

SMASH SIGN OF A MAN'S FOLLY.

Statue of Agnes Gilkerson Is Demolished at Smithville, N. J.

The costly marble statue of Agnes Gilkerson, for years an object of interest on the lawn of the Ezekiel B. Smith mansion at Smithville, N. J., was broken into thousands of pieces the other day. The wreckage of this remarkable work of art was then cast in Rancocas creek, and the testimonial to Congressman Hezekiah B. Smith's folly went out of sight forever.

The story of Smith and Agnes Gilkerson is one of extraordinary romance and wrong, and, when first made public, stirred the whole country.

The man had deserted his rightful family at Woodstock, Vt., and made a new home at Smithville with the woman of his infatuation. He became a millionaire manufacturer, creating a great industrial plant in the out of the way retreat he had selected. He also went to congress and grew to be a political figure in the state. Agnes Gilkerson, known to those who knew Smith then as his wife, pushing him onward and upward. He doubtless would have won higher political honors, but his past became known.

When the woman died the inconsolable and aged manufacturer had a statue of her made in Italy and placed it on his front lawn, where he could see it always. Capt. Elton Smith, one of the manufacturer's surviving children, has just come into the great property of his father, and one of his first acts was to order the statue of Agnes Gilkerson destroyed, so it should never more plague him or his

A dozen stalwart men armed with sledges and axes sent the white statue crashing to the ground and hammered the marble fiercely until nothing but a pile of debris remained. Some of the villagers tried to secure pieces of the statue as souvenirs, but the cart took the white mess to the creek, where it was dumped into ten feet of water and covered over with stones.

Capt. Smith's lawfully wife viewed the scene of the first and last time.

CRITICISES MINT EXPERTS.

Brice Says They Did Not Give His Gold Process a Fair Trial.

E. C. Brice, whose claim to a process for creating gold and silver from chemically pure antimony and other base metals has been under investigation by a committee of mint experts with only negative results, has made application to the commissioner of patents for another test.

In his request he asserts that the old commission did not follow his directions in important particulars.

Ingredients, he alleges, were used which he had told them were inimical to his process, and that he himself produced gold from chemically pure antimony, sulphur, and iron after the commission had failed with the same materials, and that they then declared that by whatever process gold and silver might be obtained from any materials, it simply showed that there were gold and silver in the materials before the process was used.

In a letter to Mr. Preston, the director of the mint, Mr. Brice strongly protests against some of the acts of the commission by which he claims his process was unfairly tested, especially in the use of alkalis, which rendered the tests valueless.

Mr. Brice is entirely dissatisfied with the experiments made and holds that great injustice has been done him. What action will be taken by the commissioner of patents and the director of the mint is not known, but the treasury officials insist that they made a fair investigation and according to the process of the claimant.

TEST OF BULLET-PROOF CLOTH.

Lieut. Sarnacki Fails to Send a Ball Through the Textile Armor.

Lieut. Stanislaus de Koven Sarnacki, of the Austrian army, stood only five paces from a piece of cloth the other night in Chicago and fired a bullet from a heavy revolver at point blank range. The bullet bounced back and Stanislaus de Koven Sarnacki said something in his native tongue, which meant: "Eureka! I have found it!"

What Lieut. Sarnacki had found was a cloth which would turn a heavy bullet fired at close range. It was the second public trial at Foltz Hall, North avenue and Larrabee street, of a bullet-proof cloth invented by Casimir Ziegler, of the Brotherhood of St. Andrews.

Lieut. Alvin Carmitz, of the Second Highlanders of Germany, had been invited to the exhibition and appeared with a gun which he proposed to fire at the cloth. When Brother Ziegler saw Lieut. Carmitz and his artillery he gave play. Lieut. Carmitz gun had three barrels and was a cross between a Gatling and a rifled cannon. Brother Ziegler hastened to explain that the piece of cloth on exhibition was only intended as padding to be worn in uniforms and not as sheathing for a man-of-war.

It looks as if an era of deep mining is about to begin in California. Hitherto the whole surface of the state has been merely scratched over in the effort to find mines without sinking, and very little has been done to show what is beneath the surface. The success of the shafts that are now going down is giving much encouragement to bolder ventures in deep sinking. Very recently larger bodies of good ore have been found on the 2,300-foot level of the Kennedy than had ever been found before.

