

READS LIKE A STORY.

Romance in Life of Man Now on Way to Philippines.

Sergeant Wason, Graduate of West Point and Friend of Fred D. Grant and Recipient of Much Honor, Returned Through Drink.

Sergeant James Robert Wason, of company M, Forty-sixth United States volunteers, which was formed at South Farmington, Mass., has gone with his regiment to Manila. The life story of Sergeant Wason reads like a romance. He is 53 years of age and has recently joined the regiment, having enlisted as a private, the army regulations as to age being suspended in his case.

Thirty years ago Wason was appointed to West Point. Three years before he had enlisted in an Iowa regiment and went through the Red River campaign. At West Point he became the firm friend of Fred D. Grant. Wason was a brilliant scholar and helped young Grant in his studies. When they graduated Wason stood at the head of his class. He was recognized as having extraordinary engineering abilities. After graduating he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Fortieth United States cavalry on June 15, 1871, and was sent to Fort Leavenworth. In 1872 President Grant answered a request from the khedive of Egypt by sending Wason there, where he introduced the West Point system of drill in the Egyptian army.

Soon after Wason's return he was sent to Japan on a similar request from the khedive, and in that country Wason became so great an authority on military affairs that he did much to rule them. He was made a colonel in the Japanese army and for a time was professor of mathematics in the University of Hokkaido.

While in Tokio he married the daughter of John A. Bingham, of Ohio, American minister, and her health having been broken down by an accidental exposure to fever, Wason decided to give up his Japanese relations and returned to this country. A banquet was given to him on his departure which was attended by all the notables of Japan. In 1884 he returned to Japan and went through the Sino-Japanese war and a campaign in Formosa.

On his first return from Japan President Grant made Wason paymaster of the military department of Texas. He took to drink and fast living, and it was not long before he was in trouble. One day he reported that he had lost \$25,000 by theft. A court-martial followed and he was dismissed in disgrace and served 18 months. He served as a volunteer in a southern regiment in the Spanish war, and now returns to his first occupation, that of a soldier in the ranks.

RAILROAD BUILT FOR BABIES.

One of the Most Fascinating Features of the National Export Exposition.

The miniature railway at the Export exposition, at Philadelphia, which is operated on Vintage avenue, is the greatest children's plaything at the exhibition. The miniature railroad is built for the use of the smallest steam railway train in the world. It uses coal for fuel, and the train consists of ten passenger coaches with a capacity of two persons for each coach. The engine which hauls this wonderful little train weighs 600 pounds, as compared with the 200,000 pounds of an ordinary full-gauge locomotive. It is a faithful reproduction of the parts and workings of a full-sized locomotive. It is a standard eight-wheel American, only five feet four inches long, 18 inches wide and 38 inches from the rail to the top of the smoke stack. The cylinders are two inches in diameter only. The passenger cars are five feet long and 22 inches wide. The train runs at a speed of ten miles an hour. The railway extends a considerable distance around the main building, and is eventually to be extended entirely around the exposition grounds. The children have no end of fun on this little railway, and their mothers and nurses are able to extract as much enjoyment out of it as are the children themselves.

MAN'S LEG SEIZED FOR DEBT.

One of Harry Benner's Creditors Takes His Artificial Limb and Advertises It for Sale.

Harry Benner, a one-legged man, who now has to go on crutches, complained to the police of Wheeling, W. Va., the other day that B. F. Sutton, another one-legged man, had come to his home while he slept, and got his artificial limb from Benner's wife under the pretext that he was going to remodel the socket so it would fit the stump better. The police found that Sutton, who is agent for an artificial limb company, had obtained a judgment against Benner for repairs to the leg, and held the leg under judicial proceedings; also that the leg is advertised for sale to pay the charges.

Benner will institute legal proceedings, claiming damages because of being deprived of the use of a limb, the law apparently making no distinction between natural and artificial legs.

Washington Red Fir. The division of forestry of the department of agriculture at the present time has 16 men in the state of Washington gathering data regarding the growth of red fir and how best to keep the land in a productive condition. Fir is a rapidly-growing timber, and Gifford Pinchot, chief of the division, believes that with proper care there should be a perpetual supply which should maintain Washington as a great lumber-producing state in perpetuity.

TO BE REDUCED.

Changes to Be Made in the North Atlantic Squadron—No Winter Cruise Is Probable.

