

CABLE ROUTE FROM HONGKONG TO CHICAGO.



The map shows how a cablegram travels from Hong Kong to Chicago. Dispatches giving news of Rear Admiral Dewey's movements and victory had to run through over 15,000 miles of cable and telegraph lines before reaching Chicago, as shown by the heavy line on the map.

SPAIN'S ROYAL FAMILY.

The Queen Regent's Life Has Been a Most Serious One.

The Archduchess Christina, Queen Regent of Spain, is an Austrian and was married to the late King Alfonso XII. In 1879. She has three brothers and two half sisters, the daughters of her mother by her first marriage. These sisters are the nearest descendants of the Stuart kings of England, and the elder, who is married to Prince Ludwig, of Bavaria, the heir to that kingdom, is styled by her Jacobite adherents Queen Mary III. of England. The younger sister married the late Prince John de Bourbon of Spain, and is the mother of Don Carlos, Duke of Madrid, the Carlist pretender to the throne of Spain. It was with the hope of effecting a reconciliation between the royal house of Spain and the Carlist faction that the Archduchess married to King Alfonso XII. The hope was never realized.

The young Archduchess had by no means an easy life before her when she accepted the hand of King Alfonso, a man whose heart was in the grave of his first wife, and whose health was already showing signs of the illness which ended his life at so early a date. The Queen, however, young as she was, quite understood her difficult position, and from the first week of her married life showed herself capable of fulfilling her duties, and also showed that she possessed the rarest of all gifts—exquisite tact. Ten months after her marriage her eldest daughter, the Infanta Maria-da-las Mercedes, Princess of Aus-

isters have been partly educated by English governesses, and they all speak English very well, with an excellent accent. German also is almost as familiar to them as Spanish, as it is their mother's tongue.

Queen Christina leads a very busy, anxious life, and is one of the hardest workers in Europe. The Queen does not often relax from her usual regal demeanor, but when she does she is perfectly charming, with a keen sense of humor and an almost girlish delight in the pleasures of her children. All her life, since her marriage, has been spent under the most serious circumstances, but she has still left to her the capability of enjoying life and its pleasures.

It is at San Sebastian, which is on the sea coast, and where the Queen possesses a palace of fairy-like beauty, that her Majesty is seen at her happiest. It is here that she takes her annual holiday, and, with her children, revels in the beautiful country and seaside life, away from the streets of Madrid, and free from the most trying of her state duties. The King and his sisters are all good swimmers, and the princesses encourage their brother and help him, when the waves are too rough—for King Alfonso is a somewhat delicate child. Cycling is also among the favorite amusements of the princesses and their brother, and there are very merry rides taken in the neighborhood, and in the beautiful grounds that surround the palace. Often the Queen's mother, the widowed Archduchess Elizabeth of Austria, pays her a visit. The Archduchess Elizabeth is now 66 years of age, but she is in ex-



THE QUEEN REGENT OF SPAIN AND ALFONSO XII.

tria, was born at Madrid, on Sept. 11, 1880, and a little more than two years later the Infanta Maria Theresa was born, on Nov. 12, 1882.

King Alfonso XII, who had always been far from strong, died on Nov. 25, 1885, just three days after he had completed his twenty-eighth year. He had reigned eleven years, a period of peace and comparative prosperity for the Spanish nation; but the success of his government was mainly due to the wise administration of Canovas del Castillo, his minister, who was assassinated last year.

May 17, 1886, the present King was born, and on the same day he was proclaimed King under the regency of his mother. Though devoted to all her children, the Queen Regent is especially fond of the little King, Alfonso. The Queen is most judicious in the way in which she brings up her children, and even the King is subjected to strict discipline during his times of study. She is an excellent linguist, and makes a point of talking to her children in various languages, so that they may become accustomed to all. Like so many other royal children, the King and his

cellent health and looks quite ten years younger.

Murders the Oyster.
This is the wicked "borer" that has already murdered thousands of oysters in Long Island waters and threatened as many more. The oyster men call



THE BORER AT WORK.

the borers "drills" and say that they are a lucky pest for them since, without the destruction they work, the oyster markets would be flooded and the business become unprofitable.

Time is usually lively when men make an attempt to kill it.

