

MODERN EXPLOSIVES.

An Account of the More Important Substances Now in Use.

Few would imagine, as they watch the coal quietly glow and consume away in the grate, that there are present all the materials necessary for producing an explosion; yet such is the case, and it has been found that the ignition of coal-lust laden air is a not infrequent source of disastrous explosions in coal mines.

What has occurred with coal may occur with any combustible solid which is finely pulverized and suspended in air, and in this manner the explosions of flour which destroyed several flour mills in Minneapolis in 1878 are accounted for. The explosions of sawdust in the Pullman car shops and at Goldowsky's furniture factory, the explosions of starch in a New York candy factory, of rice in rice-mills, and of dust in breweries and spice-mills, are among the many examples of the action of a similar cause; but perhaps the most unusual case of this class of explosions was that of finely-powdered zinc, which occurred in 1854 at the Bethlehem Z no Works.

The modern high explosives are bodies which contain within their molecules the elements necessary for ordinary combustion, while at the same time they are more or less endothermic; and the best example, and perhaps the most important of these is the mercury fulminate. This substance was discovered by Howard in 1800 and was made by dissolving mercury in strong nitric acid, and pouring the solution into alcohol. Its discovery aroused the liveliest interest, and it was immediately tested by firing in a musket, but though it imparted very little velocity to the projectile, and produced only a slight recoil and report, it burst the barrel of the piece completely open; and hence it was relegated to the position of a chemical curiosity until recalled for use as a priming for percussion caps.

Its adaptation to modern uses began in 1863 when Nobel discovered that by the explosion of a few grains of this substance nitro-glycerine might be detonated, and was extended in 1868, when Mr. E. O. Brown discovered that not only could dry gun-cotton be detonated by this means, but that if a small initial mass of dry gun-cotton was detonated in contact with a mass of wet gun-cotton, the latter would be also detonated, even though it were completely saturated with water.

Baron von Leik, of Austria, took up the study of this material in 1853, and his efforts to perfect the methods of manufacture and to moderate the violence of the gun charges were attended with such apparent success that a special battery of twelve-pounders was constructed for use with it, and the position of the explosive seemed assured, until 1865 when his magazines blew up spontaneously, and the article was interdicted by the government.

Gun-cotton constitutes the best military explosive known, for, while its explosive force vastly exceeds that of gunpowder and approaches that of nitro-glycerine, it is the safest and most stable explosive we possess, since it can be stored and transported wet; and, while in this state, though it may be detonated as described above, it can not be exploded in any other way. As much as 2,000 pounds of wet compressed gun-cotton have been placed in a fierce bonfire, where it has gradually dried, layer by layer, and been consumed without exploding. Besides, gun-cotton is the only military explosive which can be detonated with certainty when frozen. In calling it a military explosive, I mean, of course, for use in torpedoes and for military mining, and not as a substitute for gunpowder in guns; but it may be, and has been, successfully used as a charge for shells fired from gunpowder guns, both in this country and abroad. Shells containing as much as one hundred and ten pounds of gun-cotton have been repeatedly fired in Germany.

The most prominent rival of gun-cotton for military uses, and the best explosive for industrial purposes, is nitro-glycerine and the mixtures of which it forms a part. This substance was discovered by Sobrero in 1847, while carrying out a series of experiments under Pelouze. Its liquid form makes it difficult to store and transport, and permits it to find its way into unexpected places, where it constitutes a source of danger. Considerations such as these led Nobel, about 1867, to invent dynamite. The name is now applied to a great variety of nitro-glycerine mixtures, but they all consist of a porous solid absorbent which sucks up the liquid nitro-glycerine by capillarity and holds it in its pores or interstices.

The most important nitro-glycerine mixture is explosive gelatine, also invented by Nobel. This is made by heating nitro-glycerine on a water bath and adding to it from seven to ten per cent. of soluble gun-cotton.

The largest single charges ever fired were employed in the blowing up of Hall's Reef and Flood Rock. In the latter, which occurred October 10, 1855, the charge consisted of 243,399 pounds of rock-a-rock and 48,537 pounds of dynamite No. 1, yet so nicely was this enormous charge calculated for the work it was to do, that beyond breaking down the rock, tossing up an enormous body of water to a height (estimated for the tallest jet) of 160 feet, and generating an earthquake which was observed as far east as Cambridge, Mass., it produced no visible effect. —Scientist's Magazine.