Rear Admiral Farquhar's command, the North Atlantic squadron, is likely to suffer a material reduction in numerical strength. There will be no winter cruise, in all probability, at least not until February or March, and the fleet will do little until spring. The Texas is in great need of repairs, and a general overhauling.

None of the ships has been much at the navy yard since the late war, and on all of them there is a great deal to be done in the way of refitting and repairing. The Texas will go to the Norfolk navy yard, and the Indiana will be sent to the New York navy yard, where it will remain probably for two months. The New York, the flagship, and the Massachusetts will be used in some extensive experiments with the Marconi system of wireless telegraphy.

It is proposed to equip those ships with elongated masts of the peculiar structure called for in the system and to have them maneuver so as to test the efficiency of this means of communication at sea in all conditions of weather. The ships will describe great circles of from 20 to 30 miles in extent, and will attempt communication with a view to the use of the system in the navy in time of war. The influences of the climatic changes, always an important feature at sea, will be noted, and some method will be devised for perfecting the system. A full report of the work will be made.

The investigation will be the most elaborate conducted by any government, and the results are destined to be important. In January the fleet may be increased by the addition of the Alabama and the Keearsage, both of which are nearly ready for commissioning. There remain on each vessel, however, many details to be arranged before they take their places on the active register.

PROPERTY OF CHICAGO.

Commissioner Wright's Figures Show the City Has a Very Small Per Capita Debt.

Commissioner Wright's figures show that Chicago has a smaller per capita debt than any city with over 400,000 population, while its assessed valuation per capita is ridiculously small. The net city debt for each person in the cities named, omitting fractions, is as follows: Chicago, \$13; New York, \$69; Boston, \$93; Cincinnati, \$61; Detroit, \$10; Indianapolis, \$10; Milwaukee, \$20; Minneapolis, \$29; New Orleans, \$51; Philadelphia, \$29; St. Louis, \$30; San Francisco, \$10; Washington, \$32; Kansas City, \$23; Louisville, \$41; Newark, N. J., \$38; St. Paul, \$43.

The assessed valuation per capita if the assessments were made by the same persons would furnish a basis for determining the relative wealth of the cities, but the tables show only that Chicago has adopted a basis of assessment far below that of any city of 200,000 people or over.

The figures showing the per capita assessment in these same cities, all over 200,000 in population, are as follows: Chicago, \$119; New York, \$378; Boston, \$1,778; Cincinnati, \$481; Detroit, \$593; Indianapolis, \$599; Milwaukee, \$825; Minneapolis, \$476; New Orleans, \$488; Philadelphia, \$697; St. Louis, \$366; San Francisco, \$774; Washington, \$664; Kansas City, \$161; Louisville, \$523; Newark, N. J., \$503; St. Paul, \$431.

A BRIDE'S DECORATION.

Wears the Order of the Chekakat Conferred Upon Her by the Sultan of Turkey.

The bride who interested society most the other day was Miss Grace Sydney Darling. She was married to John Ringgold McCay. Under a bower of roses in the ballroom of the Hotel Majestic the marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. Madison C. Peters. One of Miss Darling's wedding ornaments was a gift from the sultan of Turkey. He gave to her the Order of the Chekakat, the only decoration ever bestowed in Turkey on women, and then, as a rule, only on the nobility and court attachés.

Miss Darling is a daughter of T. S. Darling, and lived for some time in Constantinople. She was popular in diplomatic circles. The Chekakat is a large star of gold, on which is a wreath of green enameled leaves and scarlet berries in relief. On this wreath rests a smaller star of dark red enamel, with a round medallion center of gold, on which are engraved the sultan's monogram and crest.

DIGGING HIS OWN GRAVE.

Old Man Prepares Burial Places for Himself and Wife at Camden, N. J.

Persons passing the Union cemetery, on the outskirts of Camden, N. J., during the last few days, have seen Massey Champion, a very old man, engaged in digging two graves side by side. The cemetery employs professional diggers of graves, but Champion is not one of them. A man who knew him questioned him.

"That one," he said, pointing with his spade, "is for my wife, and this," pointing to the other, "is for me. We're both getting old."

Champion has bought a lot in the cemetery, and its trustees let him humor himself by digging the graves.

Studying the Zoo. Nature study at the zoological gardens is to be a part of the course of instruction in Philadelphia public schools.

