

TINY CRAFT ON LONG TRIP

Cutter Manned by Only Two Men  
Journeyed from Brighton to Cape  
Town, 10,000 Miles.

Cape Town.—A tiny craft, manned by only two men in August last, The Brighton, was recently an open cutter, 12 feet long and 11 feet broad, but she was decked over for this voyage.

The Brighton encountered a strong gale in the Bay of Biscay, and after having St. Vincent an exciting fight between a large whale and a swordfish and two "thrasher" sharks was witnessed.

Another heavy gale was met with but the vessel came through it safely, and did the 10,000 miles which it covered on its way in the Cape in 105 days.

APPLE BLOSSOMS NO MORE

Beautiful Feature of Luscious Fruit  
Sacrificed to the Need for Seed-  
less Production.

New York.—John F. Spencer, of Grand Junction, Col. is said at last to have produced a seedless apple, which in its way is as wonderful as the pitless plum produced by Luther Burbank.

Some dozen or so of these new apples are now on exhibition at the various stores of a fruit concern recently. Visitors were not invited to sample the fruit, for at present it is rare and costly, so much so, in fact, that three of these apples sold for \$25 at a recent exhibition in London.

HAS AN AUTOMATIC SWITCH

Iowa Man's Device of Great Importance  
to Railway Men Exhibited  
at St. Louis.

St. Louis.—William R. Smith, of Council Bluffs, Ia., is exhibiting in St. Louis the model of an automatic railroad switch, which was patented on January 7 by Witherlich, Lindcard & Smith. The idea worked out by the three was conceived by Hans J. Witherlich, a Dane, now residing at Council Bluffs.

The switch is thrown automatically by the flanges of the car wheels pressing upon an extra rail about 30 feet in length, intended to be placed between the other rails at points convenient to stations.

WOMEN WHIP LOT JUMPER.

Two Inmate Females Lash a New Arrival  
Who Attempts to Seize  
Goldfield Property.

Renov. Nev.—There was much excitement at Goldfield as a result of the continued lot jumping in progress there for some time.

George W. Haight, of San Francisco, a recent arrival, was the victim of the wrath of two inmate women. He laid claim to two of the choicest lots in the booming mining camp. They were owned by two young women, Mrs. George Hoffman and Miss Annie Regis.

"Lost and Found" Column.  
A California astronomer has found another moon for Jupiter, which the latter may have if he will call and identify his property.

GROWTH OF ENGLISH FEET

Shoes of Old-Time Beauties Too  
Small for Modern Women  
to Wear.

That the race of women is growing taller and that the small hands and feet on which our ancestors prided themselves are disappearing in favor of large and useful extremities, was borne in upon me recently, says a writer in the London Graphic, when, visiting a museum, I observed in a glass case some shoes of an earlier century.

There was the shoe of Catherine de Medici, somewhat clumsy, with a high heel fastened to a fat sole and a narrow toe tapering to a square end, but yet small in dimension.

There was the black satin beehive slipper, marvellously straight and narrow, of the Empress Josephine, a little slipper absolutely suited to the dainty, languorous Creole, who reclined on a sofa and twisted her favorite cashmere shawls around her in picturesque and careless folds.

Such a little shoe can hardly be conceived. It is no bigger than a child's, and I doubt if any woman of to-day could put it on.

FRESH SALT WATER ICE.

Lengthy Exposure to the Sun's Rays  
Makes Iceberg's Surface  
Fresh.

It is often asserted by mariners that the apex of the larger icebergs are entirely free from saline matter and that this is conclusive evidence that the berg originally forms on dry land, proving the existence of a great continent around the poles.

It may not be generally known, however, says the English Fish Trades Gazette, that salt water ice if exposed to heat in the summer sun—is thereby freed from salt.

The Bureau of statistics in its statements upon this subject shows the quantity of coffee imported, exported and the consumption per capita in each of the decennial years from 1850 to 1900. Summarizing this table, it may be said that the consumption of coffee in the United States was, in 1850, less than three pounds per capita; in 1860, five pounds per capita; in 1870, 5.8 pounds per capita; in 1880, 6.8 pounds per capita; in 1890, 8.3 pounds per capita; and in 1900, 7.8 pounds per capita.

LOBSTER MORTALITY HIGH.

Out of a Brood of 10,000 Rarely More  
Than One or Two Young Ones  
Reach Maturity.

A lobster lays thousands of eggs, most of which hatch, but few ever live to grow up. This, says an article on "Nature and Science" in St. Nicholas, is not the fault of the mother, for she carries them about with her for nearly a year, and with admirable instinct guards them as she does her own life.