POINTS ON OUR GUNS.

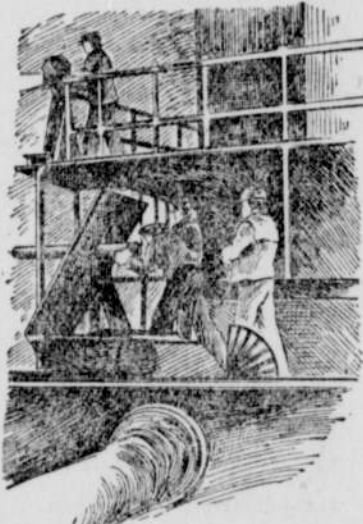
Lee-Metford Rifle the Smallest on Board a Man-of-War.

Just now much is heard of the rapid firing guns. The smallest gun aboard a warship is the Lee-Metford rifle, with which the crew is armed, and it has a caliber of .236 of an inch. One of the Lee rifle bullets will drive its way through two and a half feet of oak, about three feet from the gun's muzzle. A Lee rifle bullet will make a clean-cut hole in a man, and tests on a cadaver have shown that it will pass through a bone without shattering or splintering it, so it will not necessarily kill a man unless it penetrates a vital part.

The ammunition for the one, three and six-pounders is all in one cartridge, which looks like a gigantic revolver cartridge. But the missiles sent out by these guns are explosive; they burst when they strike. The cartridge consists of the shell, in which the powder, each grain about three-quarters of an inch long, as thick as a good-sized lead-pencil, with channels running lengthwise, is stored. The shell is almost entirely filled with this powder, which is packed with a wadding of excelsior.

The armor-piercing projectiles are highly tempered steel. When the gun is fired the projectile is hurled from the powder shell. In the flat end of the projectile is the detonating apparatus. This consists of a plunger, which is held away from the percussion cap by a piece of wire until the violent wrench consequent on the projectile's leaving the powder shell breaks it. This leaves the plunger free to move backward on the recoil when the projectile strikes.

The one, three and six-pounder guns are well named "rapid firing," for when handled by expert gunners they discharge 100 rounds a minute. After the one, three and six-pounders come the three, four, five and six-inch guns, all classed as rapid firing, for the powder and projectile are contained in one cartridge. Guns larger than six inches



FIRING BY SEARCHLIGHT.

are in the slow-firing class, for the powder and projectile are separate from each other, and the weight of the breech mechanism operates against rapidly in loading.

It is easy to figure out the dimensions of guns and the weights of charges by remembering that the length of the rifle of a big gun is thirty times the caliber or diameter of the bore. The projectile is three times as long as its diameter. The charge of powder weighs nearly one-half as much as the projectile, and the weight of a projectile is found by cubing its diameter in inches and dividing the result by two—this will give the pounds of weight. Thus a projectile for a four-inch gun will weigh 4x4x4, divided by 2, or 32 pounds. One-half that is sixteen pounds, the weight of the charge of powder. The diameter of the projectile is four inches, so its length is three times that, or 12 inches, and the barrel of the gun is thirty times four inches, or ten feet.

When a four-inch gun is fired the expanding gas generated exerts a pressure of 30,000 pounds or fifteen tons to the square inch, and the armor-piercing projectile can go through seven inches of "high carbon" steel. The gun weighs about 3,400 pounds, and it can be fired twenty times a minute. It has a range of about four miles, and the projectile travels twice as fast as sound travels. At the gun's muzzle the projectile energy is 915 foot-tons; that is, it has enough force back of it to lift 915 tons one foot in one second.

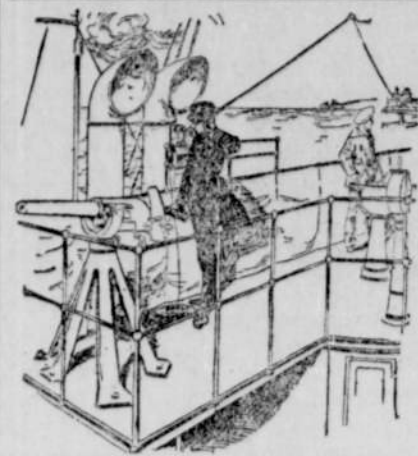
The one, three and six-pounders generally are mounted in elevated parts of the ship and in the military masts so that they can be used to clear the enemy's decks. Just as the archers of years ago were wont to try for every opening and crack in the armor of a knight, so the gunners of the small rapid-firing guns are expected to send their deadly shells inside the turrets and gun ports of the enemy's ship.