Costly Dog. An Englishman paid \$3,000 for a dog.

WILL NEED MILLIONS

Estimates Made by Chief Constructor Hichborn of the Navy.

Within a Year Five Battleships, One Cruiser, One Cadet Training Ship, Twenty-Five Torpedo Boats Are to Be Finished.

Five battleships, one cruiser, one cadet training ship and 25 torpedo boats and torpedo boat destroyers will comprise the new construction completed and added to the navy within the next year.

Rear Admiral Phillip Hichborn, chief constructor of the navy, makes this estimate in his annual report for the fiscal year ended July 1 last, which he has just submitted to the secretary of the navy. Final work on the battleship Keearsage will be completed, he states, in January next; the Kentucky will be ready a month later, the Alabama will be in condition for active service in January, the Wisconsin May 1 next and the Illinois in October.

The Maine will be ready for sea in June of 1901, the Missouri in February of 1902 and the Ohio by March 5, 1902. The four monitors under construction will be turned over to the government in 1901, in which year all the torpedo boat destroyers and torpedo boats should be ready for delivery to the government.

In explanation of his estimate of \$6,000,000 for the construction and repair of vessels, an increase of \$3,000,000 over the appropriation for the present fiscal year, Admiral Hichborn states that it has been and will continue to be found necessary to expend comparatively large sums in connection with the repairs of the older vessels, in making the alterations necessary for their efficiency according to modern idea and practice. For instance, the alterations and repairs to the Cincinnati and Raleigh will require an expenditure of about \$500,000 under the bureau of construction and repair.

War experience has demonstrated, Admiral Hichborn states, the strategic and tactical advantages of heated over unheated ships. The war experience tended to confirm the favorable opinions previously arrived at, and the general success of the designs in these respects may be said to be thoroughly demonstrated. The battery arrangements have been proven to be excellent, and the advisability of using electricity for handling auxiliaries in the place of steam is shown.

FINDS MOTHER BY ENLISTING.

Attempts of a Madison (Wis.) Youth to Enter the Army Revealed a Romance.

A sensation was sprung in military circles at Madison, Wis., the other day. Capt. J. H. Baker, who has just received his appointment, has opened a recruiting office for men to serve in the Philippines. One of the first to enlist was Norman Thorson, of Madison, a promising singer and member of the Presbyterian church choir. He gave his age as 19 years and presented a letter of permission from the woman whom he supposed was his mother. On the day in question he was undismayed by the arrival of a woman from Milwaukee, who claimed to be his real mother and who protested against his enlistment. She says the boy is 17 years old and was given to the woman who reared him when he was but three months old and that he was never legally adopted.

It was the first intimation the boy had of his real mother. Capt. Baker will secure his discharge.

BES USE CHIMNEY FOR HIVE.

A Large Quantity of Honey Is Taken from a Massachusetts House.

During repairs on a chimney on the residence of Mrs. Abby M. Williams, of Washington square, Gloucester, Mass., it was discovered that bees had emptied the chimney for a hive. Nine wash boilers full of honey were taken therefrom.

The chimney was filled with bees and it was necessary to smoke them out before the work could be commenced. Bees have been noticed around the chimney for the past four or five years. During the spring of each year the inmates of the house have swept up several pails of dead bees. The greater part of the honey was unfit for use, but the wax sold for 40 cents a pound.

PROFITS CUT DOWN.

American High-Grade Bicycles Still in Demand in Germany—German Makers Feel Competition.

Despite the fact that the German market for American bicycles has been hurt by the introduction of large numbers of cheap wheels, the manufacturers of high-grade machines are doing a good business in that country. Two leading manufacturing companies of Nuremberg, in endeavoring to explain to their shareholders the drop from ten to 15 percent dividends to none at all, ascribe the shrinkage in profits wholly to American competition. Among the 157 firms which will exhibit in the second annual bicycle fair, to be held in the Leipzig crystal palace, the largest and best American manufacturers are to be represented.

Manuscripts in Vatican Library. A few decades ago the manuscript treasures in the Vatican Library were practically inaccessible. Since then one barrier after another has been removed, and now the present director, Ehrle, has decided to have duplicates made of many of the most valuable and oldest manuscripts, with all their illustrations, for the benefit of other libraries.

A DELICATE OPERATION.

Chicago Man Has an Extra Stomach Removed and Is Thought to Be Getting Well.

