

HE TAMED ERICSSON.

How Ole Bull Conquered the Iron Heart with the Charm of His Music.

A very interesting incident is told of Ole Bull and John Ericsson, each of whom have contributed by their lives no little fame to the Scandinavian countries in which they were born.

"Go on! Go on! For the first time I know what has been lacking in my life."—Minneapolis Journal.

BOGUS DIAMONDS.

Gems that are as Numerous as the Sands by the Sea-Shore.

Of late years jewelry, and female jewelry in particular, as it were, has become very numerous and ostentatious, so to speak.

A minstrel troupe, whose performance we attended not long since, made a pointed allusion to the increased cheapness of gems.

"It must have cost you quite a large sum of money," replies the interlocutor, who for some inexplicable reason ignores the negro dialect.

"Yes, sah, five hundred dollars, and did ye see dem ar torches?"

"Those what?"

"Dem torches. I means dem lamps, hanging in her yeahs."

"Oh, you mean those large solitary ear-rings? Yes, I saw them. They must have cost you at least fifteen hundred dollars."

"Thirty cents," replies the end man, reaching down for his bones, or rather the bones with which he makes discord.

The shabbily-dressed, poorly-paid shop-girl wears gems that flash in a dozen different colors, while the young boy who gets four dollars a week in a button factory carries on his solid hand a diamond ring that might be a prince's ransom in olden times—if it were real.

Yet jewelry, which was formerly supposed to be expensive, is now worn so generally as to create a suspicion that the coal deposits are being subjected to an alarming drain.

Not everybody knows that it takes an experienced jeweler to detect the real from the bogus diamond; hence it frequently happens that grown-up persons undergo a similar experience to that of the little girl who complained to her grandmother:

"Ma told me it was a diamond, but I have found out that it was nothing but a grindstone."

A member of the famous "poker legislature" of Texas once said that the most expensive diamonds were those that staid in the pack when he had four of them in his own hand.—Texas Sittings.

The library of the British Museum will not hereafter supply novels to readers until five years after publication.

WELDING BY ELECTRICITY.

A Successful Exhibition of This Novel Process Given at Boston.

In response to invitations of Mr. H. A. Royce, general manager of the Thomson Electric Welding Company of this city, about fifty gentlemen assembled at the station of the Malden Electric Company, in Malden, to witness the novel process of welding metals by electric current.

There were three welding machines, one small and the other two much larger. The first is called the inch-iron machine, for the reason that it has a capacity of welding from a quarter to an inch bar iron.

The exhibition of welding was begun on the small machine, when several pieces of iron brass and copper were successfully welded, much to the surprise and gratification of those present, the work on this machine being closed by the welding of a bar of iron an inch in diameter.

In the weldings done on the small machine the file show the homogeneity of the metal at the point of junction, and to show how strong this weld was Mr. Lemp twisted one of the joined bars until the metal broke, but the break was not at the weld.

Next an exhibition was given of welding two-inch pipe on the machine designed for that purpose. This was as readily and as easily effected as in the case of the smaller bars in the first machine, the weld being perfect, and leaving but a little ridge on the inside.

CARTOONIST KEPPLER.

The Early Struggles and Later Successes of the Famous Artist.

Joseph Keppler, the great cartoonist, who is inseparably associated with the growth of caricature in America, was born in Vienna about fifty years ago.

Personally Mr. Keppler impresses one as a dashing, brilliant man. He is five feet ten inches in height, of military bearing, with mustache and goatee.

MEDICAL SUPERSTITIONS.

Some Remarkably Queer French Vagaries of the Olden Times.

A French writer named Challamel has recently issued a book entitled "A Bird's-Eye View of France in the Middle Ages," in which he relates a number of medical superstitions current in France in the middle ages, most of which are said to prevail at the present time also.