TELEPHONING AT SEA.

How Commanders Communicate by Wire from Ship to Ship.

Telephones may supersede the old system of flag signals as a means of communication between ships at sea. Successful experiments have been made by Commander R. G. O. Tupper of the British navy which seem to prove that the system is adapted for the purpose. Commander Tupper used a kite in his experiments, and this seems to be the only feasible means. The kite used was an ordinary one that differed but slightly from those used by American boys in the spring and fall, except that it had no tail. The kite was six feet long and three wide at its broadest part. Two lines were attached to the kite where the tail would ordinarily have been. One of these lines was retained on board of the Daring, the torpedo boat destroyer under Commander Tupper's command, from which the experiments were conducted. It was found that with the wind between the two lines it was easy to drop letters or even a hawser on another

ship, and in this way to establish communication. When this experiment had proved successful Commander Tupper made use of a wire. The end of the wire which the kite bore away from the ship was dropped upon the deck of H. M. S. Dauntless, where it was secured by the electrician of the ship and attached to a telephone apparatus in waiting. The other end, which had re-



TELEPHONING FROM SHIP TO SHIP.

mained aboard the Daring, was also attached to a telephone, and as soon as the task had been completed the communication between the two ships was perfect. Secured by the two lines, the kite remained suspended for four hours, during which time communication between the two ships was uninterrupted. Commander Tupper has made a report of his experiments with the kite telephone and declares that it means that the present method of signaling with flags will become obsolete. If telephone wires can be employed, he sees no reason why telegraphic communication should not be made in a similar manner, and the ships of a fleet be placed in communication with each other.

DAUGHTER OF A DEMOCRAT

The Wife of Judge Day, the New Secretary of State.

Mrs. Day, who formed a life partnership with the new Secretary of State about twenty-three years ago, is the sole surviving child of the late Louis Schaefer, long a prominent figure in Ohio. She is a woman of exceeding loveliness of character. Since her marriage she has lived no life outside of the lives of her husband and children. So intense has been her devotion to him and them that she has taken no leading part in the social development of Canton, although fitted by every grace of mind and heart to adorn it. She is a reader, omnivorous and discerning. Fiction, history, travel, biography, sociological essays, are all devoured with equal avidity and assimilated with equal certainty. She is an accomplished musician and possesses many other accomplishments to make home the best place in the world for her home people. She is not a woman's rights woman, and has never gone in for the new woman fad, holding that the place of her sex is under the family roof tree and by the family hearth. Secretary and Mrs. Day have four children, all boys and all much given to athletics.

Mrs. Day's father was a lawyer, a wit, a raconteur, a bon vivant and a public-spirited citizen. He enjoyed an



MRS. DAY.

enormous law practice and died a wealthy man. It was related of him here that he did more to build up Canton than any one man who ever lived in it. He was a Democrat of the Democrats.

The First Water Plant.

The Quakertown (Pa.) Times awards to Bethlehem the distinction of having erected the first water works in the United States. Near the banks of the Monocacy Creek (the Indian name for creek of many bends), it says, there is a never-failing spring of pure cold water, which has formed the supply of Bethlehem from its founding up to the present time. In the spring of 1754 Hans Christopher Christiansen began the erection of the first water works in the old mill. The water was forced through wooden pipes up the hill into a wooden reservoir, situated where the Moravian church now stands.

His Awful Mistake.

"See here, young man," said the editor of a society paper to the new reporter, "don't let this occur again." "Why," exclaimed the new recruit, "what's wrong?" "You say the lady was 'handsomely dressed,'" replied the editor, "instead of 'smartly gowned!'"

Sews On His Own Buttons.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Temple, is said to be unexcelled in the Church of England as a button sewer and stocking darning. His successor in the See of London, Bishop Creighton, makes it his boast that he sews on his own ecclesiastical buttons and once dexterously mended a lady's glove.

Our idea of a good time is to see an elocutionist who thinks she can work the goose flesh on an audience, forget her lines and break down.

