangerous.—Frank G. Carpenter in National Tribune.

Curious Debate on a Burned Pinafore.

A burned pinafore has been the cause of a curious debate. A girl belonging to the Cuckoo Lane schools, at Hanwell, belonging to the city of London and St. Saviour's union, dropped the chalice at a communion service and stained the pinafore. Thereupon the high chaplain ordered the pinafore not to be washed, but to be destroyed. As it belonged to the ratepayers the managers inquired his authority for destroying their property.

The chaplain pleaded the precedent that old Bibles are destroyed in the same way, but offered to buy a new pinafore. The managers however are determined not to let the matter rest, and two committees are to investigate the practices of Ritualistic chaplains in regard to damaged pinafores and Bibles.—London Tit-Bits.

A Co-operative Boot Factory.

A striking proof of the steady progress of the principle of co-operative production was given Friday at Leicester, where over 500 delegates from all parts of the kingdom assembled to assist at the formal opening of the largest co-operative boot and shoe factory in the world. The factory stands on six acres of ground. The buildings cost \$150,000, and when fitted with machinery the total outlay will have been \$250,000. The working capital will be \$1,000,000, and the factory will be able to turn out 60,000 pairs of boots every week. This huge enterprise has been and will continue to be managed by workmen, and the men who make the boots will share in the profits earned by their labor.—London Cor. New York Times.

Curious Recovery of Lost Records.

Gorham met with a serious loss over twenty years ago. About 1871 it was discovered that a book containing the earliest town records, from its incorporation in 1754 to 1815, was missing. The town offered a reward for its return and many individuals joined in the search, but hope of finding these records was abandoned long ago. Last week, however, the express brought from Boston a package containing three books in excellent preservation, without any explanation. One of them was the early records of Gorham. The other two books contained the marriages, births and deaths of the inhabitants of the town from 1764 to 1822.—Lewiston Journal.

Wedded in a Blizzard.

In a big snowstorm Miss Lydia E. Carder and Mr. James William Watson, both of West Virginia, were wedded by the Rev. R. Kolk, of Pawpaw, W. Va. The ceremony was performed on an island in the Potomac, near Oldtown. The wind was blowing a perfect hurricane and the snow fell thick and fast. The bride wore a white cloth costume, with bonnet and gloves to match.—Cor. Baltimore American.

A White Negro.

One of the strangest wonders in the way of a man that we have been permitted to see was in town recently, and is a citizen of this county. He is Ebenezer Long, and was born, black, in Georgia sixty years ago. He is now perfectly fair, except a few dark spots that may be discovered by looking at him closely.—Marianna (Fla.) Times.

Why the Shark is Always Hungry.

As it is a source of wonder how the flea manages to exist in the sand, where his chances of obtaining a meal may not occur once in a lifetime, so naturalists are puzzled as to how the shark maintains himself. The ocean is wide, and the number of men who fall overboard small indeed in comparison to its area. The vast proportion of sharks, then, must go through their lives without a remote chance of obtaining a meal at the expense of the human kind.

There is no ground for the supposition that the shark can exist upon air; he is not like the whale, provided with an apparatus that enables him to sweep up the tiny inhabitants of the seas. He is too slow in swimming, and infinitely too slow in turning, to catch any fish that did not deliberately swim into his mouth; and unless we suppose that, as it is said of the snake, he exercises a magnetic influence over fish and causes them to rush headlong to destruction between his jaws, it is impossible to imagine how he obtains a sufficient supply of food for his sustenance.

Indeed, it would appear that it is only when he gets the good luck to light upon a dead or badly injured fish that the shark has ever the opportunity of making a really square meal. His prolonged fasts certainly furnish an ample explanation and excuse for his alleged savagery of disposition.—London Standard.

The Matching Habit.

A woman brought a small sugar coated pill into a South End drug store the other evening and wanted a box of pills just like them, under the impression that matching pills was as simple a matter as matching ribbons.—Springfield Home-Stead.



In just 24 hours J. V. S. relieves constipation and sick headaches. After it gets the system under control an occasional dose prevents return. We refer by permission to W. H. Marshall, Brunswick House, S. F.; Geo. A. Werner, 531 California St., S. F.; Mrs. C. Melvin, 136 Kearny St., S. F., and many others who have found relief from constipation and sick headaches. G. W. Vincent, of 6 Terrace Court, S. F., writes: "I am 62 years of age and have been troubled with constipation for 25 years. I was recently induced to try Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla. I recognized in it at once an herb that the Mexicans used to give us in the early 50's for bowel troubles. (I came to California in 1839), and I knew it would help me and it has. For the first time in years I can sleep well and my system is regular and in splendid condition. The old Mexican herbs in this remedy are a certain cure for constipation and bowel troubles." Ask for

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A Severe Law.

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 teas; ash, aloes, 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-bushes are kept, dried, and made over and find their way into the cheap teas.

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 teas used by any nation are those consumed in America.

Beech's Tea is presented with the guaranty that it is uncolored and unadulterated; in fact, the sun-cured tea leaf pure and simple. Its purity insures superior strength, about one third less of it being 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:

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