

LIFE BELT WITH LIGHT.

New Device by Which Rescuees at Sea May Be Accomplished at Night.

Improvements in the means of saving life at sea have been made in Germany. Consul General Gunther at Frankfurt reports it has often happened that on account of darkness life belts could not be seen when thrown to persons who had fallen overboard at night.

The new apparatus weighs but 33 pounds and produces a light equal to 150-candle power. The buoy is of a globular form, carries from two to four life belts, and supports a long cylinder of sheet tin, having 12 compartments filled with carbide of calcium.

When the apparatus is thrown into the sea the water passes through perforations in the bottom of the cylinder, and, coming in contact with the carbide, generates acetylene gas. Each compartment is connected with a burner by a pipe, proper valves preventing the escape of the gas other than through the burner.

When the volume of gas in the cylinder decreases hydrostatic pressure opens the valves and allows water to enter the next compartment to generate an additional supply of gas. The gas is lighted electrically, and ignition takes place in about 25 seconds after the buoy is thrown into the sea.

Cleaning and filling the apparatus requires only a few minutes. The cost of a charge is about 12 cents.

The advantages claimed for the invention are that it can be used on all kinds of vessels; it may be used for general lighting purposes; its cheapness and light weight.

LION CARRIED BABY AWAY.

The Little One Was Rescued After a Vigorous and Long Pursuit.

There are a few mountain lions yet remaining in the hill country of Kentucky, but they seldom commit any more serious depredations than to carry off a young calf or sheep. One day recently, however, one of these animals invaded the home of Joshua Potter, in Knox county, during the absence of the family and carried away an infant child.

AN ENEMY OF FLAX.

Growers in the Northwest Alarmed Over a Fungus or Parasitic Growth on the Plant.

A special from Fargo, N. D., says that flax growers in the northwest have been alarmed over the diseased condition of the crop for a year or two, and as a result investigations Prof. H. L. Bolley, of the North Dakota agricultural college, has discovered that the flax plant is afflicted with a fungus or parasitic growth, similar to smut on wheat.

Investigations are now in progress to discover some method of treating the soil to eradicate the growth, or to treat the grain as wheat is treated for smut with formaldehyde.

Prof. Bolley is one of the best authorities in the west on treatment of wheat for smut and was the discoverer of scab on potatoes and the methods of prevention.

PHOTOGRAPHS IN COLORS.

Swiss Amateur Claims to Have Discovered the Secret and Says It Is a Simple Process.

The Berne Bund, the leading paper printed in German in Switzerland, has a long article on the discovery of the secret of color photography by a Berne amateur, Adolphe Gartner. He has been working on the invention for several years, but, by a happy accident, a few days ago he discovered the secret, which consists chiefly in the bath process, and is simple. Gartner shows magnificent specimens on paper, porcelain and glass, in colors of blue, red, brown and dark yellow.

VANDERBILT SEEKS PENNY.

Coin Rolls from the Millionaire's Pocket and He Searches Diligently Until He Finds It.

Alfred G. Vanderbilt, head of the house of that name, spent several minutes in the Getty house at Yonkers diligently searching for a lost penny while on his trip on the coach with a party of friends. The story, which is corroborated in detail by a half-dozen reputable witnesses, is to the effect that as soon as the coach drew up Vanderbilt, with two of his friends, dismounted and entered the cafe by the front door.

Brushing back his heavy mackintosh the young man plunged his hand into the right front pocket of his trousers and drew forth a handful of money. One of the coins dropped to the floor, and this further provoked the curiosity of the men who were attracted to the party. Hearing the falling coin, Vanderbilt turned about to look. Everyone in the place was amazed when the young man proceeded to plod about in search of the lost coin. The amazement increased when he brushed aside a cuspidor that hid one corner of the room, and when he actually moved the cuspidor from its accustomed place to find the coin, the surprise was undoubted.

The concluding act of the unusual spectacle of a multi-millionaire searching for a coin consisted of the lifting of a tall coaching hat with one hand and reaching down to the floor for the coin. When it was discovered that the coin was a one-cent piece, and there was no mistaking it, those who saw its loss and recovery could hardly believe their eyes.

But the young man cared not. He calmly returned the coin to his pocket, walked to his coach and, with a crack of the whip, was off to Ardrey with a blast of the trumpet.

A NEW WONDER.

Waterfall 300 Feet High Is Discovered in the Yellowstone National Park.

Word has just been received of the discovery of another natural wonder in the Yellowstone National park by James Latherman, deputy game warden for Wyoming, who has found a waterfall 300 feet high, which he named "Lost Falls."

