

CURED WITH WATER

Hostile Filipinos Are Compelled to Give Up Their Secrets.

Macabebe Scouts Have a Queer Method of Finding Out What They Want to Know from Captured Insurgents.

The "water cure" as conducted by the Macabebe scouts in the Philippines, says Dr. Maxwell S. Simpson, is a piece of artistic work, absolutely harmless, and invariably effective in securing information.

In questioning a native it was always done quietly, without attracting the attention of other natives, in order that the informer might not later suffer at their hands.

His powers were usually dormant. It was "No sabe, senior; no entiendo," and a blank stare.

Our sergeant would then search the prisoner's clothing and inspect his body. Concealed about the person would often be found incriminating evidence of affiliation with the enemy.

There he stood, apparently an innocent amigo, white garmented—the symbol of purity—denying all knowledge of any misdoings of his own or of the enemy.

He is compelled to lie down upon the ground at full length. A strip of bamboo about the size of a building lath, is laid across his forehead, and the head kept firmly to the ground, arms and legs being secured.

The chin being pressed down and the nostrils being held closed he is compelled to open wide his mouth into which is conducted a thin stream of water from a canteen held about three feet above his face.

No dire results can ensue, but washing out of the stomach in this manner has a wonderful effect upon the memory. It dawns upon him that he remembers seeing guns buried in a near-by rice paddy.

Released from his position he calmly lights a cigarette and proceeds to conduct the troops to the place of concealment or patiently awaits further developments.

Hazing in an American college is barbarous beside the "water cure." It is to be commended. Other treatment is bunglesome and crude. This is artistic.

AMMUNITION COST \$4,964.

Bear Admiral O'Neil, chief of ordnance of the navy, has compiled some interesting information relative to the ammunition expended in the naval battles at Manila and off Santiago.

HIGHER EDUCATION IN GERMANY.

The following notice has been placarded in the entrance hall of Wurzburg university: "Honorable ladies who attend public lectures are informed that before entering the lecture room they must take off their hats."

THE NEGLECTED HUSBAND.

"What makes you so blue?" asked the first New Woman at the club. "My father-in-law has come to stay with us," replied the other.

MAY SAVE NIAGARA.

Speculations as to the Preservation of the Great Cataract.

Tunnels Under the River for Industrial Uses Have a Tendency to Reduce the Eroding Power of the Whirling Waters.

When it was first proposed to divert the waters of Niagara there were those who had visions of a time when the mighty cataract's thunder would be hushed. They predicted that if this first attempt succeeded the work would go on until practically all the water would be taken to drive turbines and none be left to plunge over the precipice, says the Chicago Inter Ocean.

At first the engineers scoffed at these predictions, declaring that the water abstracted would be relatively so small in quantity as to make no impression on the flow.

These considerations will hardly console lovers of majestic natural scenery. They may rightly affirm that the errors of the past do not excuse the utilitarian destructiveness of the present.

The straight down plunge of Niagara results from the fact that just there a layer of hard stone overlies a softer formation.

Now, it may be that by taking great quantities of water from the river the process of erosion will be greatly reduced. That would be the natural effect. The Niagara precipice may be preserved by preventing the river from wearing it down.

When that day comes it is reasonable to suppose that arrangements will be made by which the waters may for a time be turned from the power canals back to their old channel.

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FORK TAKEN FROM STOMACH.

Novel Operation Successfully Performed Upon a Lunatic in a Paris Asylum.

A recent extraordinary surgical operation performed at Paris was the removal of a full-sized eating fork from the stomach of an inmate of an asylum for the insane, who had swallowed it on a wager.

The Paris surgeons are deeply interested in the case of a well-known actor named Montfleury, who died under circumstances said to be unparalleled.

HIS LAST TRIP.

A pathetic incident of an old horse of Ipswich, Mass., formerly owned by an expressman: On account of his age and debility, the old horse had been taken from work and turned out on a farm to graze.

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

When the girl says they are engaged and the young man says they are not it takes a jury to decide.—Chicago Daily News.

Keeper of Fence—"What have you here, a paste diamond?" Highwayman—"No, it's genuine; but I had to paste the fellow to get it!"—Indianapolis News.

Barber—"That's strange. You say you have been here before. I don't seem to remember your face." Victim—"Probably not. You see, it has all healed up now."—Glasgow Evening Times.

Malapropos.—Cadleigh—"I thought I had met you before, Miss Browne." Miss Browne—"No; I guess it was my sister." Cadleigh—"Perhaps so. The Miss Browne I met was rather pretty."—Philadelphia Press.

