

AMERICANS IN THE LEAD.

Their Business Interests in Korea Are Larger Than Those of Any Other Nation.

J. Sloan Pusey, of Elmira, N. Y., who is interested in electric roads in Korea...

From Korea's southern coasts the islands of Tsushima are visible, and from Tsushima the coasts of Japan are visible.

The parallels of latitude that would pass through the cities of San Francisco, Chicago, New York, Lisbon, Rome, Constantinople and Peking would pass through the peninsula of Korea.

LIVING FROM TOWN LOT.

Receipts from Three-Quarters of an Acre in Western Town Made Enough.

In a small western town some years ago there lived a man who thought that horticulture could be made profitable on a small amount of ground.

The man developed a system which involved a shifting of crops each year. This he gathered from what he could read, was necessary, first, to avoid disease and insects, and, second, to rest the land.

Strenuous Author.

The rural poet had said a poem. "You told me to use more force in my work," he giggled.

VALUE OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS

Prodigious Amount of Money Invested in Agriculture in the United States.

If the average city man were asked how he thought the price of domestic animals in the United States compared with the market values a year ago, he would doubtless think first of the cost of meat.

So the average town-dweller would be likely to guess that cattle were at least as high as they were a year ago.

Once a year the American Agriculturist, a weekly paper devoted to farm interests, takes much pains to ascertain the market value of domestic animals in the United States.

Cows kept for milk are about 5 per cent cheaper. Other cattle are reported to average 13 per cent less in market value than a year ago.

The enormous value of domestic animals in the aggregate is shown most strikingly by the fact that the decline in market prices during the past year, a change which has not been more than about three per cent, is calculated at a net decrease of \$120,000,000.

A PERPETUAL PASSENGER.

Woman Utilizes Extraordinary Privilege Accorded Her for Brave Act.

It sometimes happens that trivial circumstances lead to an entire change in the course of one's life.

"She was of the plucky build who do not fear the elements at their worst, and so she left her cottage and watched. Soon she observed the lights of a steamer making for the shore, and if the course was continued she knew there would be a bad wreck and probably many lives lost.

"Some time elapsed and she did not seem to be caught up by any likely young man. She got so that it was necessary to support herself, when she suddenly remembered the Tase. She put it into effect at once.

In Kansas.

"Squire Smith, of Harrison township, in Kiowa county, has handed down some new law. A man was brought before him the other day charged with assault. The defendant admitted the crime but said that he was justified in committing it because the complaining witness had called him a lot of vile names.

TELEGRAMS WITHOUT WIRES.

Machine That Transmits and Receives in Writing Messages from a Distance.

The seraphim is the name bestowed upon a new electrical and electrical device by means of which messages by wireless telegraph may be sent or received and typewritten copies taken automatically.

Another advantage claimed for the invention will be of especial importance in military affairs. Messages cannot be picked up. To quote the inventor's own words: "In sending a message you are sending two ether waves which allow you a choice of 56 signs, and these are given direct print either as letters or figures.

The apparatus consists of a typewriter which by depressing a key sends two impulses. Each letter only requires two impulses, and the different letters are obtained by means of the time interval between these impulses.

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ON THE PARIS CHANGE.

Three Million Francs Is the Cost of a Place Among the Seventy on the Bourse.

It may be said that a seat among the seventy (they call it a charge) costs about 3,000,000 francs (\$600,000) or sometimes 2,500,000, and a charge earns from 5 to 15 per cent (net) a year.

As to procuring a charge, the thing has none of the stock exchange simplicity, where the main requirement for getting a seat is to be able to pay for it. Here a candidate must be a Frenchman and at least 25 years old. He must have served four years in certain forms of business. He must be personally acceptable to the agent from whom he would purchase the seat, and often to his family, including the ladies.

The Difference.

"Is this where I can have a tooth pulled without pain?" "This is where I can pull a tooth without pain."

"What's the diff—oh, yes, ah-ha, I see. Oh, well, I ain't got no toothache nohow."—Houston Post.

Aiding Agriculture.

The annual government expenditures for the promotion of agriculture are: \$4,500,000 spent by the states and \$6,250,000 by the national secretary of agriculture.

PURSUIT OF PELTS.

RECKLESS HUNTERS DO GREAT HARM IN LOUISIANA.

Build Fires to Drive Out Game and Destroy Pasturage and Property—Extirminating Animals.

The demand for furs has caused an invasion of southern Louisiana by hunters in search of minks, raccoons, possums and even rabbits which threaten to exterminate these animals as if factually as the millinery hunters have exterminated the water fowl of the gulf coast, says the New York Sun.

The Audubon society finally interfered and secured from the legislature protection for non-game birds which they did not previously enjoy, and this has stopped the slaughter, but not until several species had been completely exterminated.

The energy of the fur hunters is likely to lead to similar hostile legislation, if not by the legislature at any rate by the police juries or governing bodies of the several parishes.

There is no particular objection to their killing the animals, except from the negroes, who regard them as great delicacies; but the manner in which the hunters have carried on the work has been such as to arouse a great deal of indignation and to invite prohibitive laws.

