

NAVYGROWS RAPIDLY

FIVE BIG WARSHIPS ADDED IN SINGLE YEAR.

Publication of "List and Station" Reveals Many Important Facts Regarding American Protectors—Look for More Ships.

Washington, D. C.—The American navy has become so great numerically that the old American way of listing warships, that is, according to their size, has had to be abandoned.

The latest issue of "List and Station," the book just off the press, which shows the names and stations of officers and the names of ships, presents the ships' names arranged in that order.

In the "List and Station" of last year the battleship Maine had the honor of first place because she was the largest and newest in commission.

In the 12 months elapsed between the publication of the two books five ships of the largest size were added to the 13 then in the navy.

During the coming year five battleships are likely to be placed on the list of ships in active service, and the six armored cruisers under construction will all be ready for crews if the officers of the bureau of navigation can figure out where they can get the men.

The outlook is that the fiscal year 1905-6 will see more ships of great fighting power added to the American list than any like period in the history of the world.

Before there were so many yards it was the carefully inculcated impression that it took just about four years to build a battleship.

Four years ago when Mr. Roosevelt became president the navy list contained the names of 12 so-called first-rate ships.

New York—A candy manufacturer owning an extensive plant in Barclay street has appealed to the board of health for protection against thousands of honey bees which, he declares, are robbing him of large quantities of sweets.

Since early last spring the complainant asserts that the honey collectors have attacked his employees and customers, and have made his establishment the base of operations for filling with honey 28 hives on the roof of a nearby building.

"I am in the unique position of being the only man in New York who is being daily robbed of enough sugar to keep 5,000,000 bees busy making a metropolitan brand of honey," the candy maker said the other night.

"It has come to be the exception when each day two or three of the girls or men employes in my factory are not stung. The wounds in many cases have been so painful that the victims have had to go home.

The Wonderwork of Rain. In parts of Australia, where the average rainfall is not more than ten inches, a square mile of land will support only eight or nine sheep.

The French government is going to make J. Pierpont Morgan a commander of the Legion of Honor. Now let King Edward come to bat.

Walking Poor. An American circus is stranded at Grenoble, France, and the walking between there and home is reported to be very bad.

SAGE TO LIVE 100 YEARS.

Millionaire Expects to Pass the Century Mark—Remark of a Stock Exchange Broker.

New York.—Russell Sage, who recently celebrated his eighty-ninth birthday, was reported in financial circles to have told a friend that he expects to reach the age of 100 and that he also expects to see Missouri Pacific stock go to 200 before he dies.

The remark, circulated upon the floor of the stock exchange, caused much amused comment. It was remembered that when the same stock, Missouri Pacific, was at the figures a few years ago Mr. Sage denounced the upward movement as rank manipulation that would only hurt the railroad by exciting the anger of the farmer legislators in the states through which the road runs.

The stock was at 125 when the news of Mr. Sage's prediction came out. It went back to 124 1/2.

Mr. Sage has been noted for long-time predictions in the stock market that came true. Not long ago Manhattan reached a high figure, predicted a decade ago for it by him.

"I don't see why Providence should wait for him to reach par when he can be got around 89, is economically managed and can be expected to earn carrying charges."

RELIGION ROUTED BY RUM.

Bishop Potter's Subway Tavern Gives Way Before a Real Saloon—Not Well Patronized.

New York.—The Subway tavern, which was opened 15 months ago with an address by Bishop Potter and the singing of the doxology, closed its doors at midnight recently for the last time as a "sanctified saloon."

While all those connected with the establishment who could be seen the other night were reticent concerning the change, several employes in the tavern explained that there had not been sufficient income from sales to pay running expenses.

Instead of the well-known citizens who established the tavern drawing a five per cent. dividend, as they expected, it was said that in the last six months they had been compelled so often to go down into their pockets to make good a deficit that they had become tired and wished to be rid of the tavern entirely.

When the tavern was opened, about a year ago, it was announced that only pure liquors would be sold. One room was fitted up with a soda fountain, where women might be served with beer.

The outer walls of the building were painted with texts of Scripture and highly colored signs, but, in the words of one of the bartenders, it was found that "rum and religion would not mix."

HERMIT'S HOME AN OIL RIG

Disconcerted When Found—Successful Hunter for Pearls—Family Seeks Him.

