

MODERN WHISTLES.

MANY BLOWN BY COMPRESSED AIR NOW USED.

They Are in Great Demand on Vehicles and Boats Driven by Other Than Steam Power.

"In some localities," said the representative of a whistle manufacturer, "they now use on surface cars, in place of the gong, air whistles blown by compressed air pumped into a tank carried on the car. The whistles used on the cars of the subway and elevated roads in this city are air whistles, blown by compressed air in this manner."

The air whistle is similar in design and appearance to the steam whistle, but different in some details of its construction and in the adjustment of its parts, to adapt it to the use of air instead of steam.

On many power boats, not driven by steam, there are now used air whistles. These whistles are blown by compressed air from a tank kept filled by a pump operated with power from that supplied for driving the boat, or by the boat's machinery. But we supply also nowadays independent air whistle equipments, consisting of tank, whistle, pump and gauge, the pump of which can be operated by hand; and such outfits are not costly.

"We are now selling air whistles for automobiles."

Steam whistles are now made of various kinds, and they are made, of course, in many sizes, and they are made also in various proportionate dimensions, to adapt them economically to the various uses for which the whistles are designed. Speaking of steam whistles in general, you want to carry sound a distance, a whistle with a bell proportionately long to its diameter; while for nearby warning not only will a small whistle do, but a whistle with a bell proportionately short.

So for a big steamship, requiring a whistle that can be heard miles away, you want not only a whistle of large diameter, but one with a proportionately long bell, blown with plenty of pressure, while for instance, for a steam fire engine running in city streets, a small whistle with a proportionately short bell, a whistle that can be heard a few blocks away, will serve.

"We make now not only plain whistles, but chime whistles, mockingbird whistles, organ whistles and sirens. A plain whistle will do for the great steamship, and plain whistles, big and little, are sold for use everywhere. But we sell now great number of chime whistles for various uses."

The chime whistle has within its bell not a single chamber, but three chambers, the blended tones of which produce not the old-time screech, but a sound far more musical. Chime whistles are now extensively used on locomotives, with results far less disturbing to the communities through which the railroads run than were the sounds of the locomotive whistles once commonly used. Chime whistles cost more than plain whistles, but the use of them is generally spreading.

"The mockingbird whistle is one that is made by an arrangement of its valves to produce not a single, but a varying note."

The organ whistle is made with an opening in the bell like that in the side of a church organ pipe, giving to the whistle a somewhat organlike effect. A great organ whistle might be set up on a factory in a village for a fire alarm; a sonorous whistle that could be heard for three, four, five miles, throughout the surrounding country.

"There are people, I know, who don't like the siren whistle, but it has its uses and its advantages. A siren gives a boat individually, and we can identify any boat carrying one by the sound of its whistle."

"But are not all sirens alike in sound? No, not even in the same size. You know you can build a dozen locomotives from the same patterns and the same stock of materials and no two will steam and run exactly alike. There will be difference enough between them so that they can be distinguished, at least by those familiar with their sounds, when the whistles are in use."

"So you see that, quite apart from the novelty of the introduction and the present widespread use of whistles blown by compressed air, there has been all sorts of whistles, in steam-blown as well as in air whistles, a progress quite as in keeping with the times."

Had She Picked Hubby's Pocket?
Two aproned dressed, prim old ladies were having the usual struggle on the California street car over who should pay the fare. The successful competitor drew what she supposed was a two-bit piece from her purse and handed it to the conductor with the remark: "Take two out of that."

The conductor was polite, but he turned red and finally stammered: "But, madam, that is only good for one."

"Good for one? What do you mean? What is it?"

"It's a bear check, madam"—San Francisco Chronicle.

Band or Car?
An American who has just returned from a European tour tells of attending a concert given by Siegfried Wagner's orchestra in the Nice casino. Next to him sat a motherly woman from a western state, the wife of a very rich cattleman. The old lady was chatting with a Russian countess, who asked: "Don't you think that Damrosch is the best conductor in your country?"

"Well, now," was the affable reply, "I don't think we ever rode on his car."

CHINESE DOCTOR'S OFFICE.