It is the true secret of a happy life to live as that by our example, our kind words and deeds, we may help someone else.

HELPING THE RIGHT SIDE.

To help the right side is not only commendable in the general point of view, but judicious and prudent when that help is enlisted in behalf of the right side of the body, just over the lower ribs in the region of the liver. The most efficient help is afforded by Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, an anti-bilious medicine of incomparable efficacy. Inaction of the liver is accompanied by constipation, sick-headache, furred tongue, nausea, occasional vertigo, and unpleasant breath, yellowness of the skin and ball of the eye. The author of these symptoms, liver complaint, routed by the Bitters is accompanied by them in its flight. Fever and ague, which always involves the liver, dyspepsia, rheumatism, debility and neuralgic troubles are all maladies to the early relief and final cure of which this standard medicine is adapted. Don't use it by fits and starts, but systematically, that its full effects may result in a perfect restoration of health.

The people of Tokio, Japan, have taken to eating horseflesh, and there is quite a demand for it.

White Elephant of Siam, Lion of England, Dragon of China, Cross of Switzerland, Banner of Persia, Crescent of Egypt, Double Eagle of Russia, Star of Chili, The Circle of Japan, Harp of Erin.

To get these buy a box of the genuine Dr. C. McLANE'S CELEBRATED LIVER PILLS, price 25 cents, and mail us the outside wrapper with your address, plainly written, and 4 cents in stamps. We will then mail you the above list with an elegant package of oleographic and chromatic cards.

FLEMING BROS., PITTSBURG, PA.

Vermont in 1809 supported seven paper mills, a copper mine, and a marble quarry.

Don't disgust everybody by hawking, blowing and spitting out Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy and be cured.

The Republic of Switzer and elects a President every year.

LUNG TROUBLES AND WASTING

Diseases can be cured, if properly treated in time, as shown by the following statement from Dr. C. F. FLEMING, Sydney: "Having been a great sufferer from pulmonary attacks, and generally wasting away for the past two years, it affords me pleasure to testify that Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil has cured me. I cheerfully recommend it to all suffering in a similar way to myself. In addition, I would say that it is very pleasant to take."

The term Derriek is an abbreviation of Theodor, a hangman at Tyburn in the 17th century.

A HORSE WHO CAN TALK.

Everybody has heard of a "horse laugh," but who has ever seen an equine giggle or snicker with the power of speech? Such an animal would be pronounced a miracle; but so would the telegraph and the telephone have been a hundred years ago. Why, even very recently, a horse who could talk would have been looked upon as miraculous, but now people are beginning to realize that the miracle is not incurable. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery will cure it if taken in time. This world-renowned remedy will not make new lungs, but it will restore diseased ones to a healthy state when all other means have failed. Thousands can gratefully testify to this. All druggists.

Two hundred thousand infants under two years of age are believed to be farmed out in France.

TESTIMONIAL FROM ASSEMBLYMAN EDWARD A. DARRAGH.

STATE OF NEW YORK ASSEMBLY CHAMBER ALBANY, April 16, 1884.

Some years ago I was thrown from a wagon and fractured two of my ribs. I was so badly hurt that I had to sit up in a chair for four days and nights. The fourth day my mother placed two All-Back's Porous Plasters over my broken ribs. The next day my sufferings diminished and I was able to lie down. I continued to improve every day. Two weeks after the accident I got up and attended to business. I renewed the plasters twice, and found myself almost entirely well in a month, when I sailed for England.

My wife is subject to periodic pains in the back that give her rest neither day or night, but in two hours after applying two All-Back's Plasters, she experiences relief, and in two or three days she is well. She also finds them effective in neuralgia and rheumatism. EDWARD A. DARRAGH.

John McCullough's widow, who recently died at Philadelphia, left an estate valued at \$50,000.

"As glares the tiger on his foe, Hemmed in by hunters, spears and bows, And ere he bounds upon the ring, Selects the object of his spring."

So disease, in myriad forms, fastens its fangs upon the human race. Ladies who suffer from distressing ailments peculiar to their sex, should use Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It is a positive cure for the most distressing and obstinate cases of leucorrhoea, excessive flowing, painful menstruation, unnatural suppressions, prostrations, or falling of the womb, weak back, "female weakness," anteversion, retroversion, bearing-down sensations, chronic congestion, inflammation and ulceration of the womb, inflammation, pain and tenderness in ovaries, accompanied with "internal heat."