Wants Pay from the Czar.

Mr. Seddon, the premier of New Zealand, is being pestered by a constituent who wants him to collect a little debt of £20,000 from the czar, repeated applications to St. Petersburg having had no result.

Woes of the Wreckers.

Looking over the storm-swept Pentland Firth, with its dangerous rocks and fierce currents, I remarked to the Orkney pilot: "This must be a great place for wreckers."

After lying for seven years on the Cobb dock at the Brooklyn navy yard, the largest mass of native iron known to be in existence in the world has been transported to the American museum of natural history, and now is on exhibition there.

Coins in South Africa.  
Until recently, the smallest coin in circulation in South Africa had the value of six cents, now two-cent pieces have been introduced.

USES MOST COFFEE.

AMERICA DRINKS ONE-HALF OF  
WORLD'S CONSUMPTION.

More Than 1,000,000,000 Pounds of  
the Bean Was Imported Into the  
United States Last Year, Says  
Commerce Report.

Washington.—More than 1,000,000,000 pounds of coffee, valued at \$35,000,000, came into the United States last year, practically all for the use of the people of the states. The total quantity of coffee imported from foreign countries during the year, as shown by figures issued by the department of commerce and labor through its bureau of statistics, was 1,112,703,546 pounds, valued at \$37,427,069, and from Porto Rico 2,321,524 pounds, and from the Hawaiian Islands 1,437,481 pounds.

The figures of the world's production of coffee in the coffee year 1901-1904 show that the coffee exported from the various producing countries of the world and, therefore, the quantity entering the world's markets during that year was, in round terms, 2,200,000,000 pounds, or barely double the quantity brought into the United States alone during the year 1904.

Figures for 1902 show for that year a consumption by the United States of 852,272,000 pounds of coffee; Germany, 350,820,000 pounds; France, 197,700,000 pounds; Austria-Hungary, 96,360,000 pounds; Holland, 82,500,000 pounds; Belgium, 72,600,000 pounds; Sweden, 57,420,000 pounds; Russia, 39,500,000 pounds; Italy, 35,840,000 pounds, and Great Britain, 22,340,000 pounds.

The per capita consumption was also larger than that of any earlier year with the single exception of 1902, in which year the per capita consumption exceeded that of 1904 by two-tenths of one pound.

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BULLS BATTLE ON BRIDGE.

Victorious Animal Totems Vanquished  
Adversary on Its Hooves Into  
Schuylkill River.

Philadelphia.—A terrific battle between two infuriated bulls took place the other night on the middle of Walnut street bridge, resulting in the death of one of the combatants by being hurled over the railing by its opponent into the Schuylkill river.

The rest of the drove was on the verge of a stampede, but the drovers succeeded in keeping them well under control. They beat the fighting bulls mercilessly with staves, but without effect. The smaller animal fought gamely and several times disengaged itself from its opponent's horns and charged furiously, each time inflicting severe wounds on the other bull's body.

Fine Farms But No Tenants.  
The 90-acre farm of the Annie Sharpless estate, with splendid buildings and good land, in East Nantmeal, Chester county, Pa., was sold for \$1,900. Many farms not far away are without tenants, and weeds overrun the fields.

Wifely Discernment.  
A man at Lisbon, O., sued for a divorce because his wife said he looked like a monkey. As he lost the case, the jury must have decided that his wife knew what she was talking about.

STORE-WINDOW "MUSEUM."

Attractive and Instructive Display  
Which Draws Trade in the  
Drug Line.

Perhaps the most dignified method of doing crowds in the one invented by a firm of wholesale druggists that exhibits the various stages in the manufacture of well-known drugs, from the crude original mineral or the original plant down to the familiar final product, says Pearson's Magazine.

PORCUPINES FOND OF SALT

Old Brine-Tub in Adirondack Camp  
Proves Strong Attraction  
to the Animals.

Some men who were camping in the Adirondacks several years ago, on breaking camp in the autumn, left an old tub which was saturated with salt brine. On returning to the same camp the next year, says St. Nicholas, they found that the tub had been gnawed until little of it was left.

An interesting query is this: Is the liking for salt an acquired or a natural taste? Were they ever able to gratify that taste to any extent before man gave them a chance to do so?

BANK SHOWS ITS MONEY.

Institution in Italian Quarter of  
Philadelphia Makes Dis-  
play of Cash.

The banks of the Little Italy are among the most curious sights in that quarter of the town because of the kind of business they do and the various purposes they serve, as announced by the signs on them and by reason, too, of the displays they sometimes make in their show windows.

How About This?  
Pat.—The billiard board is rather split-tered.  
Mike.—Begs, how is a felly to git a hold on his shovel.—N. Y. Sun.