Methods of Examination and Administering Medicines in Vogue There.

The method of treating sick persons adopted by Chinese doctors in some cities is similar to that of the other physicians of the United States and those of Great Britain. They depend much, however, on the examination of the pulse, says Chambers Journal. Their sense of touch is so wonderfully developed that it is said they can determine the condition of the heart as well as some of the other organs merely by the feebleness or strength of the beats; but they say there are no less than 12 different movements of the arteries in the human body, all of which can be detected by feeling the fingers, wrist and arm.

When a patient calls on him for examination the doctor first prescribes the arm, wrist and fingers, touching nearly every part. Sometimes 10 or 15 minutes is occupied with this examination. Then he may ask if the patient is married or single, and also his age; but this is about the limit of the examination. Apparently he can tell the nature of the disease without questioning further, and if the caller wishes a prescription he writes one in the ordinary Chinese characters on a generous sized square of paper.

Ring a bell, he hands the prescription to the Chinese attendant who enters, for each physician has his own shop, filled with the ingredients which he uses in treatment. If he has a large practice he may employ a native chemist, who makes up the prescription.

One of the curious features of Chinese medical treatment is the way in which the physicians administer their remedies. Nearly all the offices of the principal doctors have what may be called a tea room attachment. This is a spacious apartment, well lighted, frequently ornamented with oriental pottery and pictures and containing small tables, each with two or three chairs. If the invalid does not wish to take his medicine at home, he is ushered into this room, and while seated at one of the tables drinks his prescription as he would a cup of tea or a glass of wine. With but few exceptions the medicine is in liquid form and served hot in dainty Chinese bowls, for most of it is composed of a decoction of herbs.

Each table contains a bowl of raisins, and when the attendant brings in the medicine he also brings in a glass of tepid water. If the drink is bitter, as it usually is, the patient can eat some of the raisins to remove the taste. While with the water he rinses his mouth and throat. Then he is ready to go home, returning the next day for another examination and dose.

RANGE OF HONEY-BEES.

A Three-Mile Circle Is the Average Limit in Their Quest for Sweets.

The range of honey bees is but little understood. Many suppose that bees go for miles in quest of nectar, while others think they go only for a short distance. It may be curious to many to understand how anyone can tell how far the bees may fly, but this is simple when understood, says the Milwaukee Free Press.

Years ago, when the Italian bees were first introduced in the United States, these bees having marks different to the common bees already here, were easily distinguished, and after any beekeeper had obtained the Italian bees they could be observed and their range easily noticed. If bloom is plentiful close where bees are located, they will not go very far, perhaps a mile in range, but if bloom is scarce they may go five miles.

Usually about three miles as far as they may go profitably. Bees have been known to go as far as eight miles in a straight line, crossing a body of water that distance to land. It is wonderful how the little honey bee can go so far from its home and ever find its way back to its particular hive. If, while the bee is away from the hive, it should be moved 10 or 20 feet, the bee would be hopelessly lost when it came back to where, its home, was first located.

If its home was in an open space, with no other objects close, it might find its way home, but even if the hive be moved only a few feet, many of the bees would get lost. If the hive must be moved, it should be done in the winter time, but if in the summer time it should be done after dark or when the bees are not flying, and even then the bees should be stirred up some and smoke blown in at the hive entrance and a board or some object placed in front of the hive so that the bees in coming out may mark their new location.

To Ward Off Stings.
Hornets and bees are not so apt to sting a person if he keeps absolutely still, but this is not necessarily due to the fact that they do not see readily, but simply that they do not recognize an enemy in a perfectly stationary body. The accumulated intelligence of generations has shown them that still objects, like posts, stones or trees, are not enemies, and that disturbance of their nests is always occasioned by objects having power of motion. It thus follows that if a hornet's nest be disturbed or if a wild bee's nest be agitated, danger of stinging is much less if the person keeps perfectly still.—St. Nicholas.

Willie a Wise Boy.
Bridget—What did you open that oven door for? Don't ye know that'll spoil the cake yer mother's bakin'?

Willie—Sure I do, and if it's spoiled she'll let us eat all we want of it.—Philadelphia Ledger.

