

FIGHT ON HISTORIC GROUND

American Troops Operating in Country for Many Centuries the Scene of Wars and Revolutions.

American soldiers during their brief leisure moments are wandering through ruins and over fields made familiar to students of history by centuries of wars and revolutions. Some of them have already fought on the scene of some of Napoleon's operations in the region of the Marne.

Some are training over ground where the Normans fought the French and where the French fought the Spaniards. Later they will perhaps be marching in line of battle over the country where the French and the Germans have fought again and again and where they will help the French and the British end the last of the wars to devastate the valleys of France for centuries to come.

Nearly the entire history of France is pictured all over the areas occupied by the Americans in ancient churches, which, along with object lessons in history, will give the attentive soldier an enlarged appreciation of art and architecture.

Asked to what extent the men were profiting from these opportunities, an officer of the American forces said that, after getting located, the soldier takes the first opportunity to explore the neighborhood. To use one of the British terms that are taking root among the overseas men, they "push off" into all the nooks and corners. If their conceptions of what they see are often vague at first they soon get the habit of observation which develops into taste and, in a goodly number of cases, becomes a study.

TURNING RATS TO ACCOUNT

Japanese Authorities Anticipate Substantial Revenue From Leather Made From Hides of Pests.

In the neighborhood of Aomori, Japan, the hides of squirrels are tanned and used as carpets, neckcloths and for other purposes. This has suggested to Doctor Hasegawa Kiyonari, head of the Hasegawa hospital at Osaka, who is a member of the Osaka municipal assembly, the possibility of turning to good account the hides of the numerous rats bought by the municipal authorities. In view of the great advance in the price of hides and leather, Doctor Hasegawa approached the authorities with the proposal, which was favorably received. They accordingly tanned the skins of two rats and sought the opinion of dealers as to what the leather would sell for. The dealers estimated that the skin of one rat was worth 20 sen in its raw condition. The public health authorities are now devising special means of disinfecting and tanning rat skins.

It is estimated that a great sum could have been obtained by tanning the hides of one-third of the rats bought by the Osaka municipal authorities during the last twenty years.

To Pollyfox.

Put down a red mark to the senate's credit for introducing the word "pollyfox." Here we have pussyfooting with characteristics more subtle even than silence. If one pussyfoots, well and good; he does not disturb, and it may reasonably be argued that only those engaged in evil doing or suffering from nerves object to those who come upon one noiselessly.

The pussyfooter may have no objectionable purpose in pussyfooting. He may even be amably determined not to distract one engaged in pondering a painful problem, as whether it is better to earn an income and be taxed, or to escape both and play golf. But, as we understand it, to pollyfox implies a sly purpose. An angel child possessed of a chunk of ice, with its lovely orbs fixed on the inviting space between its papa's neck and collar, will pollyfox even if it never heard of the word.

There is much in the contemplation of polities which makes to welcome the verb "to pollyfox." — New York Sun.

Well, That's Different.

While high-priced lawyers argued wrathfully for their clients over the ownership of a little white Eskimo dog the animal in controversy was brought into court in a sack by a negro, dead. Instantly the contestants changed sides. This was at Atlanta.

"Give it to that woman there," exclaimed Mrs. M. M. Brazell, who had sworn out a possessory warrant for a Spitz dog before Judge L. Z. Rosser.

"No, give it to her, I want her to have it," retorted Mrs. Anna Leo, who was contesting the possessory warrant.

The confused negro left the dog and retreated.

Judge Rosser gave the dead dog to Mrs. Brazell.

A 72-Year-Old Messenger Boy.

Auburn, N. Y., has a seventy-two-year-old messenger boy. Although retired from active work, he decided he could do some war service by taking some young man's place with the telegraph company.

"I have had some amusing experiences," he remarked recently. "I answered one call, and the man said: 'Are you from the Western Union?' I replied that I was. 'Well,' he said, 'I wanted a boy, not the president of the company.' There was another call to the St. Cloud and I went. The man said: 'Are you a boy?' But before I could answer another man remarked facetiously, 'He was when you called.'"

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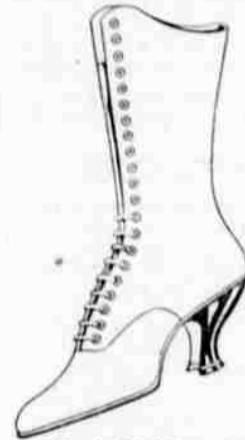
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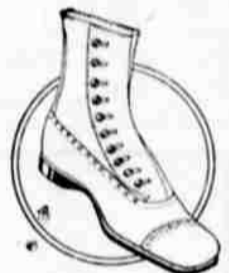
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