

POWERS SAY DRUM MUST GO

Will Be Cut Out as Necessary Article of Military Equipment by European Nations.

It was some time ago that, acting upon the recommendations embodied in a report by a military commission...

Since the decision of the French government other European powers have followed its example in decreeing that the "drum must go."

The history of the drum is both ancient and honorable. The Egyptians employed it, and the Greeks ascribed its invention to Bacchus.

BIRD THAT KEEPS A SLAVE

Frigate-Bird Forces the Booby-Bird to Supply Fish for His Dinner.

The booby-bird never leaves the broad seas, where his harsh cry is heard from the Hebrides to the Faroes...

It happens occasionally that the booby attacked by the frigate has nothing in its mouth. When the frigate pecks in vain, he belabors his slave with his beak and drives him, bruised and terrified, into the sea to catch fish.

Life Without Microbes.

The oft-debated question as to whether there can be life without microbes is held to have been solved by M. Michel Cohendy of the Pasteur Institute of Paris...

Machine to Write Music.

A German musician has invented a machine which, he states, automatically registers the notes emitted by the piano.

Herons Meet Affectionate Birds.

Of all the birds he had studied, said W. Farren in a lecture at the Royal Photographic Society's exhibition...

St. Petersburg's Growth.

That St. Petersburg is rapidly growing in population is evidenced by the census taken in December, 1910...

RISKED LIFE FOR SEEDS

Man Responsible for Starting Rubber Industry in India Now Living on Pension.

Living on a pension in London is W. H. Wickham, the man responsible for the introduction of rubber trees in India at the risk of his life.

TAXICAB SERVICE IN PANAMA

Will Run on Regular Schedule Between Colon and Panama and Carry Mail.

Consul General Snyder of Panama learns from the local press that a concession has been granted to Francisco Arias, Sr., for establishing a taxicab automobile service on a regular schedule in the cities of Panama and Colon...

Europe's Largest Grapevine.

What is said to be the largest grapevine in Europe is to be seen in the great conservatory of Lord Breadalbane, at Killin, Loch Tay, Scotland. Planted in 1832 in a modest conservatory measuring only fifteen feet, its glass house has now grown to large proportions...

Hit by His Own Law.

There are worse perils than with animals in Central Africa, says one who has just returned. Among the natives there are terrible diseases. Some of them are leprosy and sleeping sickness...

Balkan Ballads Are Long.

In the Balkan countries the ballad makers have certainly been at least as important as the makers of laws. Servia's national ballads, commemorating the glories of the Serbian Emperor Dushan, the fatal battle of Kosovo, and the legendary exploits of the hero Marko Kraljevic...

Troubles With Sun Dials.

Sun dials are picturesque objects, but when exactitude is required, that is, scientific exactitude, they are difficult things to adjust. Columbia University is having trouble with a sun dial consisting of a great brass plate on which rests a granite ball seven feet in diameter.

Princeton's Wonder.

In Princeton they have a sun dial that is a reproduction of an ancient one of an English university whose trustees presented the Gothic column to Old Nassau. It is so fearfully and wonderfully marked with figures that Dean Fine once explained to a visitor that Princeton who could tell the time by it, and that they could do so only three days in the year, and then the dial would be wrong.

WHY THE TRAIN WAS LATE

Didn't Have the Nerve to Intervene—He Gulped, So Did Everybody Else.

If the railway guard who held his train half a minute beyond schedule time should be reprimanded at headquarters a hundred passengers who know why he did it will sign a petition for his pardon.

Along toward the middle of the car sat a small, shabby, kind-faced man who, observing that the five children were standing about unsteadily in the car aisle, arose smilingly and went to their rescue.

"They do things in a strange way in Russia," says a letter in the Rusische Korrespondenz from a correspondent in Warsaw.

HOW THEY DO IN RUSSIA

Sixty-Seven Persons Are Tried Behind Closed Doors and Given Prison Sentences.

