

A HYDROGEN SHELL

Chemist Invents an Explosive Projectile That Will Be Frightful in Its Execution.

The activity displayed in inventing means for the destruction of human life, particularly of enemies in war time, is as ceaseless as the efforts to prolong life and create for it tolerable conditions. The latest ingenious device for the former purpose is a ten-inch shell that has hydrogen for the explosive. The inventor is Chemist Walter T. Forbes, and he announces that the authorities at Washington are about to give his shell a trial. In appearance it is similar to the gas tank in the ordinary soda water fountain. Hydrogen can be exploded by fire, and as the pressure in the shell is about 5,000 pounds to the square inch, thus making it impossible to keep a fuse or percussion cap in place, Mr. Forbes was confronted with the difficult problem of designing some way to set the gas off. This device is the one secret about the shell.

Mr. Forbes says that the 5,000 pounds pressure is multiplied instantly, when the shell strikes, 200-fold, thus giving the enormous explosive force of 1,000,000 pounds, which would annihilate everything within many yards of the spot that was struck.

The inventor says that the shell weighs about one-tenth as much as the regular ten-inch shell and can be made for about one-twentieth the cost of the other. If Mr. Forbes isn't at fault, says the Oswego (N. Y.) Times, he will doubtless find that he has done much to avert war by making it too dangerous a function to engage in.

A DEADLY BULLET.

New Man-Killing Missile Adopted by British Government.

The Case is of Nickel, the Base Only Being Filled with Lead - The Conical End is Left Empty.

A new service bullet has just been adopted by the war office, says the London Times. The reason assigned for the change in the service bullets is that the Lee-Metford, though it is more deadly at ten times the range of the old musket ball, does not disable an enemy as effectively as is considered desirable. The case is elongated and so hard that soldiers have been known to go on fighting after half a dozen Lee-Metford bullets have gone through them, while the bullet itself has passed through two or three men consecutively, shock being sacrificed for penetration. The Dum Dum bullet, now also superseded, came into use for the purpose of stopping the rush of the hordes of fanatics, as it had the advantage of spreading out and breaking up whenever it encountered resistance, but there has recently been some discussion in France as to the propriety of remonstrating with the British war office on the ground that it is contrary to the convention made with other European powers in 1868. The new service bullet is the same diameter (.303), the same length (an inch and one-fifth), and the same weight (215 grains), as the Lee-Metford bullet, and fits all the service rifles and machine guns in use by the British army. The case is of nickel, the base only being filled with lead. The conical end is left empty, and when it strikes the enemy burrs, opens backward and lodges in the body, penetration being lessened and the shock increased.

The new bullet is spoken of as "the man-killing bullet," in contradistinction to the man-penetrating bullet. It is propelled with cordite, and has as much energy as the old Martini-Henry bullet of 410 grains had with the best gunpowder; while as it is half the weight, the soldier is able to carry double the number of rounds of ball cartridges. The new bullet is being manufactured in the royal laboratory, Woolwich arsenal, by men and boys working overtime, at the rate of 2,000,000 rounds of ball cartridges per week, and if the test in the Kharطوم expedition proved satisfactory a permanent stock will be kept on hand at the powder magazines at Woolwich. A contract for 10,000,000 rounds of the new ball cartridge has been entered into with Messrs. Kynoch & Co., and one with the Small Arms Ammunition company, Birmingham, for a similar number.

Internal Revenue Collector F. E. Coyne estimates that receipts of the Chicago office will aggregate for the year from the sale of stamps \$16,000,000, which will be an increase of \$9,000,000 over the preceding year.

Draped Lincoln's Coffin. Flag Sacred with Hallowed Memories in Moth Proof Case at War Department.

Inclosed in a moth proof glass case in Secretary Alger's office is a flag with a history. This emblem was used to drape the casket of President Lincoln when his remains lay in state in the rotunda of the capital in April, 1865, and enveloped the casket on its long journey through the states to its final resting place at Springfield, Ill. After the ceremonies had been completed the flag was removed from the casket and shipped to Washington, where it was draped and placed in the case in which are moth balls to prevent, as far as possible, its decay.

The flag is draped as only experts employed by the government know how to do this work, and on the case is an inscription reciting its history. The cowardly assassination of the war president immediately after the cessation of hostilities might properly be called the last act of that great drama, and by a strange coincidence in the next room, which is occupied by the adjutant general, is found the base of the flagstaff from which flew the stars and stripes when Fort Sumter was fired upon, and thus the relics of the beginning and the ending of the great modern war repose within a few feet of each other.

Probing Superseded. This Painful and Unsatisfactory Method of Searching for Hidden Bullets Has Become Obsolete.

The report of Dr. Senn on the nature of the wounds inflicted upon our soldiers in the Santiago campaign contained a large amount of information which should be interesting to the surgeon and the layman alike. Perhaps nothing will more interest the layman than the surgeon's announcement that the probe as an instrument for locating bullets has become practically obsolete, says the New York Times. The amount of suffering and of irritation of wounds which is thus obviated is incalculable. For this we have to thank the beneficent X-ray, which finds bullets without inflicting more misery upon the wounded. Nothing is more inspiring than the readiness and skill with which the medical profession utilizes the revelations of science for the diminution of human suffering.