HAS RARE PICTURES.

OFFICER COMPLETES COLLEC-  
TION OF HISTORIC PHOTOS.

Major Peabody of the State Depart-  
ment Completes Likenesses of 56  
Signers of the Declaration of  
Independence.

Washington.—Major Peabody, an officer of the state department, has had a long and tedious task in collecting the portraits of cabinet officers and other notables from the foundation of the government.

The collection of portraits of secretaries of the navy, since the organization of the department in 1799, has long been without the likeness of George E. Badger, of North Carolina, who was secretary during the short administration of William Henry Harrison.

As a result of Major Peabody's labors the government has likenesses of the 56 signers of the declaration of independence and all but three of the men who framed the federal constitution.

Personal search by Major Peabody finally brought out a miniature painted when Galliard was 15 years old.

HE GROWS EDIBLE FERNS.

Progressive Farmer Experimenting  
on Extensive Scale with In-  
dian Variety for Table.

York, Pa.—Shirman Miller, a progressive young farmer of Fairview township, York county, will with the advent of springtime become a fern culturist on an extensive scale.

He will make a specialty of an East Indian edible fern, which is prepared for the table in much the same manner as lettuce or spinach.

FIND GERM IN THE SOIL.

Rare Disease Explained by Means of  
Discovery of a New Mi-  
crobe Species.

New York.—A rare disease, believed to be caused by a virulent germ found in the soil, has been discovered during an autopsy in the Lincoln hospital.

Underwear Determines Class.  
It has been determined that the assassin of the grand duke is a man of good birth, because of the quality of his underwear. Presumably in a cold country like Russia men are born in their underwear, so as not to catch cold.

CHANCE FOR MARCONI WIRELESS.

The Mad Mullah is on the warpath again. It appears that nobody has ever been able to get close enough to the old man to tell him that there is a Hague tribunal.

EDIDIASCOPE IS A WONDER.

Astonishing Possibilities of the New  
Projection Lantern Which is a  
Modern Kinoscope-Lens.

Providence, R. I.—A revolt apparatus has recently been presented to the department of comparative anatomy of Brown university by the medical friends of the department in Providence and other cities. It is a projection lantern, known as the edidiroscope, made by Carl Zeiss, of Jena.

The natural colors and the texture of the objects are reproduced exactly. Brightly colored beetles and butterflies appear upon the screen with no diminution of their brilliant hues, metallic luster or soft bloom.

Transparent objects, like lantern slides, may also be thrown upon the screen satisfactorily, as in the case of the common form of lantern, for by simply moving a lever the operator can direct the light through the object instead of upon it.

A microscope attachment furnishes another feature of the apparatus, and microscopic slides can be projected with varying magnifications, depending upon the combination of lenses.

The apparatus is the first of its kind, excepting that exhibited in St. Louis, to be installed in America. Its operation will be watched with interest by the staff and students of the department, and by the physicians who made to the department this beautiful and valuable Christmas gift.

OSTRICH EATS MUSIC BOX.

Chicago Bird Swallows Instrument  
and Now Both Are Badly  
Run Down.

Chicago.—White Norma, the Lincoln park ostrich, is all the other ostriches have been forbidden by Dr. De Vry to cluck near the sick chamber.

She is so weak that she is unable to hold her neck up, and Dr. Vry has placed it on a rest. She now reacts real easy. The disease was aggravated, Dr. De Vry says, when in her chamber the first day of her illness Norma swallowed a music box.

Chicago.—White Norma, the Lincoln park ostrich, is all the other ostriches have been forbidden by Dr. De Vry to cluck near the sick chamber. Norma's ailment has been diagnosed by one doctor as cramp, but Dr. De Vry says his patient has "pneumonia of the lungs."

TERRIER KILLS BIG RATS.

Bloomfield, N. J., Canine Slays Nineteen  
Rogues Before He  
Quits.

Bloomfield, N. J.—Dewey, a fox terrier owned by Howard W. Freeman of Thomas street, had a fierce battle with a number of big rats in the loft of Mr. Freeman's stable.

The other afternoon Andrew Powers, a hostler, was in the lower part of the stable when he heard loud noises overhead. He called Mr. Freeman and the two went upstairs. A strange sight greeted them. About the floor were strewn the bodies of rats, and Dewey was still fighting.

Carries 40,000 Words an Hour.  
Interesting experiments were made between Paris and London with a new rapid telegraphic apparatus. The inventors, Pollak and Vixar, claim that the instrument can transmit 40,000 words an hour. The messages are written, instead of telegraphic characters.

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