The falls are in Box canyon, two and a half miles northwest of Hell's Half Acre. A person can go within 100 yards of them and never be aware of their presence. The water plunges from a comparative level to a sheer depth of 300 feet or more. A dense growth of timber overshadows the sheet of falling water, and a person can walk to the very brink without realizing his danger, except for the warning thunder of the tumbling waters.

Latherman says a trail can be easily cut to the place and believes it will become more popular than the Yellowstone falls, owing to its attractive surroundings.

MANY TRIPLETS GET CUPS.

Governor Stanley's Offer Brings Claims from Kansas Mothers.

Gov. Stanley, of Kansas, confessed the other day that he made a foolish offer a month ago when he agreed to give a solid silver mug to all triplets born in Kansas during his second administration. Five fond mothers have already secured from the governor 15 nice silver cups for babies, and the other day his mail contained another letter, backed up with the affidavit of A. C. Dunlap, of Crawford county, that two sons and a daughter were born to his wife two weeks ago.

The salary for governor of Kansas is \$3,000 per year, but at the rate that triplets are being reported much of this sum will be used in the purchase of presents for babies. The governor fears that he may be deceived in this triplet business, and as a necessary precaution he has demanded the certificate of the attending physician along with the affidavit from parents.

SHOOTS BIRDS WITH BOW.

Pennsylvania Hunter Who Clings to Primitive Methods of Killing Game.

The most primitive hunter, as well as the most remarkable marksmen in Pennsylvania, is, it has just been learned, Frederick Thomas, a hermit who lives on the Gettysburg battlefield. Thomas shoots birds and rabbits with a bow and arrow. So expert has he become that he seldom misses a shot. He subsists almost entirely upon game killed in this manner.

Because of the death of his wife, the only person on earth he cared for, Thomas deserted the world. About ten years ago he came to this place and bought a small plot of woodland. His first home was a hole in the ground and a small cave hut. Three years ago, entirely unassisted, Thomas succeeded in building himself a one-story cabin of logs.

An Awkward Situation. A member of the Dublin corporation, in speaking on the electric light question recently, said: "You are standing on the edge of a precipice that will be a weight on your necks all the rest of your days."

CAUSES A PROTEST.

Pistol Makers in America Aroused Over German Order.

Declare They Have Weapon Equal to Foreign Firearms—Want Merits of Two Pistols Tested—What Is Claimed for German Pistol.

The decision of the war department to purchase 1,000 automatic pistols of German manufacture has aroused a spirited protest from the American makers of a similar type of weapon. One company, whose pistol was recommended by army ordnance officers, has written the secretary of war that it has a pistol which is equal to the foreign weapon and asks that the device be submitted to a test in competition with the German pistol. The practical adoption of the foreign pistol is a result of a row between the ordnance officers and members of the board of ordnance and fortification. The former favor the American pistol and the latter, headed by Gen. Miles, favor the German pistol.

The latter, it is claimed, is capable of discharging 116 bullets a minute at a high initial velocity, but the makers of the American pistol claim for it equal or superior points of merit. The German weapon is named for its inventor, George Luger, a former officer in the Austrian army, and is made by the German arms and ammunition factory and the Fabrique Nationale of Military Arms in Belgium. This concern has manufactured about 5,000,000 Mauser rifles for European nations, and has also brought out several types of automatic pistols.

H. Tauscher, a representative of the company, said that the new pistol was the result of ten years' experiment.

"We brought out the Borchardt, the Mauser, the Mannlicher and the Bergmann," said Mr. Tauscher. "All governments sought an improvement on the revolver, which became practically useless after the cartridges in the cylinder had been fired. The first government to change was the Swiss.

"At a test which they instituted in 1896, the Borchardt, which employed the 'link system' of feeding from the magazine, was deemed superior. This is the system that has shown value in the Maxim gun and is now used in many arms. The Swiss ordnance officers asked for a smaller arm than the Borchardt, and George Luger, the inventor of the Mannlicher rifle, set to work to reconstruct the link system. Switzerland made a test in 1898, and in 1899 their military commission adopted the Luger pistol."

ASTOR LEADS LONELY LIFE.

Daily Routine of the Millionaire, Who is Now Stopping in Paris.

William Waldorf Astor has been spending his time at Paris in a lonely fashion as if he had not a friend on earth since his return from his excursion among the Louraine historical castles proposed for his acceptance as a permanent residence. Mr. Astor rises at 11 a. m. and soon takes a short stroll, looking aimlessly into the shop windows. He invariably lunches at one o'clock at the Elysee Palace hotel. He insists upon always having the same table and the same waiter. The waiter must give his undivided attention to Astor, though customarily he waits on four tables at the same time. The poor waiter, when he learned that his irascible client was one of the wealthiest men in the world, cried out: "Why, he never spends more than two dollars for a meal, and he regularly gives me a 15-cent tip."