The facts in a peculiar case of surgery, in which a former Chicago baseball player's extra stomach was removed at Battle Creek, Mich., the patient is Seth Stratton. His peculiarity is that he had two stomachs and yet was starving.

Ever since childhood Stratton has been troubled with his stomach, suffering excruciating pain at times. Some of the best physicians in the land have treated him. He finally submitted to an operation at the hospital in Battle Creek. An examination on the operating table proved that he had two stomachs, but was approaching starvation through inability to assimilate food. The object of the surgeons was to remove the second and superfluous stomach and do away with the contraction of the esophagus that prevented his getting food into either stomach. This was finally accomplished.

Stratton's trouble had increased to such an extent that food had to be forced into his stomach. He grew thin, weak and pale, and the operation was all that saved his life, after his case had been pronounced incurable.

Recently Stratton had an X-ray photograph taken of his abdominal region, and it showed a formation on the esophagus, just above the diaphragm. It was found that since boyhood he had been the victim of the contraction of the esophagus, which grew worse and worse, until nothing could pass through it. The retention of food above this place caused a distention of the esophagus, until that tube proved its identity with the major digestive organ by itself becoming a stomach. Every feature of the primary pouch was reproduced, with the exception of the muscles.

Stratton is inspector for a Chicago gas company. He believes now that he is in a fair way to recover.

NEW ROUTE TO KLONDIKE.

Clerk of the Abercrombie Expedition Tells of an All-American Way.

Recent explorations conducted by Quartermaster Clerk John F. Rice, a member of the Abercrombie expedition, demonstrate the practicability of an all-American route to the Klondike. Mr. Rice, with Inspector W. C. Wayland, of the post office department, started from Valdez on June 19. He has just returned to Washington and related his experience. He said:

"Capt. Abercrombie has discovered a route around the Valdez glacier. We left the glacier by way of Keystone canyon, entered Dutch valley and crossed the divide into Teikhell valley. After leaving this we reached the village of Klutana, and then proceeded to Copper Center. Lake Montasta was our next stopping place. Near the lake, a short distance beyond the Siana river, is a pass through the Alaskan range, 1,600 feet above sea level and easy of access. Proceeding, we reached the Tanana river and then Lake Mansfield. From the Ketichunok village on the lake we started for Mosquito fork, and in the valley of that name found good grass growing to the height of three feet. Leaving the valley we reached Franklin gulch, and crossing Forty-Mile creek traveled along the divide to the Yukon, ten miles from Eagle City. We made the trip from Valdez to Eagle City in 40 days. The distance from Valdez to Eagle City is about 435 miles."

A POISONOUS WEAPON.

Curious But Deadly Little Instrument Found on a Prisoner at New York City.

A curious little weapon came into the possession of Warden Hagan, of the Tombs, of New York city. The tiny instrument was nothing but a variation of the ordinary hypodermic syringe. In the aluminum case, however, which contained not only the syringe but also a package of needles, a slender tube, and a vial for poison, there were all the materials for killing in a manner sure to be effective.

The nickel-plated syringe was made to serve as an air gun. It was about as large as a fountain pen. When the platoon was pressed a tiny dart, the size of an ordinary needle, could be shot into the victim's body.

The force of the platoon was sufficient, the warden said, to cause the dart to penetrate ordinary clothing from a distance of a few feet and to puncture the flesh deeply enough for the poison into which the end of the dart had been dipped, to take effect.

"We found the thing on a prisoner named William Jennings," said Deputy Warden Flynn. "I don't know whether he had ever used it. We merely found it in his clothes in making the usual search."

LEE'S PICTURE AT WEST POINT

Portrait Will Be Placed in the Academy Gallery if One Is Provided.

Secretary of War Root has written to Mrs. W. N. Mitchell, of Atlanta, Ga., a daughter of Congressman Otey, of Virginia, in response to an inquiry that Col. A. L. Miller, superintendent of the West Point Military academy, will place a portrait of Gen. Robert E. Lee in the academy gallery if one is provided, showing Gen. Lee in the uniform of a United States army officer. An effort will be made by the United Daughters of the Confederacy to provide the painting. Gen. Lee was superintendent of the academy from September 1, 1852, to March 31, 1855.

Mendicant Students. Many of the students at Russian universities are mendicants, who solicit alms and wear cast-off garments.

FRISKY OLD PEOPLE.