It takes every year a million horses' tails to keep a Pawtucket (R. I.) hair-cloth factory in running order.

J. H. FINK, Assayer and Analytical Chemist, Laboratory, 105 First St., Portland, Or. Analyses made of all substances. Rates for assaying gold and silver ore \$1.50. Packages sent by mail or express promptly attended to, and returns made.

A MODEL HOTEL.

Within the past few months the Baldwin Hotel has been refurbished and electrified throughout, making it the most elegant house in the country. Besides the convenience and elegance of its appointments, the table is pronounced by all to be unrivaled, making it in all, everything that can be desired. Our readers when visiting San Francisco should, by all means, stop at the Baldwin.

For Throat Diseases and Coughs, "Brown's Bronchial Trochoc," like all other really good things, are imitated and procurers should be careful to obtain the genuine article prepared by JOHN I. BROWN & SONS.

For Impurities of the Blood take Allen's Iron Tonic Bitters. All genuine bear the signature of J. F. Allen, Druggist, St. Paul, Minn.

See Antislip Piano advertisement.

How to Cure Skin & Scalp DISEASES with the CUTICURA REMEDIES.

THE MOST DISTRESSING FORMS OF SKIN and scalp diseases, with loss of hair, from infancy to old age, are speedily, economically and permanently cured by the CUTICURA REMEDIES, when all other remedies used methods fail.

CUTICURA, the great Skin Cure, and CUTICURA SOAP, an exquisite skin beautifier, prepared from the most refined and purest ingredients, the new Blood Purifier, internally, cure every form of skin and blood disease, from pimples to scrofula.

Relief in one minute, for all pains and weaknesses, in CUTICURA ANTI-PSORIASIS PLASTER, the only pain-killing plaster. See directions for use.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

—The Kentucky river is 210 miles long, and there is not an island in it anywhere.

—A man who was begging in the streets of Mobile the other day is said to have lost and paid \$75,000 in wagers on Tilden's election.

—The origin of trusts has been traced back to Vermont sheep-owners, who formed a combination in the long ago to monopolize the merino sheep business.

—Mormon Elder (to wife)—"I understand that our beloved brother, Elder Brigham, has an addition to his family." Wife—"Is it a boy or girl, Joshua?" Mormon Elder—"Neither; it's a new wife." —Epoch.

—Chinese pheasants are so thick in the Waldo Hills, Colorado, that they have to be shot out of the furrows by the plowmen, so greedy are they in gobbling up the angleworms. They are becoming a nuisance.

—Two lovelick Mormon maidens in New Mexico fought a duel recently. Both loved the same cowboy, hated each other intensely, and meeting by appointment in an obscure place, "fought it out." One was seriously wounded by the fire of her antagonist, who at once fled from the scene.

—Of eighty-eight specimens of weeds described by Mr. L. H. Pammel, of St. Louis, as growing in Southwestern Wisconsin and Southeastern Missouri, forty-six are of European and thirty of American origin. One-third of the latter class, and nearly one-fourth of the entire list, are composites.

—The conversation was about bishops; and one fervent dame said: "How good the dear Bishop of — is! What a good man!" Instantly, a gentleman replied: "There is no merit in that, Bishops ought to be so. They get five thousand a year for being good, while we are expected to be good for nothing." —Exchange.

—By an ingenious device the management of the Battle of Gettysburg, in New York, contrives to waft warm breezes over the spectators' platform by way of adding to the illusion that the visitor is standing in the midst of a wheat field similar to that over which Pickett's charge swept. These breezes apparently blow down from the tops of the mountains.

—"Speaking about clubs," remarked Mr. Cumso, who had just been elected a member of the Manhattan, "they are the sign-posts of civilization. You never hear of savages forming themselves into societies for mutual improvement and pleasure." "O, nonsense," replied Mrs. Cumson. "I've heard of Indian clubs ever since I could walk." —Tit bits.

—Two young ladies of South Chester, Pa., went into a store where there was a galvanic battery, and the proprietor asked them to try it. Each grasped a pole of the battery, and wondered why no shock was felt. The proprietor suggested that they kiss each other. They did so, and then there was a shock indeed. One of the young women shrieked and fell over backward. The other made no sound, but fainted. Cold water brought them both around, none the worse for the kiss.