Astor's morning dish is broiled trout, with green caper sauce. In the evening he often takes squash and green peas. For dessert he invariably takes ice cream. He never touches fruit. Astor's only drink is a Scotch highball. He always takes two, and sometimes three or four, before going to bed. One is brought by his valet the first thing when he awakes.

MISSING LINK OF PLANTS.

Harvard Explorers Will Sail on June 15 for Margarita Island to Search for It.

Botanical experts from Harvard university will go to Margarita island, off the coast of Venezuela, in search of the missing link of the vegetable world, according to a statement made the other day by Prof. John M. Coulter, of the University of Chicago. In tracing the evolution of plant life scientists both at Chicago and Harvard found a gap which could be explained only by the existence of a plant as yet undiscovered. Circumstances pointed to the probability of finding such a plant on Margarita island, which never has been explored by scientific men. A party of professors and students from Harvard under the charge of J. R. Johnson will sail for Venezuela on June 15. A portion of the material gathered will go to the Chicago University museum.

An Explanation. The Philadelphia doctor who wants to charge a fee of \$100,000 for attending a man who died probably wants part of it, suggests the Chicago Record-Herald, for the damage that was done to his reputation through the neglect of the patient to get well.

Drawing the Line. They are not going to let the Philadelphia letter carriers wear shirt waists. Philadelphia has been quite gay in some respects lately, but says the Chicago Record-Herald, she thinks she still knows where to draw the line.

Australian Wool. Australia's first measured wool clip was 20,000 tons in 1821. This has now risen to 2,700,000.

TO HELP ISLANDERS.

Industrial Villages to Be Established in Porto Rico.

Agricultural Department Has Plans Whereby the Conditions of the People Can Be Greatly Improved.

With a view to improving the conditions of the people of Porto Rico the department of agriculture is giving consideration to the question of establishing industrial villages in the island. The manufacture of hats, straw goods and matting, the production of raw silk and the canning of tropical fruits are examples of employment which would be beneficial. Dr. S. A. Knapp, who has investigated the agricultural conditions in Porto Rico, says: "The early establishment of a number of minor industries closely related to agriculture is of vital importance to future prosperity. The object of such industries is to give profitable employment to the wives and children of farm laborers, so that the earning ability of the home may be doubled and in some cases quadrupled. Under such conditions, if the head of a family fails for any cause to earn his wage the home goes on. The earning capacity is lessened, but the home is not destroyed. "This has its moral as well as economic bearing. Many philanthropic Porto Ricans suggested that the laborers on coffee and tobacco plantations scattered upon the mountains, without roads, society or schools, with the children nude and semi-wild, could never derive the full advantages of a free education and be influenced by the elevation of society until they were gathered into small villages and become amenable to social laws.

"In a republic this cannot be done by force, but once small industrial villages are established in the country the scattered mountain population will be attracted to the village by its superior earning capacity and its advantages for school, society and better living. The establishment of these villages will be no detriment to the farms because the village labor will be within the reach of every farm."

AGAIN OPEN TO PUBLIC.

Government Orders Restrictions Closing "Wind Cave" to Inspection Removed.

Commissioner Hermann, of the general land office has instructed the special agent of the interior department to reopen "Wind cave," in the Black hills of South Dakota, to inspection by the public. The cave belongs to the federal government and comprises about 1,000 acres. It was withdrawn by order of January 18, 1900. No depredations or acts of trespass of any kind will be permitted upon or within the premises, no specimens will be allowed to be taken away by tourists and no fees or money considerations will be permitted to be charged or received by anyone for the privilege of visiting the cave.

Wind cave is so called on account of the strong rushing current of air through the entrance. Several hundred feet below the surface a level is reached from which miles of arched avenues radiate in every direction, embracing a succession of imposing chambers. The ceilings are pendant with gems of stalactite formation, while around the walls in niches carved out by the action of the water are specimens of deftly wrought statuary, fragile foliage, chaste columns of the most elaborate architecture and forms resembling birds and animals.

Vandalism has been responsible for much injury to the beauties of the place. The withdrawal over a year ago was designed to prevent a recurrence of this evil in the future.

A REMARKABLE RECOVERY.

Young Man's Back Broken at a Dance, Operated On Successfully by a Surgeon.