Stem Parent—"I suppose you are aware, young man, that I cease to provide for my daughter when she leaves my roof?" Sultor—"Oh, yes; we have settled about that—Bertha and I. We have decided to make our home with you."—Boston Transcript.

The Fatal Rope—"Ah!" said the prison visitor to the convicted murderer, "when you think of your impending doom, does not your memory revert longingly to the days of your innocent childhood?" "Well," replied the doomed creature, "I surely would like to skip the rope."—Philadelphia Press.

Senior Partner—"Yes, when I advertised for a careful boy I dropped a book so it would be observed by the long line of applicants. The first boy picked it up." Junior Partner—"And you engaged him?" Senior Partner—"No; he not only picked the book up, but he put it in his pocket."—Philadelphia Record.

LIFE IN THE SUBURBS.

There is One Thing About It That Saves It from Being Altogether Unbearable.

The man who has been remarking "I told you so" to his room mate at the office who built a house in the suburbs and moved into it last fall chuckled gleefully as the man who lives in the suburbs appeared half an hour late the first morning of the recent snowstorm, relates the Washington Star.

"I told you so—" began the gleeful chuckler. He was interrupted by the other, who was not in a particularly happy frame of mind, and who sneered:

"Yes, you told me so, of course. You've been telling me so for the past six months. If you hope that I will eventually believe it, why keep it up?"

By no means abashed, the city man proceeded with the attack. "Great sport hustling for the car through the snow, isn't it?" he went on to say.

"Especially fine, this waiting in the open for the better part of an hour and the road tied up and no prospect of the cars ever running again. S'pose you are prepared to say you couldn't get along without such exercise. Of course, you can't imagine how you ever managed to exist when you didn't have to jump up from the breakfast table and dash half a mile through icy drifts and then stand still and shiver while you ruined your eyes gazing along a line of poles wishing a car would leave in sight. Walked in—of course—you had to. The trudge was exhilarating—set the blood a-coursin' through your veins, and you feel like a new man; certainly, I know your thoughts just as fully as though you had expressed 'em. Wasn't I glad, when I looked out the window this morning, that I wasn't way off in the wilderness somewhere, but was snugly located right here in a row of bricks and less than nine blocks from the office. But you knew it all. You would move out there any old distance from nowhere. Maybe you're sorry now. I told you so."

The man who built a house in the suburbs by this time had removed his overcoat and rubber boots and was warming himself in front of the furnace register.

"It's admit life outside the city limits entails some inconveniences during extraordinary weather such as prevails to-day," he said, quietly. "But there is one consolation. When I looked out the window and saw the vast expanse of snow I was not compelled to throw on my clothes and hustle out before breakfast and shovel the fleecy deposit off a sidewalk, as you had to do, with the knowledge that failure to do so would result in my being hauled before the police court and fined. Guess you'll admit there's at least one advantage in living in the suburbs, even in midwinter."

RICHEST LIFE REGION.

Taking into consideration both variety and peculiarity, as regards the forms of life, the neotropical region (including South America, Central America, West Indies and Mexico) is undoubtedly the most remarkable of the great divisions of the land recognized by zoologists and botanists.

GETS HIS OLD SEAT.

Senator Quay Improves His Location in the Senate Chamber.

By a Little Foresight on His Part He Succeeds in Putting in First Request for the Coveted Desk About to Be Vacated.

When news came from Oregon that Senator Simon was practically defeated for re-nomination by failing to carry the primary elections in Multnomah county, several senators at once attempted to file an application for the desk now occupied by the Oregon statesman, which he will relinquish next March.

Mr. Simon, who had a seat on the back row, where newcomers are usually placed, was fortunate in applying early for Mr. Carter's seat, and when the latter was defeated for reelection by Millinaire Clark he moved to the front row.

The other applicants for Simon's seat were evidently not so astute in sizing up political possibilities as was Senator Quay, for when they severally presented their claims they were told that the Pennsylvania senator had forestalled them.

PLANS FOR AUTO ASSOCIATION.

National Organization Will Seek to Secure Good Roads and Uniform Speed Laws.

Winthrop E. Scarritt, president of the American Automobile association, is mapping out a line of endeavor for the new national organization of motor vehicle clubs.

"Good roads and uniform speed laws," said Mr. Scarritt, "will naturally first receive the attention of the national association. The legislation in the various states will be watched by the local clubs in those states, but they will have the backing and receive the suggestions of the national body."