INDECENT POSTALS.

CARDS WITH PICTURES PLACED UNDER A BAN.

The Post Office Department Orders All Such to Be Held Up—Worst of Them Come from Abroad.

Washington, D. C.—Aroused by the character of souvenir postal cards which have begun to flood the mails the post-office department has started a campaign against offenders. A short time ago orders were issued that not only should cards bearing obscene and indecent pictures or quotations be held up, but even those that are suggestive or which offend good taste. The distributing clerks have not yet been ordered to scan every postal card which passes through their hands, but as they happen to discover a postal card which is offensive they are instructed to withdraw it from the mails.

The idea started with the pretty souvenir card bearing a picture of some point of interest in the city the writer was visiting. The first cards were printed in Paris and the fad has been adopted all over the civilized world. The originals were educational in a measure and the practice of sending them through the mails was encouraged by the post office department when the fad made its way to the United States.

Every privilege requested by those who were fostering the souvenir postal card fever was granted by the post office department, and it is announced that there is not now any desire on the part of the government to discourage the legitimate souvenir card, but the increase in the number of offensive pictures which are sent through the mails in this way has caused some just complaints, and an effort will be made to put a stop to the evil even if vigorous measures have to be adopted.

Some of the pictures are not indecent and in the hands of the worldly would cause no comment, but they are sufficiently suggestive to be improper for the eyes of young boys and girls. Under the system of leaving all mail for a family at the door of a residence it is impossible that many of these postals should not fall into the hands of children.

The censorship will be applied not only to suggestive pictures, but views of women in French bathing costumes or in scanty oriental attire reclining on divans, and to the type that includes pictures of red devils and bearing such legends as "I'm having a— of a time," and "What the— do you want now?"

The most improper postal cards come from France, and some of the German cards are decidedly vulgar and coarse, but it is only recently that the American publishers have begun to pander to this indelicate taste. The fact that they invade the home against the will of the receiver has made the protests of some of the victims carry especial weight with the department at Washington, which is stricter on lines of morality than the governments of foreign countries.

It is hoped by the post office authorities that the announcement that objectionable cards will be withdrawn from the mails will have the effect of discouraging the practice of sending them, but it is probable that it will be necessary to prosecute some of the offending senders before the evil can be stamped out. With this end in view the authorities are on the lookout for one or two especially flagrant cases upon which to base criminal proceedings.

PULLS LEPER'S TOOTH.

Missionary Performs Operation at Extreme Risk of Contagion.

New York.—That medical missionaries incur grave risks in the course of their duties is shown by an incident, narrated in a letter from Dr. Woodbridge Johnson to a friend in this city. Dr. Johnson is doing medical work in Korea under the Presbyterian board of foreign missions. Telling of a visit to one of the towns he says:

"We took our box of books and drugs spread our straw mat and soon had a curious crowd around. The case of instruments and the tooth forceps excited much comment. I invited all who had aching teeth to come forward and have them pulled without charge. Many responded and the crowd, with jokes and laughter at the patients, got much fun out of it. I also saw a number of sick people, some of whom were then given medicine, and others requiring operation or prolonged treatment were directed to go to the dispensary at Taiku.

"The last patient I saw was a poor leper with face and hands thickly swollen and red. He had a front tooth which projected back so as to render it almost impossible for him to close his mouth firmly for eating. He implored me to pull it for him, which I did without touching him more than with three fingers on the temple. Some thought I was in danger of infection, but I washed in the sand of a neighboring stream. A foreigner is in more danger from malaria or typhoid fever than from leprosy. The latter is not particularly contagious here when ordinary precautions are taken."

Farm-Wagon Motor.
An ingenious Greene county farmer has rigged his farm wagon up with a gasoline motor and runs into Springfield several times a week auto style.

Safe Bet.
It's a safe bet that if Lieut. Peary finds the north pole he will find it in a state of insurrection against the czar.

GENERAL OFFICERS KILLED.

Number in Our Civil War Greater Than in the Russ-Japanese Conflict.