The coon is particularly fond of fish and shrimps, and as a consequence the swamps, marshes and prairies on the gulf coast are filled with them, and make a splendid field for the hunters. The population of this region is composed mainly of fishermen, who do not hunt, and when the fur hunters started in this year they found a big business awaiting them.

Unfortunately, they have tried to do it on too large a scale. The Louisiana coast is covered with a coarse grass, frequently five and six feet high, and when this is set on fire the coons are driven out and are shot like pleasure ants in a preserve.

The prairies have been fired in all directions by the hunters. The result has been to cause heavy losses to the stockmen who feed their cattle in these prairies and to the lumbermen and the fishermen.

In Vermilion parish, which has over a million acres of this prairie, the fires started by the fur hunters have destroyed nearly all the winter pasturage of the cattle, and the injury to the stockmen will amount up to the hundreds of thousands of dollars. The police jury has prohibited coon hunting in the parish as a consequence.

The police juries of all the coast parishes are likely to take action similar to that of Vermilion, not in order to protect coons and rabbits, but to protect the inhabitants against the recklessness of the fur hunters. But for this action these animals, now probably more abundant in southern Louisiana than in any other part of the country, would be wiped out this year.

The recent raid on the coon, possums and mink is due to the great demand for furs and the destruction of fur-bearing animals in the northwest. The price paid for pelts is so good that the hunting of coons and possums is highly profitable, and a good hunter makes from \$5 to \$25 a day.

It is more profitable than shooting ducks or other game, than for several years, bringing from 20 to 30 cents. Possum skins have never been sold in this region before the present year, but are now in demand at from 10 to 20 cents, and even rabbit skins bring 2 cents apiece.

Squirrels have heretofore been without value, but in the last few months there has been a demand for squirrels' tails. The minks have always been in demand, but they have been few until recently.

Thibetan Women.

As if nature had not been unkind enough, the Thibetan woman heightens her ugliness by smearing her face with a horrible black ointment to keep her skin from cracking in the dry wind.

"What's the charge?" asked the squire. "Same old thing," said the game warden, "running without a license."

To Restore the Sphinx.

A project is on foot in Alexandria for restoring the Sphinx, near the Great Pyramid of Ghizeh, to its original condition. Thick layers of soil completely cover the head of the monument, while the lower parts are greatly obscured by accumulations of sand.

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Of Practical Value.

Fishermen along the German ocean used to look on deep sea research as a mere scientific fad. They changed their mind when, in consequence of these researches, 700,000 cod were caught in a few days on new grounds.

THE RED CROSS IN JAPAN.

Military Hospitals and Trained Nurse Service Is Thorough and Extensive.

The recent offer from America of a corps of trained nurses who served in American hospitals during the war with Spain to come over and nurse sick and wounded Japanese soldiers in the event of war with Russia is highly appreciated by the Japanese people as an evidence of American sympathy. It would not be possible, however, writes Eliza R. S. Selmore, in Chicago American for foreign nurses to be put to any use if they were on the spot, as, aside from their certain ignorance of the Japanese language, Japan has the model field and military hospital service of all modern armies.

There are schools for trained nurses in every large city in Japan, and in Tokio the empress, as special patroness of the Red Cross hospital and school, always presides at the annual meeting and gives the diplomas to the white-capped graduates. One of the imperial princesses has taken the full course of training, and other court ladies are accomplished.

When the American minister suffered a stroke of apoplexy and died at a luncheon party a year ago, there was no medical man within ten miles, but Princess Sannomya, wife of the grand master of ceremonies, had had training at the Red Cross classes and was able to take entire and intelligent charge until a professional arrived.

In the north China campaign of 1900 the Red Cross society was as active and efficient, and every year some flood, earthquake or disaster calls for the Red Cross' prompt relief.

There are branch societies in each province, and each year the annual meeting is held at Tokio where 10,000 members often gather at the great outdoor session in Yueno park. One sees the ribbon and insignia of the order everywhere these days, from Princesses Ariyagata and Pushimi, who actively preside, down to the elderly matrons and widows of the provinces, to whom the function is an event comparable to the great February sessions of the Daughters of the American Revolution at Washington.

It is a pleasure to see some of these elderly women in their rich but severely tinted kimonos and heavy furs, as they go about the capital, seeing, gazing at the street scenes may be to them; they observe good form and ride with the jiriki-ha covering, not out. In summer heat autumn, as in rain, the Japanese lady always has the jiriki-ha hood drawn to shelter her from common gaze.

CHASED THE WRONG MAN.

The Man Who Was Running Was Just Doing It for His Appetite.

Tom Owens, the Gloucester ice-man, invited a Philadelphia friend over for a day's shooting in South Jersey, where a killing license is necessary nowadays, says the Philadelphia Press. Tom has a license, and explained to his friend, as he handed over a gun, that if a game warden should happen along he was to say nothing but saw wood.

They got sport, and in the course of the forenoon knocked over a dozen rabbits and started for home. What about half-way there a tall man climbed over a fence and came rapidly toward the gunners, whereupon Owens put his gun and rabbits in the hands of his friend and said: "Follow this road till you get home and wait there till I come."