Excellent ore has been found in the lower levels of the Dead Horse, and its shaft is to be put down to 1,700 feet. The Gwin mine has struck very rich ore on the 1,400-foot level. Several other large mines have announced their intention to sink much deeper. California capital is to be the most part supporting the new movement.

A Tall Plant.

It is believed that the largest plant in the world is the gigantic seaweed the nervencystis, which frequently attains the height of 300 feet. The stem is as strong as an ordinary rope, and large quantities are dried and used as such by people of the South sea Islands. As soon as a plant takes root a pear-shaped balloon is formed, which grows with the stem. This balloon often has a diameter of six or more feet. It keeps the stem growing upward until it floats upon the surface of the water. The weed sometimes grows in such quantities as to impede navigation. The ropes are used for building purposes and the balloons make serviceable vessels.

Able-Bodied Frenchmen.

France is the only European country which has to-day fewer able-bodied men than it had 30 years ago.

WEDS A GIRL WITH A FORTUNE.

Sydney Lascelles, Known as Lord Beresford, Marries an Heiress.

Sydney Lascelles, the "Lord Beresford" of criminal annals, has been married at Fitzgerald, Ga., to Miss Clara Pecky, of Rhode Island, who has a fortune of \$100,000, inherited from her mother, who died last year. Mrs. Lascelles is an accomplished young woman of 19.

Sydney Lascelles has had a career second to a few adventurers. He came to this country about six years ago, and at once stepped into the groove which society appoints for titled foreigners.

His manners were all that there could be of suavity and good breeding, and he gained membership in several New York clubs. With great ease he impressed upon newly-made friends and signed "Beresford" to checks and at random.

During a trip to London he met Miss Maude Lillianthill, of Yonkers, an heiress to many millions. When she returned to this country "Lord Beresford" induced her to elope from the Lillianthill county seat in Pennsylvania, and they were married on February 2, 1891, at Beaver, Pa., and went to Georgia.

In 1893 "Lord Beresford" was convicted of forging a draft for \$1,250 on the Westminster bank of London and sentenced to six years' imprisonment.

His wife devoted her means to fighting the case for him, but in vain. She afterward obtained a divorce from him.

In December, 1896, Gov. Atkinson pardoned Lascelles, and upon his release he went to Fitzgerald, Ga., where he began life anew. The city awarded him a 20-year contract for water supply lighting two months ago. He was supposed that the hotel was a millionaire by land speculation.

Bell went to Atlanta from Paterson, N. J., some time ago and leased the hotel, running it on an expensive scale.

He recently gave a mortgage on his lease for \$25,000 to his mother-in-law, Mrs. Cole, of Jersey City, to cover a loan which she had made him. It was supposed that the hotel was a coinining money, but the expenses were so heavy that it was not a paying investment.

PERPETUAL BATH HIS MEDIOINE.

Belleveue Hospital Treatment for a Man with a Nervous Disease.

Louis Mecke, a patient in Belleveue hospital, New York, is undergoing treatment tried for the first time in that institution, and the case is being watched with great interest by the doctors. Mecke has nervous disease and is kept in a tub of warm water, eating and sleeping in the tub.

The man is 58 years old. He became ill from the physician who attended him pronounced gangrene, and he was sent to Gouverneur hospital, whence he was removed May 7 to Bellevue. He showed no improvement, having a severe disease of the nerves which govern the nourishing of the body.

Dr. Abraham Jacobi, visiting physician at the hospital, ordered a permanent bath as treatment, and Dr. Dow, the house physician, had a large tub prepared. It is lined with rubber cushions and it is kept full of water at about 95 degrees heat.

Mecke was placed in the bath the other morning, and the heated water was kept constantly running. The effect was immediately beneficial. The high fever was reduced and the warm bath made the patient sleep. He had been delirious before he was put in the water and was unable to sleep.

The patient is fed on milk and crackers and has shown marked improvement every day.

Dr. Dow, who is attending the case, said:

"This man is in the advanced stage of this nervous disease, and it is doubtful about saving his life. The warm water keeps his skin from poisoning the system. Before this treatment the disease was being absorbed by the body. The treatment is well known, but we have never had facilities for trying it in Bellevue before. Dr. Jacobi is pleased with it."

NO SUMMER CRUISE THIS YEAR.