While dancing at Glendale, L. I., last August Joseph Lennon fell from the platform and injured his back. He was sent to the hospital at Jamaica, where three vertebrae of his spinal column were operated on. Lennon rallied after the operation, but while he could read and talk he had no control over either his arms or legs. Before Dr. Herbert K. Noble performed the operation he performed a similar one on a dead body. It took him four hours to remove the broken portions of bone from Lennon's spine.

A few weeks after the operation Lennon was able to sit up in bed, and in February he was able to move his toes a little. Gradually he has recovered the use of all his limbs, and about the middle of March he was able to stand up. Gradually he gained until he could stand alone, and last Monday he took four steps alone. Since then he has walked the entire length of the ward alone.

Ancient Pet in Ceylon. The most curious reminder of Holland's away in Ceylon is a living creature, a grand old tortoise supposed to have belonged to one of the Dutch governors some 200 years ago. He is very docile and ever ready to attract the attention of anyone who is likely to offer him a plantain. The tortoise is so large that he can carry several boys on his back at one time.

London Hospital Patients. More than a million people are treated in the hospitals of London each year.

Future Army Food. The "army food of the future," it is predicted, will be dried eggs in cans.

MAKING BLIND TO SEE.

Wonderful Results Accomplished by Vienna Doctor Through Patient and Scientific Effort.

A dispatch to the New York World from Vienna says: An epoch-marking discovery in training children born blind to see has been made by Director Keller, of the institute for the blind here.

He exhibited the other day before the Physicians' society a seven-year-old boy who was born blind, but with perfectly organized eyes—brain-blind, as the doctors call it—whom he has taught in 14 months to discern colors, forms and objects, and to read with his eyes. He was induced to attempt the work because he had taught 70 deaf and dumb children with normal ears to hear and to speak by working on the brain.

The method consists in first teaching the child in a perfectly dark room by means of a movable disc of light to distinguish light from darkness, the child being "unable to see," perhaps. This is developing a faculty of which the pupil is not conscious, and takes months of patient treatment.

Next objects which a blind person knows by feeling are placed against a light disc and the child is told what they are called.

Then colored glass placed before a lamp teaches him colors. Geometrical figures on a disc are shown and the teacher passes slowly on to forming letters and reading is taught.

Then the disc is removed and objects are shown in a dark room with rays of light falling upon them.

From this point the sight is gradually accustomed to the daylight.

SAVED SEWARD'S LIFE.

Deed of Mrs. Margaret T. Coleman Rewarded by a Life-Long Position in Treasury Department.

A special to the New York Herald from Washington says: Mrs. Margaret T. Coleman, who was a servant in the family of Secretary of State Seward, when the attempt was made to assassinate him the same evening that J. Wilkes Booth shot President Lincoln, and who was credited with saving the secretary's life, has resigned the place which she has held in the treasury department for 27 years.

Her resignation was due to ill-health and feebleness, and her niece, Miss Margaret T. Coleman, has been appointed in her stead and will support her aunt. Secretary Seward was ill and confined to his bed at the time when Payne, one of the conspirators with Booth, attempted to kill him.

Mrs. Coleman and an invalid soldier named Robinson were in the secretary's bedroom when Payne entered the house. Mrs. Coleman met him in the hallway, just outside of the secretary's room. She caught him and screamed, and although he threw her aside, she delayed him long enough to enable Robinson to catch him.

Payne broke away from Robinson and reached the bedside, but in the meantime Secretary Seward had rolled to the opposite side of the bed and the wounds which Payne was enabled to inflict, though serious, were not fatal. Mrs. Coleman was always credited with saving the secretary's life by delaying the would-be assassin, and was given her place in the treasury department as a reward.

IT WAS A QUIET WEDDING.

But a Minister and Two Translators Were Needed at the Ceremony.

The most peculiar wedding ever celebrated in Kenosha county, Wis., took place at the town of Bristol the other afternoon when George Hebbard and Miss Amelia Krohn, both mute, were united in marriage by Rev. E. F. Dornfeld, pastor of the German Lutheran church of Kenosha. The wedding was a very complicated affair. When the contracting parties stood before the minister it was decided that the ceremony and the responses should be written, as the minister was not able to speak in the sign language. At this point another complication arose as it was discovered that the bride was not able to read or write English, the language known to the groom, while the groom could not read the German, the language of the bride. For some time it looked as if the wedding would have to be postponed, but the difficulties were finally surmounted by the aid of interpreters who translated the wedding service into the two languages. With this arrangement the couple were finally joined in marriage.

The courtship of the happy pair was a very romantic one, as they met each other in a school for mutes and the friendship formed while both were exceedingly young resulted in the marriage.