A FUNNY OLD TOWN.

Some of the Many Amusing Features of Key West.

Key West is one of the oldest and funniest towns in the United States. It is made up of innumerable little wooden houses without chimneys, but crowded in irregular groups. Many of the houses have wooden shutters in place of glass windows. On most of the streets there are no sidewalks, but people stumble over the jagged edges of coral rock. The natives who wear shoes ride in carriages. There are a great number of public vehicles, and one can be halled at any corner and engaged for 10 cents. Some of these carriages are quite respectable in appearance. They are generally double-seated affairs which have been discarded in the North. The horses are wrecks and they show by their appearance that fodder is dear and that they are not half fed. One of the sounds of Key West is the whacking of the horses which draw the carriages and the mules which move the street cars from place to place. The street cars look as if they had been dug up from the neighborhood of the pyramids. Ropes are used for reins and the only substantial thing about the whole outfit is the great rawhide whip, with which the street car driver labors incessantly. The people, as a rule, are opposed to excessive exertion, but they make an exception in the case of labor with a whip.

The town has one struggling newspaper, which is worthy of a better support. The climate, of which much has been written, is too good to be wasted, and there are traditions against excessive mental effort by either the makers or the readers of newspapers. Hundreds of dogs, cats, roosters, goats and "razorbacks" run at large through the streets, and the three former combine to make the night hideous. In the early evening the sound of negro meetings and jublations predominates. Then the cats begin where the shouters leave

It was not many years ago that Monsieur Daunassans was prefect of a department and stationed at an important provincial town. Just at that time a very radical ministry came into power—an ultra-republican government, which announced its intention to turn all conservative and "reactionist" functionaries out of office. The Minister of the Interior was a particularly violent radical, with no bowels of compassion for any who were suspected of monarchial opinions.

One of the first functionaries selected for sacrifice was Monsieur Daunassans. It happened, however, that his conservative opinions were not so strenuously held as to incline him against holding office under a radical administration. When he was summoned to Paris for dismissal, he went to the cabinet of the minister with his hat in his hand and his most complacent expression on his face.

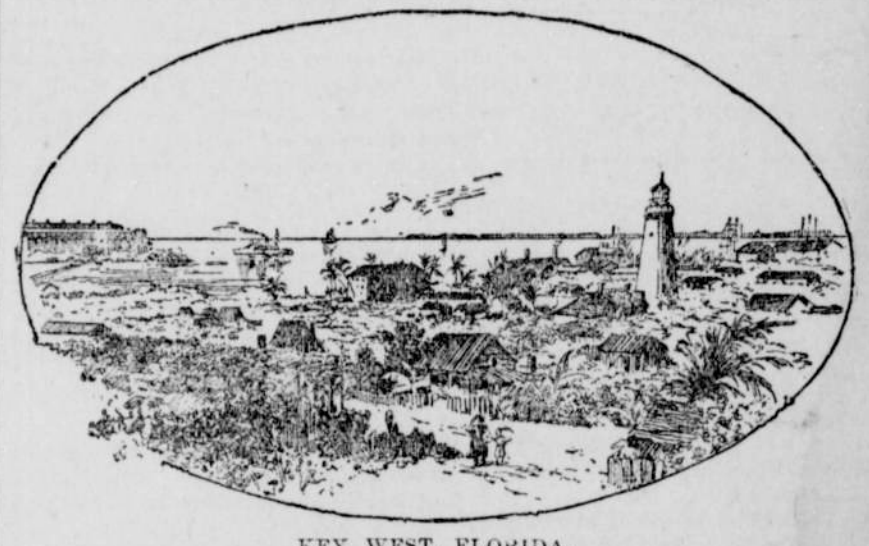
"You are represented to me, sir," said the minister, "as hostile to our republican institutions."

Monsieur Daunassans bowed very low, in the most graceful style of the ancient gentility.

"I think, monsieur le ministre," he began, "that I may possibly prove myself worthy of your excellency's confidence. If I may be permitted to enter into certain details, it will be, I fancy, within my power to demonstrate to your excellency—"

It was the first time that the new minister had ever been called "your excellency." He was a man who had sprung from the common people, and the phrase, coming from a man who seemed to know how to use it, was very pleasant to his ears. His manner softened perceptibly. Daunassans went on with a long and flattering speech, in which he had very little to say about his own politics, but in which the words "your excellency" occurred a great many times.