Remarkable Men and Women of Rutherford County, N. C.

Age Does Not Seem to Tell Upon Their Energies of Mind and Body—One Man Rides Wild Bronchos at 91.

If Ponce de Leon in his search for the fountain of youth had visited Rutherford county, N. C., he would probably have gone no further in his picturesque quest. Rutherford has more extraordinarily old people in her borders than any county in the south, and they are all well preserved and in excellent health.

"Granny" Hollifield, who lives near Ellenboro, is one of the most remarkable of these specimens. She is 118 years old. Jesse Wells, who lives at Puzzle Creek, is 94 years old, and looks at least 30 years younger. He is a fervent Baptist and never loses an opportunity to vote. One of his most intimate friends, Benjamin Biggerstaff, is 92 years old, and owns the same religious and political affiliations as Wells. They possess remarkable vigor and clearness of mind.

One of the most striking figures in this coterie of old-young people is Sheriff Andrew Long, who is 91 years old. He rides wild bronchos, plows the entire season and copes with the most desperate criminals that North Carolina produces. On many occasions he has defeated younger and more vigorous men who had the temerity to oppose him for sheriff. Next come John and Preston Long, relatives of the doughty sheriff, aged respectively 89 and 90.

William Wade, aged 90, a citizen of Duncan Creek, has plowed every summer until this last, and works at the blacksmith trade. His sight and hearing are unimpaired. Then there is "Grandma" Lisk, who lives near Cherry Mountain, and is just an even hundred years of age. She walks two miles to church every Sunday, takes in washing for a living, smokes a clay pipe and enjoys full possession of all her faculties. There is "Aunt" Nancy Philbeck, aged 86, and Andy Crowder and his wife Sally, each aged 87. Andy is a redoubtable Nimrod, and his home is filled with trophies of his prowess. Probably no other section of the United States has so remarkable a record.

SWINDLER TURNS DETECTIVE.

Got \$50,000 from an Insurance Company, Escaped Arrest, and Spent the Money.

After being chased about the world for six years Fred L. Titus, wanted for swindling an insurance company of Toronto, Canada, out of \$80,000, has been captured at Phoenix, Ariz., by Detective Jack Fagan, of Chicago. At the time of the swindle Fagan was detailed to hunt down the criminal. He traced Titus through southwest and central Mexico, and found him at Lima, Peru.

Titus had deposited his money in a bank, and because of a defective extradition treaty he and the money were safe. Fagan gained the friendship of Titus and finally induced him to deposit the money with a gambler, saying that the bank was about to fail. The gambler knew of Titus' crime, and was to turn the money over to Fagan, and what might be restored to its rightful owners, but he came to look upon the transaction as shady and so returned the money to Titus, with an explanation of the detective's plans.

Titus disappeared and was seen for the first time by Fagan in Phoenix the other day. He had spent the stolen money and was willing to accompany the detective to Canada. But the insurance company is now out of business and Titus is not wanted. Titus has impressed Fagan with an idea that he will make a good detective, and Fagan has secured employment for him with a detective agency at Chicago.

TALKS OF CRIME AS DISEASE.

Address of Dr. Poore Before the Royal College of Physicians at London.

Dr. George Vivian Poore, in delivering the Harveian oration before the Royal College of Physicians at London the other day, made some suggestive remarks regarding crime as a disease. "It is to the leaders in medicine," he said, "that we owe the recognition of the fact that conduct which once was regarded as a sin, calling for cruel and revengeful punishment, in reality is a disease, which must be controlled with firmness indeed, but firmness tempered with mercy rather than vengeance. Not even a Judge Jeffrey would now be permitted to prescribe hard labor and flogging for a poor wretch suffering from optic neuritis, whose real need was iodide of potassium. There can be no doubt that an increased power of recognizing brain disease in any early stage has made for mercy."

On the subject of vivisection Dr. Poore said: "It is useless to argue with those who apparently hold the view that a guinea pig is of more value than many babies."

Value of Rubies. The value of rubies below the weight of one carat ranges from ten dollars to forty dollars per carat, while stones of greater weight than four carats are of such exceptional occurrence as to command fancy prices.

Public Drinking Fountains. New York has proved a great success. The number of people who patronized them on an average warm day was about 84,000, of whom 5,000 to 6,000 took water away in vessels.

Walls of Mud. In Peru house walls consist of mud.