To cure fever they abstained from both flesh and eggs on Easter and on other high festivals; they caused a cabbage stolen for the purpose from a neighboring garden to be dried on a pot-hook; they wore one of a dead man's bones as an amulet; they inclosed a green frog in a bag and hung it to the sick person's neck; they ate the first Easter daisy that they found; and they received the benediction in three different parishes on the same Sunday.

The waters of several fountains cured fevers, and in particular the fountains De Krignac triumphed over tertians. To overcome fear one had only to stick pins in a dead man's shoe, carry a wolf's tooth or eye about, or ride a boar.

Renovating Steel Rails. Some success appears to have attended the recently devised process of making old steel rails new, it having been found, after various experiments, that pieces of steel may, at a proper heat, be perfectly and easily welded together after being coated with a solution of silicate of soda, or other solution in which silica is contained.

A Delicate Chicago Foot. Fashionable shoe store. "What size do you wear, madame?" "Number four."

—A well-known Chinaman has started an evening school in New York to teach the English language to his own countrymen.

THE ANDAMAN PIGMIES.

The Fiercest Little Savages in the World at Last Won by Kindness.

In the Bay of Bengal is a chain of islands known as the Andamans, whose inhabitants have long been famous for their extreme ferocity, their diminutive stature and the utter failure of missionaries who have labored among them for twenty years without making a single convert.

The Indian Government has long maintained a penal colony on South Andaman. The white officers in charge of it resolved to try upon the fierce dwarfs of Little Andaman the policy that had won for them the good will of many other islanders.

As far as we know, the Andamanese are one of the smallest races of men that ever existed. The average height of the men, Prof. Flower tells us, is 4 feet 9 inches, that of the women 4 feet 6 inches.

Only one tribe of these wild people has thus far proved wholly untamable. The Jarawas of Great Andaman keep their arrows sharpened for any whites who pass their way.

THE HOT-AIR CURE.

Something About the Simple Diet of the South American Cowboys.

When in the Republics of the Uruguay and the Argentine in 1868, where I met Captain Burton, I found that the tea of Paraguay (mate) as a hot infusion used by Englishmen "in the camp" did, with mutton, all that is claimed by your correspondent.

Intelligence of Beavers. "The intelligence of the beaver is proverbial," says a correspondent of the St. James Gazette, "but it may not be generally known that if a steel trap is left visible in one of his runs he will deliberately spring it with a stick; but if it is so artfully covered with snow or leaves that he steps on it unwarily, he will twist round and round till the limb is severed.

A paragraph going the rounds of Georgia papers tells of the first appearance of a colored lawyer in Atlanta. It was when Aaron Alpeoria Bradley went to the State Senate. Bradley was a kind-hearted mulatto, a sharp fellow, too, and when he rose unexpectedly in the court-room one day to defend a case the lawyer on the other side was so indignant at his impudence that he immediately forgot every thing he knew.

—A man of settled convictions is one who has been sentenced to life service in a penitentiary.—N. O. Picayune.

THE HERRING INDUSTRY.

How "Sardines" are Canned in the Factories of Eastport, Me.

American art was not the only thing which received an impetus at the Centennial Exhibition in 1876. It became evident that we had to learn a great deal about the food preparations derivable from France, Norway, Sweden, and even Spain.

The center of the canning of herrings is found at Eastport, Maine, and here at certain seasons a very large business is done. The herrings are caught in vast quantities by means of seines, and the snacks bring the fish into port.

In some of the largest of these establishments, when fish are plenty, hundreds of women are employed. There is no mechanical process yet invented which will fill the tins, and so fingers must be used.

When bad men combine, the good must associate; or else they will fall, one by one, an unpitied sacrifice in a contemptible struggle.—Edmund Burke.

WIT AND WISDOM.

No man ever did a designed injury to another without doing a greater to himself.—Henry Home.

—Young, one is rich in all the future that he dreams; old, one is poor in all the past he regrets.

—If you are a diamond, be sure that you will be found out. Cheek, brass or gall never gets ahead of merit.—Burdeite.