—A tramp who was frequently seen in the vicinity of West Somers, N. Y., is known as the "Old Leather Man." He passes through the place about once in five weeks. His dress is entirely of leather, made of small pieces which he picks up in his travels. He never talks to any one, refuses money or any thing but food, which he gets at regular places on his route, which is always the same. He never enters a building, sleeps in the timber and tramps day by day through heat and cold and storm. Where he came from no one knows.

"TARIFF AND WAGES"—A Novel Discussion.

George W. Elliott, A. M., Rochester, N. Y., has just published in book form, through Moulton, Wenborne & Co., Buffalo, N. Y., the very original and interesting dialogue discussion between "PAUL A. YOUNG GRADUATE" AND HIS FATHER, an American farmer, which appeared serially three years ago in The American Rural Home, and attracted wide attention. The latter is a thoroughly well posted man of affairs, who is theoretically a free-trader, but practically, as an American, a strong defender of a judicious tariff. He thus treats both sides very fairly and gives each, in the dialogue, a chance to be heard. He discusses general principles, and under his theory that selfishness must be the secret of success of international commercial policy, and self-sacrifice the secret of success in national commercial policy, he makes out a strong defense of simple protection. In the matter of wages he holds that wages begin and ends with production, as he holds, then a judicious tariff maintains the source of wages. This book makes men and boys think. It unfolds the dark mysteries of the tariff simply and clearly in a wide reading. Mr. Elliott, as advertising manager of H. H. Warner & Co.'s safe case house, Rochester, N. Y., has had unusual opportunities to see the effects of different commercial policies in eight sections of the globe. In cloth, 50 cts.; in paper, 25 cts.; prepaid by Moulton, Wenborne & Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

TRY GERMA for breakfast.

ARM & HAMMER BRAND

OUR TRADE MARK. Four teaspoonfuls of the best baking powder, saving twenty times its cost, besides being much healthier, because it does not contain any injurious substance, such as alum, tartaric acid, or any other deleterious ingredients. Arm & Hammer brand for cleaning and keeping Milk Pans Sweet and Clean. CAUTION: See that every pound package of Arm & Hammer Brand contains full 16 ounces net, and the 4 pound packages full 16 ounces net, Soda or Saleratus each as specified on each package. Packed in Card Board Boxes. Always keeps Soft.

SODA OR SALERATUS

C. H. STREET & CO.,

Successors to the IMMIGRATION ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA.

415 MONTGOMERY STREET, S. F., CAL.

We are offering the following in 20, 40, 80 or 160-acre Farms:

Table with 4 columns: Farm Name, Location, Price, and Acres. Includes Rosenthal Colony, Tenoma Colony, Monte Vista, etc.

Other lands for general farming, fruit growing or stock raising.

A HOME FOR EVERYBODY—SECURE A home on easy terms in the country, while retaining your present residence, position and salary. 10, 20 or more acres of land, with or without a house, on the installment plan in one of our colonies; we will plant the same to your order with fruit trees or raise grapes and will keep it in good condition until full bearing, with or without irrigation; these lands lie north or south of San Francisco, in the coast or interior counties, near or distant from railroad or town and vary in price. C. H. STREET & CO., successors to the Immigration Association of California, 415 Montgomery street, San Francisco, Cal. Send for particulars and full descriptions.

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\$100 to \$1000 a month easily made selling the Farmers' Friend, a bag holder and scales combined. Don't miss this. Send for circulars. E. E. BATH, Manager, Puget Sound Mfg. Co., Tacoma, Wash. Ter.

WANTED IN EACH COUNTY FOR THE TWO BEST CAMPAIGN BOOKS IN THE MARKET.

Address E. PEPPERSON, Room 77, Flood Building, San Francisco.

PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION

A NERVE TONIC. Celery and Coca, the prominent ingredients, are the best and safest Nerve Tonic. It strengthens and quicks the nervous system, curing Nervous Weakness, Hysteria, Sleeplessness, etc.

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Hundred of testimonials have been received from persons who have used this remedy with remarkable benefit. Send for circulars, giving full particulars.

Price \$1.00. Sold by Druggists. WELLS, RICHARDSON & CO., Prop's, BURLINGTON, VT.