Then he turned and ran like a deer, with the tall man following. It was the Woodbury pike, and the race was a close one, but Tom was finally overhauled and brought up before a justice of the peace.

"What's the charge?" asked the squire.

"Same old thing," said the game warden, "running without a license."

"You are fined \$20," said the justice.

"But I've got a license," said Tom, producing the document.

The squire grinned and the crowd roared.

"What in thunder did you run for?" said the game warden.

"Just to get up an appetite," said Tom.

"You chased the wrong man," said the squire to the game warden.

Flogging in England.

Flogging is still allowed in English prisons as a punishment for mutiny or violence, but recently published statistics make it doubtful whether even in these extreme cases corporal punishment serves the purpose for which it is intended. It is shown that since the number of prison offenses for which flogging was allowed was reduced in 1893, the number of offenses against prison discipline has decreased from 147 to 121 per 1,000 prisoners, while there has been an increase in the number of those offenses for which the "cat" is still the penalty.

Only One Difficulty.

Scholar-Professor, your mnemonic system is wonderful, and I am sure that anyone, after mastering the rules, can learn to remember anything. But I am handicapped by one difficulty. Professor—What is it? "I can't remember the rules"—Town and Country.

TO SAVE ANTELOPE.

PLAN FOR GAME PRESERVE IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

Like Those of Yosemite and Yellowstone Valleys to Be Conducted and Controlled by the Government.

None among the game animals of the continent is more attractive to the average of mankind than the antelope. Time was, and not long ago, when herds of these beautiful creatures roamed at large over the western plains. But of late there has been a notable decrease in the numbers of the herds. Like the buffalo, it is fast disappearing. But it seems likely, says the Chicago Chronicle, that this keen-sighted, warlike and fleetest of all American horned game will be seen again in its old-time haunts on the eastern slopes of the mountains of southern California and on the contiguous strips of desert. Years ago these beautiful animals, with their odd markings of brown and gray, were the most conspicuous feature of desert life in this section, but with the settling up of the adjacent territory they were rapidly killed or driven south until today probably not a half dozen battered, scarred, lone and mateless old veterans are left in the whole great plain between the desert divide and the Colorado river. Even up to the early '80s they are said to have been plentiful there as on the plains of New Mexico, Wyoming and Montana.

As they have been quite as much hunted in these districts as in southern California, and are holding their own in spite of the fact, it would seem as if their practical extinction in the latter section is due to some other agency than that of man—probably the drying up of many of the old desert water holes.

The recent succession of wet years in the southwest has caused back to the nearly all the old springs in the desert and on the eastern side, and it has been decided to restock this section with a drove of from 40 to 100 antelope. These will be brought from the northwest, probably from the big herd in the Yellowstone national park, in Wyoming. The latter herd numbers nearly a thousand, and recently, since the recent enforcement of the game laws by the federal authorities, has increased at a rapid rate and it is not believed that this increase will be materially checked by the removal of a hundred or more animals to California.

The first step in the consummation of this plan will be taken shortly by the biological survey of the United States department of agriculture where the lines will be run for the boundaries of a game preserve to be conducted and controlled by the government after the manner of those already existing, and about the Yosemite and the Yellowstone. The boundaries of this preserve will coincide with those of the now existing forest reservations of Zuni Park, San Jacinto and Tejon, with a large strip of desert land, in which the antelope will also be protected. Inside these boundaries there will be absolutely no hunting, and it will be a penitentiary offense to kill game inside the limits, as is provided by the state game laws, as an offense in other sections. How the preserve will be patrolled and the protection accomplished has not yet definitely decided. At first, however, it is likely that the number of forest rangers will be increased and each given the double duty of game warden and forester. In time, if the game increases sufficiently to warrant it, a company of cavalry will be detailed for duty, as in the other national parks.

NO WONDER HE COLLAPSED.

Something His Wife Wanted Him to Do for Her That Knocked Him Out.

The merchant uttered a sharp exclamation as he sank back in his chair. A telegram fell from his shaking hand. His eyes were closed, his face white, and beads of perspiration stood on his brow. The men in the outer office whispered among themselves, relating an exchange.

"Touch of heart disease," asked one. "No, the old man can't take up a note," said another. "I've heard rumors of that kind. We fellows will have to be looking for another place."

"Get to work—he's coming to again!" The merchant wiped his brow, fetched a despairing sigh, picked up the paper from the floor, frowned and stamped his foot, as if to summon all his resolution, placed the telegram on his desk, and forced himself to read the bitter message. This was it:

"Dearest James: Please send the waist for my grosgrain suit at once. You will remember the one, as it has ryeers on the front and chain-stitched biases on the back. It is in the lower trunk in the cupboard beside the back room, under your winter overcoat. If not there, it must be in the sealed box on the third shelf in the front room cupboard. If you can't find it there, it must be somewhere else. The trunk keys are in the second wardrobe drawer, unless they were put in the chiffonier; and I think the keys are in a vase on one of the mantels. Pack the waist so as not to wrinkle it; and, oh! James, please do not swear! Your loving wife!"

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