"Lightning Catcher." Nearly everybody believes that Benjamin Franklin was the inventor and constructor of the first lightning-rod.

Britain's Strange Sect. The Jesuites of Gillingham, in Kent, England, have once more been brought prominently before the public in the old county.

Wanted It Anyhow.

There recently sought the services of a dentist a quaint young Swede, who, at the urgent insistence of his newly-acquired wife, came to "get his mouth fixed."

"Humbug" Spreading Out.

"Once upon a time," writes an American woman from Munich, "the humbug was looked upon as a strictly American product."

Cleopatra's Pearl.

Most persons know the story that is told of Cleopatra to illustrate her luxurious habits of living—that she dissolved in her wine a precious pearl.

Don't Sleep in Cutaways.

A fat man got aboard the cars and squeezed into an empty seat next to a sleepy man wearing a long-tailed cutaway.

Working for the Boss Easy.

A man complains of being worked to death since he went into business for himself. Now all he can think about is getting down early and keeping on the job until everybody else goes, not even taking time out for luncheon.

MUST HAVE BEEN DRUNK

Second Only Plausible Explanation of Conduct of Man on New York Train.

At Matawan the New York bound train, pretty well filled with passengers, took on a number more among them a family of eight—stout mother, stout aunt and six children.

"Yes," was the reply: "I've been looking at him. I guess he must be drunk."

HOTEL MODERNITY IN CHINA

Hostelry in Shanghai Is Equipped With Baths, Radiators and Open Plumbing.

The opening of the new Chinese hotel in Shanghai, the Mong Yuen Lee Tzar, was celebrated recently by a banquet, the New York Sun states.

Bees Like Mineral Water.

For the tenth successive autumn a mineral water factory at Cardiff, Wales, was recently invaded by bees, which come in huge companies.

Small Clue to Crime.

A mysterious St. Petersburg crime has just been solved by means of a trousers button. Some days ago the police found the bodies of a well-to-do couple named Andrejeff lying to the Ninkaja railway station.

Polite for the Pastor's Benefit.

Little Mary was not especially noted for her table manners so that on several occasions she had dined on the kitchen cabinet when there was company in the house.

Truth About Old Age.

George F. Baer, the famous Philadelphia railroad man, said on his seventieth birthday:

She Admitted It.

Little Ella's father was an eminent author, and one day while he was at luncheon the little girl occupied a chair in his study.

MATTER FOR CAREFUL INQUIRY

Japanese Minister's Diffidence in Presence of Emperor Is Cause of Funny Break.

The late emperor of Japan was regarded with the greatest veneration by his subjects, and this attitude of awful reverence was maintained also by his ministers.

This generally brought him safely through a short audience, but one day, unfortunately, the emperor condescended to discuss the marquis's more private affairs.

WEDDING TRIPS IN THE AIR

Aeroplane Honeymoons Preferable in Some Ways to Those of Ordinary Sort.

There is much to be said in favor of aeroplane weddings, but we shall say only a little of it on a day like this, remarks the Newark News.

To Restore Chartreuse Monastery.

Tourists in all parts of the world will be interested to learn that the famous Grande Chartreuse monastery, which has been sadly neglected of recent years, is to be repaired and restored by the French authorities.

To Raze Historic House.

Having purchased the historic house at Van Cortlandville, near Peekskill, Walter S. Hamilton of Nyack will raze the edifice and replace it with a fine modern home.

Platoon of Soldiers Guarding.

Major Andre after his capture took an early morning breakfast there on December 28, 1780. Efforts made by Daughters of the American Revolution to save the premises from destruction seem to have met with no success.

Polite for the Pastor's Benefit.

Little Mary was not especially noted for her table manners so that on several occasions she had dined on the kitchen cabinet when there was company in the house.

Truth About Old Age.

George F. Baer, the famous Philadelphia railroad man, said on his seventieth birthday:

She Admitted It.

Little Ella's father was an eminent author, and one day while he was at luncheon the little girl occupied a chair in his study.