After about three-quarters of an hour he came out of the minister's cabinet.



KEY WEST, FLORIDA.

off. Later, the dogs, sneaking and more numerous than any other species, take up the refrain. There is a strange mixture of races at Key West, but the negroes are the most patriotic class. They alone celebrate Fourth of July and other national holidays. While the town has its enlightened and respectable people, it also has its shoddy class, whose ignorance of the rest of the world carries them to grotesque extremes in their efforts to proclaim their greatness. Even in its schools, Key West is peculiar. The schoolhouses are built like cigar factories, and each has mounted upon the roof the bell of an old locomotive. When the school bells are ringing it is easy to close your eyes and imagine yourself in one of the great railroad depots of the North. The classes are large, the teachers have a constant struggle with the climate, so the scholars have time to make pea-shooters and other instruments of torture for the unsuspecting visitor who falls into their ambush.

If the teachers have a hard time, the clergy have a worse one. The churches are much-abused institutions, with a large patronage and a meagre support. The theaters are seldom open, and are even more grudgingly supported than the churches. The decorations have been likened to a cockney on a holiday, and the galleries amuse themselves between the acts by shouting "fire," to startle strangers who do not know the joke.

Men that smoke presume that cigars are manufactured in Key West, but there is another source of income of scarcely less importance. Any unfortunate ship that ventures into port is considered legitimate prey, and it is a bold man that dares to protest against the confiscation of his property. When a ship is seen approaching the reefs the greatest excitement prevails, and some people even fall on their knees to petition for her speedy destruction.

If a vessel strikes she is immediately surrounded by a crowd of wreckers, who cling to her like flies to a molasses barrel. After there has been a wreck, storekeepers have money in their pockets and do not care whether you buy of them or not. The proprietor of a shop will stretch himself, yawn and finally saunter over toward his customer to find what is wanted.

FRENCH POLITENESS.

Use of Old-Time Courtesy Brought Promotion for a Frenchman.

In France, at the present day, the great majority of the people are ardent republicans in opinion, but they are also great admirers of the sort of courtesy which is associated with the ancient regime—the old-time gentility.

Recently died in that country a certain Monsieur Daunassans, who was a fine representative, in his manners and opinions, of the old school. His elaborate courtesy was of the elegant, "palavering" antique sort, and it kept his head above water in times when other old-school fellows went to the bottom.

Turkish Girls.
Turkish girls of the better class in the cities, after they are too old to attend the primary schools, are largely educated at home by governesses, many of whom come from England and France, but, unfortunately, do not always represent the highest culture of these nations, so that the real love of study is not, as a rule, developed under their influence. Turkish women have a great aptitude for foreign languages, and those met on the steamers of the Bosphorus often speak French, and it is not unusual for them to speak German and English also.

It is a well-known fact that many Turkish women are engaged in trade, some even carrying on an extensive business, involving frequent journeys to Egypt and other places, which presupposes the ability to read and write, as well as some knowledge of arithmetic. Moreover, conversation with the Mussulman woman in the capital reveals some progress at the present time in independence of thought, and, while social conditions have unavoidably arrested the development of Turkish women as a class, forces are slowly but surely working among them that will result in their final emancipation.

Artificial Silk.

Artificial silk is now an article of trade and as it is advisable for buyers to be acquainted with the means of detecting it the following from the Decorator and Furnisher is worthy of note: The most effective test is combustion. While natural silk burns slowly and turns up like horn, at the same time emitting a characteristic odor, artificial silk burns rapidly when once ignited and swells like burned cotton. Sometimes the two kinds of silk are mixed in the same article. Mention is made in an Austrian paper of a fabric, alleged to be of English make, the warp of which consisted of natural silk, weft of artificial. The origin of the latter could not be detected by the eye even by the most expert connoisseur. Upon the combustion test being applied, however, the material burned with extreme alacrity.

When people listen attentively to a story of a man's wrongs, it indicates that they are wondering what the other side of the story sounds like.

The king can do no wrong—if the other fellow holds all the aces.