Marion, Ind.—Living the life of a hermit in an abandoned oil rig in the woods three miles from Marion is John Swanson, an old man, who exhibited much concern when his abode was discovered.

He refused to say where he came from, but said domestic trouble had caused him to seek a life of seclusion. He said he had been living in the oil derrick for about a year and had succeeded in evading every one until the oil operators chanced to call at an unexpected moment.

He is engaged in pearl hunting along the river, and exhibited a large collection of much value. He said he had been sending them to a New York dealer and had a shipment ready to forward. Members of his family, he said, were searching for him, but he did not desire that they find him.

TO RAZE HISTORIC HOME.

Residence of Bonaparte Will Be Torn Down—Stands Just North of Trenton.

Trenton, N. J.—The Lalor home, situated on Bow hill, just north of this city, will soon be torn down to make room for the growth of Trenton.

Joseph Bonaparte, then living in Bordentown, leased the place from De Klyn and established there Miss Annette Savage, a beautiful Philadelphia woman, with whom he had fallen in love while buying goods from her in a little notion store kept by her mother.

On one of the window panes of the old house is the inscription, "God is love," evidently etched by a diamond.

Walking Poor. An American circus is stranded at Grenoble, France, and the walking between there and home is reported to be very bad.

REVIVES LOST ART.

POTTERY-MAKING, 2,000 YEARS AGO, BROUGHT TO LIGHT.

Harry Firth, an Englishman, duplicates the Celebrated Blackware of the Etruscans—Hits on Scheme by Roundabout Route.

London.—Examples of an art lost more than 2,000 centuries and only rediscovered by accident, have been exhibited recently by Harry Firth, of Kirkby Lonsdale, England. The work duplicates the famous blackware of the Etruscans.

Mr. Firth spent the first 40 years of his life tending flowers for the squire of Kirkby Lonsdale. He was a common gardener, earning in the neighborhood of six dollars a week. In 1890 he became interested in wood carving, through the instrumentality of the Arts and Crafts Guild, an institution originally started by Watts, Ruskin, Morris and a number of other then youthful enthusiastic artists.

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For a year or more he laboriously trued seven weary miles with loads of plastic models to a neighboring brick kiln, where they were baked hard. By degrees his interest in clay overshadowed his interest in wood, and instead of molding mere designs for his chisel to copy he tried his 'prentice hand at original work in pottery.

A few months, however, and he saw that he had either reached his limit as a creative potter or he must devise new means for firing his clay. This he did by building for himself a small oven in a little deserted shed whose owner allowed him its use free of charge.

To the unsophisticated gardener, playing at pottery, the discovery meant nothing more than the loss of so much clay and so much labor. The rare specimens of newly found art he placed tearfully away in a corner where rubbish piled up and dust covered them.

Then came the real labor, for though made once, it was not easy to reproduce an accident, and it took nine months of daily work before Firth again managed to duplicate the ancient work. Mr. Firth has ceased gardening and now makes his living entirely by his art, but it is not much of a living, for he has all the artist's objection to making money by his work.

St. Paul, Minn.—A story of how "love will find a way" has developed in the probate court. William L. Wallace, of this city, was arraigned to be examined as to his sanity.

The old man was arrested on complaint of his daughter. A young man called on the daughter, Miss Virginia Wallace, at her home. The father answered the knock and promptly ejected the young man.

The father discovered this and tried to get back into the house. He gave vent to some strong language and pounded on the door, when the daughter telephoned to the Margaret street police station, saying her home was besieged by a crazy man.

"Just This Way." Doubtless there are hundreds of old men sitting on the street corners of Tokio whittling pine sticks who think they could have done better than Komura in negotiating peace terms.

Tiresome. Prof. Metchnikoff says one may live 180 years on a sour milk diet. But what's the use?

DECLINE OF GREAT RIVER.

Water Level of the Niger, in Africa, Is Slowly and Steadily Sinking.

The Niger is the third largest river in Africa and one of the great rivers of the world. If a channel as long as the Niger were to be cut across our continent in the latitude of New York it would make an island of the northern part of North America.

The British have made several futile attempts in the last two years to reach Jobba from the Niger mouth with their steamer Nupe. Ten years ago this point, where the railroad from Lagos is to cross the Niger, was accessible at all stages of water to light draft steamers.