Disappointment on Ships Attached to the North Atlantic Squadron.

From present appearances there will be no summer cruise of the ships attached to the North Atlantic squadron this season. Since Admiral Clegg took command of the station the ships of the fleet have been assigned to other duty, and there are but two vessels directly under his command.

Just before Commodore Buncle was detached from command of the squadron he commanded the largest fleet of American war vessels that has been assembled in these waters. Most of the ships of the squadron have been put on reserve list and anchored in the basin at the League island navy yard, at Philadelphia.

An officer says the fleet will be assembled for summer work will consist of battle ships, and it will be strengthened by the addition of the battle ships of the squadron have been put into commission at the League island navy yard. The vessel will be commanded by Capt. William Sampson, who has been detached from duty as chief of the ordnance bureau and ordered to duty on the battle ship.

This will be the first time since the government began to build modern war ships that a fleet composed entirely of battle ships has been organized for the purpose of maneuvering.

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This plant, which is the only European country which has to-day fewer able-bodied men than it had 30 years ago.

Learning Laundry Work.

Laundry classes at which little girls are taught how to wash and iron are now established in connection with boarding schools in London and are reported by the school management committee to have proved thoroughly satisfactory this year—their first.

Colossal Statues in Rhodes.

There were more than 100 colossal statues in the city of Rhodes, besides the great bronze image that bestrode the harbor.

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L'ABEILLE DE LA Nlle-ORLEANS

est très répandue en Louisiane et dans tous les Etats du Sud. Sa publicité offre donc au commerce des avantages exceptionnels. Prix de l'abonnement, pour l'année: Edition quotidienne, \$12 00; Edition hebdomadaire, \$3 00; Edition du Dimanche, \$2 00.

MAN KNEW HOW TO CHANGE.

Exorbitant Bill Provokes a Prodigy Which Has Been Parallel.

When the ceremonies attending the services on New York day at the exposition held at Atlanta, Ga., a year ago were concluded Gov. Levi P. Morton, accompanied by John Jacob Astor, of his military staff, called at the Aragon hotel for the board bill of themselves and party for the two days they had been there. Proprietor Frank Bell handed them a bill for \$1,700, whereas the feathers on Mr. Astor's helmet wilted and ex-Gov. Morton gasped for breath.

"How long have you been in the hotel business?" asked the governor.

"About six years," replied Mr. Bell.

"Well, you won't be in it six years longer," said Mr. Morton, reaching for his checkbook.

The bill was paid, but it called forth a protest from the New York newspapers, which did a great deal to prejudice northern people against the exposition.

Now the governor's prophecy regarding Mr. Bell seems likely to be realized. He has left Atlanta without informing gentlemen who, it is alleged, are creditors to the extent of \$60,000, of his destination. The hotel is the property of Washington Collier, the oldest pioneer of Atlanta, who has become a millionaire through eccentric economy and land speculation.

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TUNNEL UNDER THE THAMES.

Opened with Imposing Ceremony by the Prince of Wales.

The new tunnel under the Thames at Blackwall was inaugurated by the prince of Wales the other day. The royal procession consisted of two semi-state landaus, each headed by four bays, driven by postillions and each preceded by two grooms. In these, besides the prince, were the princess of Wales, Princess Victoria of Wales, the duke of York, the duke of Portland, Mr. Bull, of the London county council, chairman of the bridges committee, and Mr. Binnie, chief engineer of the tunnel. At the entrance of the tunnel the royal party was met by the duke of Cambridge, the prince of Teck, Lord Methuen, commanding the home district; the earl of Denbigh, commanding the honorable artillery company; Dr. Collins, chairman of the London county council, and many military and other officials. The procession then passed through the tunnel, which was illuminated by three rows of electric lights. At the Greenwich end was a dais, upon which the prince of Wales, in the name of the queen, declared the tunnel open to public traffic. The state trumpeters blew a royal blast, a royal salute was fired by the honorable artillery company and the bishop of London pronounced a benediction.

The prince is in the advanced stage of this nervous disease, and it is doubtful about saving his life. The warm water keeps his skin from poisoning the system. Before this treatment the disease was being absorbed by the body. The treatment is well known, but we have never had facilities for trying it in Bellevue before.

The patient is fed on milk and crackers and has shown marked improvement every day.

Dr. Dow, who is attending the case, said:

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