—Not what the world says we may do, but what we know we ought to do, is the standard of duty for us in our daily conduct.

—If you would construct a true and lasting character you must choose the right things in the very beginning of life.—Dr. Gregg.

—When bad men combine, the good must associate; or else they will fall, one by one, an unpitied sacrifice in a contemptible struggle.—Edmund Burke.

—We are all of us bound to make blunders in this life. Most of our troubles come from trying to uphold them after they are made.—Somerville Journal.

—Hard work is the cost of all attainment that is worth having; yet, while everybody wants the attainment only now and then one is willing to do the hard work that is essential to its securing.

—There is no bright future for the young man who is shirking every responsibility, ignoring industry, and glories in being an idler. Good luck will never come to him, and it never should.

—There is a burden of care in getting riches—fear in keeping them; temptation in using them; guilt in abusing them; sorrow in losing them; and a burden of account at last to be given up concerning them.—M. Henry.

—The influences of outward nature, of circumstances, of our occupations, of our fellow-men, are always pressing upon us, but the results of this pressure upon our welfare, our character and our life will always depend upon the nature of the inward forces with which we meet it and respond to it.—Once a Week.

—The woman who has found a man to whom she can be an inspiration, making him toil easily and happily for her sake, has found the wisest possible sphere. The instincts of every woman lead her to seek this; whatever else women seek is probably sought because they have been denied or disappointed in finding this.—Rural New Yorker.

—The probability in the case of every man is that he will finally die as he lived, without any essential change in his character. Those who are hoping to rectify life's mistakes by a death-bed repentance, are almost certain to be mistaken in this respect. In most cases the repentance will not come, and they will go to the bar of God without it.—Independent.

RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL.

—Fifty colored men were lately studying for the priesthood in Rome.

—Every civilized country in the world is represented by students at the University of Berlin.

—More college students come from Connecticut in proportion to the population than from any other State. She sends one to every 549 persons.

—Useful knowledge can have no enemies except the ignorant; it cherishes youth, delights the aged, is an ornament in prosperity, and yields comfort in adversity.

—Every generation enjoys the use of a vast hoard of knowledge bequeathed to it by antiquity, and transmits that hoard, augmented by fresh acquisitions, to future ages.—Lord Macaulay.

—Creeds may be over-emphasized; but it is a significant fact that the men who do the most to demonstrate how little there is in creeds, and how much they hinder the progress of truth, are the men who do the least to conquer the world for Christ.—Dr. E. A. Noble.

—It is just one hundred years since the introduction of Methodism into New England. Jesse Lee led the distinction of having been the first circuit- preacher, and a bronze equestrian statue on the sight of the old apple tree at Norwalk, where he held his first meeting, is proposed.

—The sum of \$70,000 has been expended by the trustees of the Peabody fund within the last twelve months, distributed pretty evenly among the Southern States. During the last twenty years this fund has supplied resources amounting to \$1,727,650 for the extension of educational work in the South.

—In Summerville, Mass., a recent religious census shows that there are 2,226 children and youth from 4 to 20 years old, and all but 154 are in some Sunday-school. That does not look as if the church need ask the State to make the free schools religious. The church can attend to her own business if she will.—Independent.

—There are 1,248 Young Men's Christian Associations in America, 622 in England, Ireland and Scotland, 1,392 in Germany, Holland and Switzerland, 290 in Japan and 533 in 18 other countries. It is an interesting fact that there is an organization at Nazareth, where Christ lived for thirty years, and at Jerusalem, where he was crucified.

—The Ocean Bay Society, a corporation recently organized, proposes to buy the immense hotel with 1,200 rooms, which cost \$1,750,000 and has been so long idle, at Rockaway Beach, together with an adjacent plot of ground containing about twenty-five acres. It will be converted into a large religious seaside resort similar to Ocean Grove, and although it will be non-sectarian will be under Methodist government.