From the archives of the confederacy on deposit in the war department the military secretary, Major-General Almsworth, has brought to light some interesting data concerning the commanders of the confederate forces in the field in the fateful days of 1861-'65.

Deducting eleven names of officers who did not qualify for one reason or another, we have in this list 415 generals, and the records given show that of these 74 were killed or mortally wounded in action, or 18 per cent.

This, says the Army and Navy Journal, is a very striking showing when we recall the almost entire immunity of the Russian and Japanese armies fighting in Manchuria from fatal casualties to general officers. We recall but one who has been reported killed in battle in the Far East, and if there are others they must be very few; whereas, the percentage of casualties, among the general officers of the confederacy is far in excess of the percentage of casualties in the rank and file of the Russian and Japanese armies as given by General Bliss, who has the best facilities for learning the facts. No fewer than 23 general officers of the confederacy were killed in battle during the 11 months of campaigning and the eight months of fighting commencing with Grant's Battle of the Wilderness and ending with Appomattox. Ten brigadier generals of the union army were also killed during this campaign, besides 12 colonels commanding brigades, six of them at Cold Harbor alone. At Franklin seven confederate generals were killed, and during Sherman's campaign five, the union army losing three. At Gettysburg five confederate and five union generals were killed, ten in all, besides three union colonels commanding brigades. At Fredericksburg two union and two confederate generals were killed. In all the union army lost in killed or mortally wounded 50 general officers, 23 brevet brigadier generals and 34 colonels commanding brigades.

Taking the proportions as one killed to 4.52 wounded, this would indicate that 407 confederate generals were killed or wounded out of a total of 415. Probably, however, the general officers were the selected victims of the sharpshooters, who shot to kill in one regiment of the civil war, subjected to the ordinary casualties of battle, the First Minnesota, at Gettysburg, 28 per cent. of those engaged were killed and 82 per cent. were killed and wounded. In 42 other regiments the percentage of killed in different battles was 18 per cent. or more. The ratio of killed to wounded in 56 battles of the civil war was 1 to 4.8, varying between 1 to 3 at Williamsburg, and 1 to 6.7 at Arkansas Post. The average among the regular troops was 1 to 4.52. The mortally wounded equalled 64 per cent. of those killed outright. In the German army during the war with France the proportion was 61 per cent.

HABITS OF THE DRUMFISH.

Stands Guard in Channels and Inlets and Preys Upon Other Fishes That Pass.

Drumfish travel in schools, collecting at the mouths of bays between Florida and New York. After disappearing from northern waters in winter, they return early, and take their stations close to the surf in channels, and inlets where they can prey upon other fishes entering or departing from bays. The nearest point to New York where fishermen seek them is, the rugged and forbidding entrance to Barnegat bay, some sixty miles to the south of the metropolis. Owing to their habit of living in inlets, they get the additional names of channel, bass and channel fish, states the New York Tribune.

Rod and reel fishermen, going to or coming from their ocean bluefishing, pause to capture a few drumfish. If the condition of the surf will permit, any kind of bait is sufficient, or even a bright metal squid. When hooked, the great drumfish puts up a mighty battle. Ranging in weight from 20 to 100 pounds and having powerful jaws, fins and tail, the drumfish makes reels sing and hum a livelier tune than any other fish afloat except the big albacore.

The chief value of the drumfish lies in the struggle he gives the fisherman. His flesh is coarse and his food value is found mostly in chowder, although certain foreigners here eat it because it is cheap. The pound net fishermen regard the drumfish as a great pest, as they can usually get only 50 cents apiece for 60-pound specimens. More often, however, they will throw them overboard, rather than handle them at a cent a pound.

Resemblance.
Wiggins—Speaking of facial characteristics, do you know that I was once taken for President Roosevelt?

Biggins—And a man once mistook me for the Kaiser.

"That's nothing; a few weeks ago an old school chum of mine stepped up to me on the street and remarked, 'Holy Moses, is that you?'—N. Y. Times.

Just a Complainer.
"Your complaint, madam," said Dr. Kador, "is very serious."