Automobile in War. In France experiments have been carried on for the last three years with the Scottie automobile, a steam wagon of 27 horse power, weighing only 6,000 pounds, which can carry 4,000 pounds and draw another load of 12,000 pounds at a rate of five miles an hour under a full load without putting on water or coal. Twenty-four of these wagons can supply an army corps of 30,000 men with 200 rounds of ammunition per man, over a distance of 80 miles.

Missouri's Prison Library. Missouri claims to have the best prison library of any state in the union. The library consists of 5,000 well-selected books.

Valuable Property. The property of the Catholic missions in Shanghai is valued at \$2,000,000.

NEARLY KILLED BY A SWAN.

Mischievous Child Broken Into Insensibility and Drugged Out to Deep Water.

Harry Corson, a mischievous four-year-old, was in Loring park at Minneapolis, Minn., with his grandfather, who generally looks after the little fellow. Harry, a sturdy little chap, was especially delighted with the swans. The child was playing with them, having much amusement watching them sail around and poke their long necks over the edge of the gravel beach. After awhile he began pelting the swans with sticks, they venturing close, not fearing the attack.

Suddenly the largest swan ruffled his feathers, and, mad with rage, made a dash and seized the child in its strong beak. Harry struggled for an instant, but, strong as he was, the huge bird splashed its wings in the water, throwing up water in its rage, and with swift and sure strokes dragged the child out into the water toward the center of the lake. The little fellow was too frightened to make further outcry, and for a moment the onlookers were paralyzed at what seemed to be an impending tragedy.

The swan had become thoroughly enraged and was evidently attempting to drown the child. Twice the little body was forced under the water by the strong neck of the bird, and before rescuers had reached the pair they were 20 feet out from shore. Even then the maddened bird struggled with the men, reluctant to give up the fight, and a blow was necessary to make it release the child. The little fellow was carried to the office of a physician, where he was restored to consciousness.

GAIN IN SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK.

American Union Reports Progress for the Year Satisfactory to the Managers.

The missionary work of the American Sunday School union in the year closing February 28, 1901, exhibited two gratifying features. While 1,874 new Sunday schools were organized in destitute places, only six less than in the previous year, there were 594 reorganized, against 515 in the year before, and 3,523 schools visited or otherwise aided, against 2,687 of the previous year; and 9,123 cases of visit and aid to old schools, against 7,465 in the year before.

The amount received for the support of missionary work was \$146,101, against \$131,796, an increase of \$14,305. During the year there were 222 men employed of whom 113 were at work during the whole year, and 109 during a portion of it. Two thousand, four hundred and sixty-eight schools were set in operation that were not in existence one year ago, reaching 90,663 members; in addition to this, in the 3,521 schools aided for the first time there were 270,743 members, while 9,123 visits were also made and aid given to old schools.

The work of family visitation has been prosecuted, 175,794 such visits having been made by missionaries against 143,075 the previous year. Twenty-two thousand, seven hundred and ninety-two sermons and addresses were made, against 14,714 of the year before, and 13,702 Bibles and Tracts distributed. One hundred and five churches of different denominations have been organized as the outcome of the schools.

UNKNOWN CANADA.

Of That Country Declared That Fully One-Third of Dominion Is Unexplored.

The director of the geological survey of Canada, in his last report, makes the amazing statement that practically nothing is known of one-third of the Dominion. So states United States Consul Seyfert, at Stratford, in a report to the state department.

It is shown that more than a million and a quarter square miles of Canadian territory is as yet unexplored. This includes the inhospitable detached Arctic portions, but aside from these fully 954,000 square miles are for all practical purposes entirely unknown. The easterly area contains the greatest extent of unexplored territory. It comprises almost the entire interior of the Labrador peninsula. The indications are, says Consul Seyfert, that during the next five years at least 5,000 miles of new railroad will be completed throughout the Dominion, most of which will run through the unexplored wilderness, as it is recognized that railroads are primarily essential to the opening up of this vast territory. The mineral wealth of this region is said to be undoubtedly immense, while the dense forests of hard wood when brought to the markets of the world are expected to become a source of large profit.

LONG LOST CHECK TURNS UP.

Voucher Issued Twenty Years Ago to Representative Bland Presented for Payment.

A check given 20 years ago to the late Representative Bland, which was stolen from him, was the other day presented at the treasury department for payment by Senator Cockrell, of Missouri.

While Mr. Bland was serving as a member of a committee appointed to inspect the Philadelphia mint the check was given him, and amounted to \$24. The pocketbook in which Mr. Bland placed the check was stolen and no trace was found of it until recently, when a contractor in demolishing a building in Philadelphia found it and forwarded it to Mr. Bland, who asked Senator Cockrell to have it cashed for her.