"The new clubs that come in will not be by any means unrepresented in the work of the association, even though not represented on the board of directors. They will be given places on the committees, and I shall try to arrange to have the committees so constituted that they can be added to as new clubs come in and desirable members present themselves."

A NEW FLYING MACHINE.

One Being Constructed by Dr. C. F. Burton for the British War Office.

Details of a flying machine which Dr. C. F. Burton is constructing for the war office were given by him in a paper read at a meeting of the Aeronautical society, says the London correspondent of the New York Herald.

The machine, he explained, is a combination of gas vessel and screw propeller principles, the balloon being fish-shaped and divided internally into four compartments. The driving mechanism consists of six screw propellers coupled to motors.

Sir Hiram Maxim, who presided, thought the model contained more mechanism than it could carry.

Sir Hiram Maxim took occasion also to deny that he had offered a prize of \$100,000 to be competed for at the St. Louis exposition airship contests. He is prepared, however, he said, to offer a large sum of money for a prize if a really practicable and tried airship is produced.

RARE SPECIMEN OF SHARK.

Dr. True, curator of the National museum, has just received the skin of a whale-shark, "rhinodon," which is 18 feet long. It is the first specimen of this creature ever found on the Atlantic coast of America, and belongs to the rarest species of the shark-whale family, of which only the teeth have heretofore been found. This whale-shark was found on the beach three miles north of Ormond, Fla., where it came ashore the last of January.

JEFFERSON MEMORIAL ROAD.

Citizens of Albemarle county, Va., have organized the Jefferson Memorial Road association for the purpose of building a public boulevard between Charlottesville and Monticello, where President Jefferson lies buried. The road will be two miles long, and is expected to cost \$20,000.

PURE FOOD AND THE WEST.

The cry of the great west is for pure food, not only because it is right that all food should be pure, says the Chicago Inter Ocean, but because the great west raises the stuff out of which the best pure food is made.

LOCK-COMBINATION EXPERT.

New York Man Who Opens Safes and Vaults in Distant Cities by Telephone.

If there is any man in the world that could transform himself into an efficient burglar it is the expert on combinations up in the office of the safe trust. This man knows more about locks and vaults than all the bank robbers in the country.

"Well, what is it?" the opener of vaults shouts into the mouthpiece, his tone showing that he is accustomed to such calls.

"This is the — bank. The president's gone home and the cashier's sick. I'm Mr. —. Give me the figures, please."

The opener satisfies himself that the right man is on the other end. Then he looks up his records, if he does not happen to remember the figures wanted. It is only a matter of a few minutes before he is back at the phone, and in a many more minutes the vault in Philadelphia is opened.

It happened the other day that a Boston trust company was in trouble about its combination. The safe concern was called up, and the lock expert was summoned to the receiver.

Argument was of no avail, and the Boston bankers had to wait. The combination was lost on Wednesday, and for the next four days they had to borrow all the cash they needed from other companies.

"This did not worry the expert, however, for he knew that nobody else could fill his place as well as he, and so there was no danger of his being discharged. He had been with the safe concern for a great many years, and his imperturbability was not to be upset by a trust company's temporary troubles.

"Why didn't I go? The idea! Do you know that there are six or eight banks that lose their figures every day? It was better to leave one of them in a lurch for four days than to have them all in trouble for one day."

AN ELEPHANTINE TRANCE.

Hardy Circus Animal That Was Prostrated Even a Railway Smash-up.

"We had with us in our menagerie," said the old circus man, according to the Detroit Free Press, "one of the meanest elephants I ever knew. He wasn't vicious, but he was full of low-down tricks, and for two years we tried our best to sell or change him off. No other menagerie or zoo would have him, as his character was well known, and when the third year opened we were all hoping that he'd fall dead on the highway or get killed in a railroad smashup.

"The railroad folks sent an attorney to the spot as soon as they heard of the accident, and he at once took hold and began estimating damages. We had got rid of our elephant, and there was also an opportunity to turn him into cold cash. We sung his praises and sounded his virtues and wanted \$16,000 damages. The attorney tried to make out that the market was glutted with elephants and the price was down, but we finally settled, on \$10,000 as the right figure. The dead 'Zero' had one tusk, and the attorney went over to see about having it chopped out. Three or four of us accompanied him, and you may call me a chump if that miserable old fraud, who had played dead for 15 hours, didn't suddenly get to his feet and begin reaching out for thistles! Yes, sir, he did, and we couldn't find a mark on him to get even 15 cents damages, and we were so knocked out about it that we let the attorney get away without listing the sacred cow of India who had both horns knocked off!"