"There, now," triumphantly cried the fussy woman, who imagined herself very ill, "I knew—"

"Yes, madam, your complaint is chronic, and there isn't the slightest ailment to excuse it."—Stray Stories.

WANTS OUR HORSES.

PURCHASING AGENT FOR JAPAN GIVES THEM PREFERENCE.

American Thoroughbreds to Be Introduced in the Island Kingdom for Breeding Purposes.

St. Paul, Minn.—H. Mural, of Tokio, Japan, in the employ of the department of agriculture of the Japanese government, was sent to the United States two months ago to investigate the efficiency of American horses with a view to introducing them into Japan for the use of the cavalry and transportation in general. After a thorough investigation in the east he purchased 32 thoroughbred trotters from dealers in New York, Buffalo, Kentucky and other places. Several of the trotters have made good records on the Lexington, Belmont and other famous race courses.

The horses will be shipped from Buffalo, the dealers having contracted to ship them from Tacoma on August 3. Agents have also been sent to Europe by the Japanese government. Mr. Mural was so well pleased with the American horses that he wired the Japanese government to instruct the European agents not to purchase any animals.

Mr. Mural has been in the United States only two months and could not speak a word of English before leaving Japan. He now can understand English and speaks remarkably well for one who has been in this country so short a time. When seen at the hotel recently he was attired in the Japanese ushata or dressing gown, a loose, white-dotted garment, made after the Japanese mode of dress. Mr. Mural said:

"It is the purpose of the Japanese government to introduce the American thoroughbred horses into Japan. The Japanese horses are smaller and weaker than the ones you have in this country. The American animals, I think, are the best in the world. The horses I purchased are all fine specimens and I have tried them all on the race track of the east."

"It is the purpose of the Japanese government to keep the horses at its various agricultural stations for breeding purposes only. It is very likely that additional purchases will be made in this country."

"I think the United States is a fine country and wish I could stay here longer. I have found the weather very warm so far. Kentucky is the hottest place I have seen, but that is not so hot as Japan."

Mr. Mural said that the Japanese are jubilant over the prospect of peace and are confident that terms agreeable to both parties will be reached. He states that the country is prosperous and will not be seriously affected by the war.

HISTORIC LINE RESURVEYED

Old Markers of Mason and Dixon's Line Found and Returned to Place.

Hanover, Pa.—The resurvey of the historic Mason and Dixon line has been completed by the surveyors jointly employed by the states of Pennsylvania and Maryland. When the legislatures of these states decided not to allow the famous boundary line to lose its markings and drop out of existence, so far as visible signs are concerned they undertook a work that proved difficult and tedious.

The surveyors were obliged to cut a path through the mountains, and they found many of the old markers and crown stones displaced. In Adams county, Pa., one stone was used as a door sill in a dwelling, another in a church, some had been used in bake ovens and others were lying at considerable distances from their original places. All were recovered, although not without vigorous objection on the part of the people who were using them.

The work of reestablishing the line was carefully done, and the old stone posts set along its course after Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon marked it out in 1763 were reset in solid cement bases, and iron posts were substituted in places where the old posts have disappeared.

The Mason and Dixon line was the result of a dispute between the states of Pennsylvania and Maryland over their respective boundaries as described in their charters, and prior to the civil war was popularly accepted as the dividing line between the free and the slave states. The boundary was marked by mile stones, every fifth one having the arms of Lord Baltimore engraved on one side and those of William Penn on the other.

Sun Hatches the Eggs.
Eggs which had been under a setting hen on the New Jersey farm of Joseph Wiley showed no sign of hatching after the regulation period and some days to spare, so Wiley took the hen off and threw the eggs into a field. Next day he saw little chicks hopping from the eggs he had thrown away. The sun had done what the hen had failed to accomplish.

New Anesthetic Discovered.
Two Berlin scientists announce the discovery of a new anesthetic, having all the virtues of cocaine without the latter's secondary ill effects. The new substance is called "allypine." It deadens pain by local application and does not contain poison.

Hardy Old Man.
Amos Martin, age 108, of Newcastle, Pa., has lived in three centuries, is a veteran of two American wars and was a bridegroom at 95.