DWIGHT'S SODA

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DR. SPINNEY'S

Call or Dr. Spinney & Co., 183 First St address.

NERVOUS Debility, Loss of Vigor, Seminal discharges, etc., due to excessive sexual indulgence.

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MIDDLE-AGED MEN Who are troubled with Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Headache, Debility, wasting of strength, etc., cured and restored to health.

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\$5 To \$8 a Day. Samples worth \$1.50. FREE. Lines not under the horses feet. Write BROWN'S SAFETY LIDS HOLDERS Co., Holly, Mich.

STEINWAY, BRANCH, FRANK & BACH. Gabel, Rosenthal Piano, upright (regain) hand instrument. Largest stock of Steinway and Chickering. Best supplied in Eastern Price. MATTHEW LANG CO., 509 Post Street, San Francisco.

PIANOS 1st Premiums. 25,000 in use, 30 years established. New patented Steel Tuning Device. In use in another Piano, by which our Pianos stand in tune 20 years, good for 100; not affected by climate. No wood to split, break, swell, shrink, crack, decay, or wear out; we guarantee it. Electric Rosewood Cases, 3 strings, double repeating action; best Ivory keys; the famous ANTISELL Call or write for Catalogue, free. T. M. ANTISELL, PIANO CO., Manufacturers, 604 Fellows Hall, Market and Seventh streets, San Francisco.

THE "ADVANCE" THRESHERS AND ENGINES

I guarantee the New-Fangled Advance Separator to be the best grain-saving, best threshing and most durable separator ever made. But, remember, it is not an experimental machine, as the Old Fogey machines are. You are well aware of the time lost that you have to pay for in experimenting with Old Fogey machines. The New-Fangled Thresher leads the way. The growing and kicking of the Old Fogey agents is only equalled by the amount of grain kicked out in the straw by the Old Fogey machines. Of course, if you wish a cheap machine, Old Fogies will supply you at your own price; but their machines are dear at any price. You cannot afford to buy a thresher without examining the ADVANCE, so not be talked into buying a machine because it is cheap and Old Fogeyish. Ask the Old Fogey agents if they will set beside the new-fangled machine and let you see which is the experimental machine, and sold on its merits. I have never yet had to call on any court to help decide the merits of the new-fangled machine. Please examine the court records in reference to the Old Fogey's plan. Many years ago a man built a new-fangled machine, called a steam engine. Old Fogies then, as now, stood back and said they would ruin the country. Do you not want to be ruined in the same way? Remember, the new-fangled machine is just all experimenting, while Old Fogey's machines are being experimented with all the time, and at your expense. Do not fool with them any longer, while your grain is going to waste.

Remember the new-fangled machine is sold on its merits entirely. Remember, your whole dependence is upon your crop proceeds, and if you allow Old Fogey machines to waste your grain, you are just that much out of pocket. To prevent this, see that the party that does your threshing procures a new-fangled ADVANCE Thresher, as they are constructed so as to save your grain, and have a better record than any old-fogey machine. Write for further particulars. I am prepared to prove all my statements—1st. The ADVANCE machine will do more and better work than any other. 2nd. where the ADVANCE machine has failed to do as represented since its introduction on this Coast, show up or shut up.

Remember that old fogey agents saying the contrary do not make it so. It will pay you to investigate. I can prove all I say.

I also sell the well known DINGEE WOODBURY POWER. A number of manufacturers make them on a royalty but I do not know of any imitations, but am always inclined to look out for those that talk of imitations. I also deal in Laundry and Marine Machinery, Farm, Church and School Bells, General Machinery, Swift Ovens, Orme Safety Valves, Miller Pumps, Hancock Insulators, Park & Kennedy Injectors, Acme and Alligator Wrenches, Blacksmith Drills, Self-Heating Bath Tubs, the Washington Engines. See the prices: 10-horse on wheels, \$200; Traction, \$100; 12-horse on wheels, \$250. Special discount for cash. General Agent for Colours' Dynamite and Lamps for Electric Lighting—\$ to 200 lights.

THE RAWSON LIGHT RUNNING REAPERS AND MOWERS.

THE LINDGREEN CHEMICAL FIRE ENGINES

Your village cannot do without one. You must have one for your mills. You cannot afford to be without a small one in your house. For particulars, address

Z. T. WRIGHT, Foot of Morrison Street, Portland, Oregon.

TO THE LADIES!

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