Hold-Up Men in London. South London is so terrorized by gangs that rob the shops with violence and threaten those who pursue them that a vigilance committee has been formed for the suppression of the nuisance, independent of the police.

Automatic Railroad Ticket Sellers. Automatic ticket sellers for all classes and stations have been introduced on two French railways.

THE SPANIARDS IN CANEY.

Their Heroism in the Trenches a Fair Match for the Bravery of the American Troops.

I shall never cease to see, when the word Caney is spoken, a line of some 50 or 60 light blue clad men standing in a trench, the line bent in the middle at right angles by the square turning of the ditch; at the bending of this line some blue-jacketed young officer standing, always exposed to the belt, and sometimes, as he stood up on the level ground, exposed to the feet; the men rising at the word of this officer's command for hours and hours, delivering volley after volley full in our faces; standing as they did so exposed to the waist, confronting 3,000 men, grimly and coolly facing death, drawing their dead up out of the trench, as they fell, to make standing-room for living men, holding their trench immovably from morning until evening—this is what Caney will always mean to me first of all, by virtue of an impression as vivid as the light of day, and as ineffaceable as the image of death.

I say it is a sorrow, because I would like to have my picture of the first great fight I was even in center around some such deed of my own countrymen. But the trench fighting of the Spaniards with their Mausers was in very fact the heart and center of that day's work; and as for that, the heroism of our men appears none the less in the light of the heroism of their antagonists.

These figures of Spaniards in the shallow ditch were really very un-outh, writes Joseph Edgar Chamberlain, in Scribner's. Their jackets of poor, thin blue cotton were merely loose tunics, too short and coarse to have any dignity, and the trousers were had great straw hats, almost black with use, with brims turned up behind and down before. Sometimes the hats came off, and with my glass I watched along the trench the shaggy black heads of Castilian youths—which looked better.

Attacks on Puerto Rico. The Island Has Never Been Taken Until Now, Though Attempted by English and Dutch.

Formerly regarded as the key to South America, Puerto Rico has never been taken until now. It has had the storm for ally, fever, too. Twice England attacked it. The Spaniards beat her off. Once they beat the Dutch. But though the island has never been taken the island has been sacked, says Collier's Weekly. It took pirates to do it, though. The first was a choice person named Drake. Accounts of the adventure differ, but they agree in this: His marines were dressed in silk, his ships were rigged with damask, his topsails were cloths of gold. They were as beautifully equipped. They carried basilisks, culverins, serpentes and bombardes. The latter the old prints describe as mortar pieces furnished with hollow shot "stuffed with fyrework," the smallest part whereof hitting a man being guaranteed to spoil him. More effective for caravels and caracks than Camara's chemicals, they were first used for shelling purposes just 310 years ago. It was a little later that Drake appeared with them in the harbor of San Juan. When he left, the shop was in ruins and his ballast was ducations. Drake had Elizabeth behind him. Cumberland, who followed him there, was an equally choice but entirely private corsair. What he did was on his own hook. What he lacked was the steady gale of good fortune which his colleague enjoyed. Though he took San Juan, fever took his men. Thereat suspecting, as an ancient chronicler naively relates, "that the Spanish had some treacherous design on foot," he broke away with but a pearl chest for souvenir. Since then the island has withstood the attacks of three distinct flotillas. There is luck in odd numbers. Now for the change.

Not So Easy. Captain of a Volunteer Company Tells of His First Attempt to Command Troops.

In a letter home Capt. McKinley of Enoria, Kaney writes: "My first attempt at commanding was rather humiliating. I resolved to take one command from the book and study till I learned it. I procured a pass, went deep into the woods and rehearsed it. I had it down pat. I then went to the captain and had them explain what effect that command would have on the company. Each one took a stick and mapped out the movement on the ground until I understood it thoroughly. I repeated it to myself and felt proud and confident. Next morning at drill I assumed an attitude and, while making a cigarette in a careless fashion, issued the command. The company ran over me, and as they are taught to keep on going until told to halt, the entire company walked on my graceful presence before I could think of what came next. I hope to learn, but I wish I had a company that was not so anxious to mind."

Dynamic Guns for Russians. The Russian government has been impressed by the success of the American dynamite guns, and is considering the question of introducing them in the Russian navy. Four ships will be provided with these guns experimentally, and they will be placed on other vessels if the experiment prove satisfactory.

A Little Chilly. If the earth were not enveloped with atmosphere, the temperature on the surface would be about 330 degrees below zero Fahrenheit.

Bulletin Financier.

Vendredi, 11 novembre 1898.

COMPTOIR D'ÉCHANGES (CLEARING HOUSE) DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS.

Table with financial data including exchange rates for various currencies and commodities.

ÉTAT RÉPUBLICAINE DU CLEARING-HOUSE. Complé par Thos C. Herndon, Directeur.

Table with financial data for the Republican State Clearing House, including assets and liabilities.

MARCHÉ MONÉTAIRE. Nouveaux-Orléans. Pair argent...

MONNAIE. Nouveaux-Orléans. Argent américain, par...

ATTACHÉS AU PUERTO RICO. L'AGENCE DES LINGOTS (PAROUBAN) - Vendredi 11 novembre 1898.

CHANGES. Le BREVETAGE est calme. Les changes de banque (à vue)...

ACTIONS ET BONS. Valeur Off. Demande de...

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