PROVINCES OF VAST EXTENT.

Alberta and Saskatchewan About to Be Organized by the Dominion of Canada.

F. A. Lawrence said in a recent speech in the dominion house of commons:

"We are informed that each of these provinces will comprise no less an area than 275,000 square miles. The mind of man almost fails to grasp the significance, the vastness, the greatness of the figures. We can only faintly do so by comparison, and I may be permitted to say that each of these provinces will be nearly six times as large as the great state of New York, with its population of 7,250,000; each of them will be five times as great in point of area as the large state of Illinois, with its population of 5,000,000; each will be six times as large as the large state of Pennsylvania, with a population of 6,500,000; each of them will be seven times as large as the state of Indiana, with its population of 2,500,000.

"In point of fact, each of them is larger in area than the states of Massachusetts, New York, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Delaware and New Jersey all combined together. Each of them is twice as large as England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland, with their immense population of 42,000,000 people; each of them is much greater than the German empire in Europe, with its population of 55,750,000; each of them is much greater than the republic of France in Europe, with its population of 39,000,000.

"By a simple comparison of that kind we are enabled to realize the immensity of the heritage which we as Canadians have in our great northwest."

FLOGGED AUTOMATICALLY.

New Machine Adopted in the Russian Army for Use on Uraly Soldiers.

The spanking machine has been used in farce comedy as a mirth provoker, but the flogging machine now adopted in the Russian army is a more complicated and serious affair, states the New York Herald.

The whipping has always been done by other soldiers under the command of an officer, and the punishment was varied according to the feeling of the soldier toward his victim.

The new machine is automatic in its action, and as soon as the culprit is fastened in position a spring is tightened or loosened to gauge the exact force of the blow. A pointer is moved over a dial to the requisite number of strokes and the mechanism is started.

With perfect regularity the victim's back is scourged by the throngs, the handle of the whip being moved by a screw device after each stroke so that the lash does not fall upon the same spot throughout the punishment.

Each blow is of uniform severity and as soon as the required number have been given the machine comes to rest and the offender is released, with the assurance that the exact punishment ordered has been meted out to him.

HAD ALL QUALIFICATIONS.

Career for Which Young Graduate with Protruding Chin Was Emphatically Fitted.

"Professor," said the young graduate with the protruding chin, "I am about to start in life and perhaps you could suggest some fitting career."

"Well, my dear sir," said the professor, relates the New York Sun, "that's a hard question. There's law, medicine, journalism, business, science—"

"But I have no liking for any of those ordinary pursuits. You see I am rather husky and powerful, but yet I dislike to use my strength in any kind of labor."

"Well, I won't suggest that you become a policeman or a pugilist, though those are the qualifications. Tell me further of your ambitions and I will advise you definitely."

"Ah," said the husky youth, "my ambition is to be a ruler of men, to hold some autocratic position, where people will bow to me respectfully and fear my power, and—"

"Ah, my boy, you are eminently fitted to be the janitor of a bathhouse," said the professor, decisively.

UTTERS AN AWFUL THREAT

Dire Measures Threatened by Saloon-keeper When Patrons Became Disorderly.

Down on the West side there is a little beer saloon run by a little old-fashioned Irishman. The saloon proper, says the New York Sun, is about as big as a good-sized hall bedroom, and is furnished with a few tables and rickety chairs and a small stove. Nearly every night a lot of Irishmen of the neighborhood gather here to play 45 and drink mixed ale. A few nights ago there was a row over a game. They broke the tables and chairs, tipped over the stove and put the place in a bad way generally.

The proprietor took the shindy quietly for about half an hour. Then when two of the bunch were in a corner trying to pound the life out of each other he spoke up and said:

"Here, now! Ye boys will have to quit yer foolin' or I'll take the cards away from ye."

Something New.

Uncle Dick—What is the baby so pleased about?

Nurse—I expect he heard Mrs. Ducie say just now that he didn't look a bit like any of his relations.—Tit-Bits.

Next Morning.

Private Secretary—I wish I had half the head you have!

Gay Oldboy (sotto voce)—I wish you had it all!—Detroit Free Press.