DIAMONDS ADVANCING

Speculative Move in the Gems on Account of Transvaal War.

Customs Experts at New York Are Inclined to Think That Rapid Advance in Prices Will Not Be Maintained.

Apparently the first tangible result of the war in the Transvaal, so far as this country is concerned, is found in the rapid rise in the prices of diamonds at New York, amounting in some instances to 50 per cent. Customs experts are inclined to look on this advance as largely speculative. The discovery of diamonds in Reinfenstein was made only in August, 1907. The total find of diamonds in the Transvaal for 1898 was only \$212,812. The exports of diamonds from the Orange Free State were \$2,145,951. The two Boer republics thus contributed \$2,358,763 to the diamond stock last year. This is a comfortable sum, but hardly justifies a large advance in price because this field is temporarily closed.

The Kimberley mines in Cape Colony, it is estimated, have since their discovery in 1867 produced diamonds valued at \$550,000,000 in the rough and worth twice that amount when cut. It is claimed that 93 percent of the diamonds of the world are now found near Kimberley, and it was found necessary to restrict production to keep prices at a profitable range. The closing of the Transvaal is not likely to make diamonds intrinsically more valuable, as experts say the market is heavily overstocked, and they say if there is any speculative advance it would be wise to sell, as the Kimberley mines can in a few weeks supply enough diamonds to put the price lower than ever.

The war is apparently more likely to raise the purchase price of gold than diamonds, as the mines of the Rand, in the Transvaal, are credited with a production of \$300,000,000 since 1884, while the gold in sight probably amounts to the enormous sum of \$3,500,000,000.

MONSTER UMBRELLA SCHEME.

Proposition of a Genius for Shielding Exposition Visitors from the Sun's Rays or Rain.

While a great many of the ideas sent in to the Philadelphia exposition management suggesting amusement features are entirely too freakish to be considered for a moment, there are some that are worthy at least of a little consideration. In the latter class is a scheme proposed by a New York inventor, who has written as follows:

"I respectfully suggest to the management's consideration my idea of a monster umbrella as an attraction. I think it would make a hit. I am not in the umbrella business, and so I'm not looking for a graft for myself, but if you will give me the authority I'll go ahead and perfect the plans I have in mind, and I guarantee to make any umbrella that was ever made look like thirty cents. My umbrella would cover more than two acres, and in case of rain it would shield more than 9,000 people from the storm. The same number might get under it in case of too much sunshine. I would have a spiral staircase running up the staff, and iron bridges radiating from the center along the ribs, at the outer ends of which would be attached large baskets in which people could ride. The whole umbrella would revolve. I think you would find this a great attraction."

Up to date the management has not requisitioned this genius' services.

BOTTLE MADE A LONG TRIP.

It Was Thrown Into Lake Huron and Was Later Found in New York Harbor.

On August 13, 1898, Mr. and Mrs. John France and Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Hill, of Decatur, Ind., while aboard a steamer in Lake Huron, threw the straits of Mackinac, threw overboard a tightly-cooked bottle of very thick glass, containing a brief note to the finder and signed by all of the four.

They had entirely forgotten the incident until this week, when Mr. France received by mail a note from H. Kammaker, of Columbus, O., stating that he had, while at the Dewey festivities in New York, picked up the bottle which was floating in New York harbor. It was then tightly sealed, and the note was found just as written. Mr. Kammaker expressed the hope that all of the four were alive and well.

The bottle apparently made the journey through Lake Huron, Lake Erie, over Niagara, and through the whirlpool, followed the Niagara river to Lake Ontario, and thence down the St. Lawrence to the sea, whence it was carried by the currents down the Atlantic coast.

Two Flyrights.

Richard Cumberland, the playwright, was extremely jealous of his young rival, Richard Sheridan. It is related that he took his children to see one of the performances of "The School for Scandal," and when they screamed with delight their irritable father pinched them, saying: "What are you laughing at? You should not laugh, my angels; there is nothing to laugh at," adding in an undertone: "Keep still, you little devils." When this was reported to Sheridan, he said: "It was ungrateful of Cumberland to be displeased with his children for laughing at my comedy, for when I went to see his tragedy I laughed from beginning to end!"

New Way of Blasting Rock.

A new way of blasting rock is to place a cartridge of water into a shot hole and convert it into steam instantly by electricity. This method is especially applicable in coal mines.