The French officers Tautou, Hourat and Fourneau proved the possibility of carrying supplies from the mouth of the Niger to the upper river in spite of the long stretch of rapids about 500 miles above the delta.

Fortunately for the French they have completed their railroad from the Senegal river to the upper Niger, giving a new inlet to their Sudanese possessions. But geographers are wondering how long the drying up of Africa is to continue.

Women always seem to be able to establish some new kind of work. Now Boston has in several buildings devoted to women's interests, or largely patronized by women, girls employed to run the elevators.

The girls are all doing the work to the complete satisfaction of their employers and have at the same time suggested a solution for the perplexing question of what to do with a girl who has to earn money at an early age.

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The Statute of the Pilgrims. On Plymouth hill stands the imposing statue of the Pilgrims. Its base is granite and supports a seated figure at each of the four corners, with eyes searching the surrounding country, while a woman's figure crowns the top.

Apprehensive. "You don't get sleep enough," said the physician. "You ought to take a nap every afternoon."

Destroyed by Insects. Dr. A. D. Hopkins, in charge of the forest insect investigations, department of agriculture, in a recent lecture, said that the average annual loss from insect work on forest trees and their crude and finished products, amounts to at least \$100,000,000.

BLUEBERRY BARRENS

MAINE INDUSTRY THAT IS PROGRESSING VERY PROFITABLY.

Large Tracts of Land in That State Devoted to Culture of the Fruit—Details of the Business.

Prof. W. M. Munson, of the University of Maine, contributes to the report issued by Edgar E. King, forest commissioner for Maine, an instructive paper on "Blueberry Culture." In some parts of Maine, particularly in Washington county, the management of lands that have been deforested and that would be worthless for general agricultural purposes, has been systematized and the canning of blueberries has become an important industrial operation.

The land devoted to the blueberry industry in Maine lies mostly in Washington county, where there are about 150,000 acres known as the "blueberry barrens." This land lies chiefly in the townships of Cherryfield, Columbia, DeBols, Beddington, Harrington, Jonesboro and New 18 and 19.

About 40,000 acres of the barrens belong to William Freeman, of Cherryfield, who may properly be regarded as the pioneer in the blueberry industry of America. After long and bitter litigation he proved beyond question his right to charge royalty for all fruit gathered on his lands.

The land is divided into several tracts, each of which is leased to some responsible party, who assumes the whole care of burning, keeping off trespassers, harvesting and marketing the fruit.

The pickers receive from one and a half to three cents per quart; those who lease the land and haul the fruit to the canning factory, or to the station for shipment, one-half of one cent per quart—the rate being determined in accordance with the market values, by the firm which handles the product.

The financial importance of the blueberry industry is very difficult even to estimate at the present time. In Maine the canning of blueberries is largely in the hands of a few leading packers. The largest of these factories has a daily capacity of 700 bushels and the average annual output is 8,300 cases of two dozen cans each, representing 6,250 bushels of fresh fruit.

The number of hands employed in the various factories would aggregate about 100, but including the pickers there are from 1,000 to 2,000 men, women and children employed in the blueberry packing industry during the canning season. About \$30,000 are distributed among the pickers each year.

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The guide, who was taking a party of American excursionists through the holy land, called a halt.

Naturally. "The gentleman will remember," rejoined the guide, "that the incident took place thousands of years ago, and there have been many hard rain storms since then."

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GOLD IN CHINESE CASH.

The Discovery Causes a Great Demand for the Coins in This Country.

A year or two ago certain prominent interests in New York, who were largely concerned in the copper metal business, came into possession of a small consignment of Chinese copper coins, known as cash pieces, the familiar round coin with a square hole in the center.

For months China has been an enormous buyer of copper in the United States. The trade attributed this demand to requirements arising out of the eastern war, as it was believed that China was engaged in manufacturing some lines of material for either the Japanese or Russians.

No one except the shippers of these coins can of course form any idea of the number that has been picked up during the past year or more, as naturally they have been very secretive about their work, first because they did not want others to learn of their new found gold mine, and, secondly, because it is understood that the shipment of coins in this manner from China is illegal and somebody might get into trouble if the bustle came to the knowledge of the authorities.

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