ANTICIPATING A POSSIBLE DISPUTE.

We hope there will be no unpleasant squabble over "margonigram," says the Chicago Tribune. The idea of calling a wireless telegram by that name sprang up spontaneously in a hundred places at once.

OUR EARLY COINAGE.

Curiosities of Metallic Money Made Before Mints Were Known.

A Few Rare Pieces Still in Existence That Are Valued at Fabulous Prices in the Days of Gold Dust.

Said a coin collector, whose fad is early American coins: "I am reminded by the recent publication in the Times Magazine of the mystery of the 1804 dollar, of many curious facts about an early coinage which are very little known outside of numismatic circles. For instance, how many know that the words 'E Pluribus Unum,' which have appeared on various United States coins, and are on the standard silver dollar and the nickel five-cent piece of to-day, were never authorized by law to be so placed? Very few; and yet, no doubt, as many know it as know that the later motto, 'In God We Trust,' which appears on all minor United States coins, was likewise originally stamped on them without authority from the government."

"The motto 'E Pluribus Unum' first appeared on an American coin in 1786," said the collector, according to the New York Times. "There was no United States mint then, and, in fact, no United States, the constitution forming the union not having as yet been adopted. There was a private mint at Newburg, N. Y., and 'E Pluribus Unum' was first placed on a copper coin struck at that mint. Very few collections have specimens of this coin. It is very remarkable.

"In 1787 a New York gold-mint coined a piece of money which was known as the 16-dollar gold piece, and upon it the motto was stamped in this form: 'Unum E-Pluribus.' Only four of these coins are known to be in existence. They are valued at more than \$2,000 each.

"A great many of our early coins, before there was any legal authority for national coinage, were made in England. Most of these were copper, and were coined for different states and all bore the words 'E Pluribus Unum.'"

"The United States mint was established in 1792, but the use of the national motto on any of the gold, silver or copper coins was not authorized or directed by any of the provisions of the act establishing it. The motto remained on our early gold and silver coins until 1834, when it was omitted from the gold coins. In 1836 it was omitted from the 25-cent piece, and in 1837 from all silver coins. It was not stamped on any coin again until it appeared on the nickel and the standard silver dollar.

"The words 'In God We Trust' were first placed on the two-cent piece, which came into our subsidiary coinage in 1864, but is now no longer part of it. The motto was placed there by direction of James Pollock, then director of the United States mint at Philadelphia, and not by any legislation of congress authorizing the minting of the two-cent piece.

"In 1793 the first gold coins were stamped by authority in the United States mint from gold found in North Carolina. By the way, it may be another fact but little known that the first gold diggings and mines in the United States were in North Carolina, and that the placer pit mines of that state, together with those of Georgia and South Carolina, discovered later, were so full of gold that they supplied the United States mints and the demands of trade in this country with the precious metal from 1830 until the discovery of gold in California, the mint having received from the North Carolina gold regions alone more than \$25,000,000 worth of gold. It was the gold of North Carolina and Georgia that led to the establishing of branch mints at Charlotte, N. C., and Dahlonega, Ga.

"Long before that, however, gold dust being the universal circulating medium in lower North Carolina and northern Georgia and the adjacent regions of South Carolina, and the risk and inconvenience attending its use being very great, a German goldsmith, named Christopher Bechtler, established a private mint in the South Mountain district of North Carolina, in Rutherford county, a few miles from Rutherfordton, the county seat, for the turning of gold into money. He stamped from the gold the miners brought in, either from the North Carolina, Georgia or South Carolina mines, gold coins of the denominations of \$1, \$2.50 and \$5, receiving a certain percentage of the gold for his work. This mint was in operation from 1831 until Bechtler's death in 1843. The coins were stamped and minted by a press and dies made by Bechtler himself. The dies were cut with the denomination, quality of fineness of the gold, name of the coiner, and the abbreviation of the name of the state in which the gold was mined. No alloy was used in the minting. Bechtler was so conscientious in denoting the fineness of the gold that many of the coins of his mint that have been melted down and assayed at the government assay office at Charlotte have proved to be finer than the mark on the coins declared them to be. Bechtler made a fortune from the seigniorage of his coining, and although the United States branch mint was established at Charlotte in 1838, the Bechtler money was for years thereafter the popular currency of a large portion of the south. Even to-day some 'wayback' mountaineer occasionally presents one of these rare coins at the village store in payment for purchases, it having been, perhaps, hoarded for years in his family."