

THE DROLL SIAMESE TWINS

Miscellaneous Franks of Long Ago Who Were at Times Antagonistic Yet Inseparable.

The famous Siamese twins, Chang and Eng, were not among the most agreeable companions I have ever met...

"What a paradox we are!" finally ejaculated Eng, with a nervous laugh. "I hate Chang like the devil, and Chang hates me like the devil, and yet who can deny that we are immortally joined on each other?"

METALS THAT COME TO LIFE

Lead Crushed to Death Regains Vitality Under Favorable Conditions.

"Crystal regrowth" is a remarkable property of metals in certain conditions observed by Prof. J. A. Ewing, a London experimenter in the death and revivifying of metals.

At the time of this melancholy shipwreck there were not more than two or three families on Cape Ann and no help came for Mr. Thatcher and his wife on the first day or the second.

JACK RABBIT ON A FENCE.

An Unusual Spectacle Which Fixed Itself on the Beholder's Memory.

"The trouble about a man who starts in to prevaricate is that he can't contain himself with plain lying," said an elderly lawyer the other day, reports the Washington Post.

"Joyously I had him testify to the fact and turned him over to the opposing counsel for cross-examination. He stuck to it that he had seen the fence when he was out hunting. He hadn't climbed it, but he knew it was there."

At one of the recent lectures by Prof. George Kirkway dean of Columbia law college, New York the students were uneasy. There was something wrong in the air. Books were dropped, chairs were pushed along the floor.

Enthusiasm! He made that violin fairly speak, didn't he? Dub-at-ari—Yes, but what awful agony it was in!—Detroit Free Press.

ABOUT THATCHER'S ISLAND

Details of the Melancholy Shipwreck Which Gave the Place Its Name.

The twin lights of Thatcher's island are familiar to many who go down to the sea in ships and to many more who spend the summer months on the rocky headland of Cape Ann.

Mr. Thatcher, after being buffeted about by the sea for a long time, was able to cling fast to a rock and climb on shore. Drenched and shivering, he walked about, vainly trying to see or hear something of his late companions.

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SWEDISH COPPER INDUSTRY

Present Production Not Large, But Much Interest Is Manifested.

Among the economic phenomena at present attracting attention is the rise in the price of copper. Sweden is largely interested in the copper industry, though the present production of copper ore in the country is not large.

How are we to avoid this unnecessary payment to foreign countries? Is the increase in price momentary, or will the price of copper keep steady at a high level for some time? This is a question of the greatest importance for the Swedish copper industry.

Motor-Car Savings Bank.

A current newspaper paragraph tells of a "motor-car savings bank" which makes journeys in the north of France stopping in villages on stated days to receive such sums as thrifty country people having saved, may be desirous of depositing in a savings bank.

Pompeian Bread.

Bread 2000 years old has been discovered in the ruins of Pompeii. That must be where some of our American restaurants get their supply.—Atlanta Journal.

Mere Man.

Your husband, I dreamed last night that your mother was dying. His wife—Brute! I heard you laugh in your sleep.—N. Y. Times.

CAUGHT A SCHOOL OF FISH

Entire Village Turned Out and Made Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars.

One day in November, several years ago the people living on the Massachusetts Bay shore at the end of Cape Cod were wrought to the highest pitch of excitement by the arrival of an immense school of blackfish.

Hastily the boats were launched, each taking a half dozen men and boys, those not rowing being armed with sticks and pieces of board. In a quarter of an hour they were in position, in half circle and to leeward of the fish.

ELECTRICITY IN A ROCKER.

By Moving Easily the Occupant of the Chair Receives a Gentle Current.

Two Denver men have just patented an electrical device that promises to bring fame and fortune to them, reports the Denver Times. They are an inventor and a mechanic, and their device is an electrical rocking chair.

In other words, the rocking of the chair causes the rods to move back and forth and they set the dynamo in motion. Concealed wires lead from the dynamo to the arms of the chair and to receive the electricity one has only to rest the hands and arms on the arms of the chair.

The inventors believe they can manufacture the chair at a little more cost than an ordinary rocker, and they expect soon to put it on the market.

TOUT QUICKLY WARNED OFF.

English Jockey Club Takes Stringent Measures with Interlopers.

There is no more powerful autocratic body than the Jockey club, who control the welfare of the English turf with laws which are as inexorable as those of the Medes and Persians.

In the Natural Way. During a session of the supreme court of Maine at Augusta a tedious and complicated real estate case had pretty nearly worn out the patience of the counsel on both sides.

No Use for Gold.

A German barkeeper who has been in the United States about five years in all that time has never seen a five-dollar gold piece. A clerk, who had received one of these golden coins as part of his pay, entered the saloon which is presided over by the German and called for a glass of beer.

Better Still.

Long—I suppose the girl you are engaged to has a lot of common sense. Short—Yes, and what's more, she has a lot of uncommon dollars.—Chicago Daily News.

SALOON EVIL IS CHECKED.

Town on Puget Sound Saves Its Navy-Yard and Protects Its Honors.

Bremerton, a town of Puget sound, is now saving a good purpose in illustrating one effective way of dealing with the saloon evil and the vice which are its almost inseparable attendants.

Finally the people of Bremerton were given to understand that unless they diminished and regulated the saloon evil no more ships would be sent to that station for repairs. As soon as the government showed it was in earnest in this threat the authorities of Bremerton responded by raising the saloon license from \$300 to \$1000 and banishing all saloons from the main side streets of the town.

SENATE GAVEL WELL USED.

Has Been on Presiding Officer's Table for More Than One Hundred Years.

Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Stewart, of the United States senate, has ordered a silver band for the gavel that is used by Senator Fore in calling the senators to order.

The senate is such a decorous body that the vice president never breaks the boards in his desk pounding for order. Over in the house the carpenter has to put in a couple of new planks in the speaker's table every session. During Dewey's regime the boards had to be renewed every month or so.

PUZZLE FOR A PATIENT.

Doctor Advises Rural Postman to Do More Walking for His Health.

When the tired man entered the room he said the doctor he did not know what ailed him, but he needed treatment. He was pretty well worn out, reports London Tit-Bits.

Contagious Spirit of Opulence.

Unconsciously, most English men and women have been thinking in millions ever since the American and mining millionaires have come the main cause of the distress which exists throughout the country.

Equally Sweet.

Emeralds—Where are you and Jack going to spend your honeymoon? Emeralds—With relatives up in Vermont.

WAS NOT IN THAT CLASS.

Very Good Reason Why the Mare Could Not Trot a Mile in Three Minutes.

Not far from Willow Grove lives a young farmer whose fine stock of horses are admired by all who see them. The other day a friend, an amateur, called on him in search of "something fast."

How Harlemites Fought.

Washington was fighting the battle of Harlem Heights. "Forward!" he cried. "Just imagine those are the janitors you see before you!"

DONE BY MEN PAST FORTY

Fame Won by Some of the World's Most Noted After They Had Passed That Age.

Beginning with Demosthenes, we find that the great Athenian delivered his oratorical masterpieces—the orations "On the Crown"—at 54, writes Rev. Thomas H. Gregory, in New York American.

Lawrence Sterne wrote "Tristram Shandy" when he was 47. Cervantes was 50 when he began to write the immortal "Don Quixote."

Oliver Cromwell did not begin his wonderful life work until he was 43. Titian was over 40 when he began work on the renowned masterpiece, "The Assumption of the Madonna."

Leonardo da Vinci, who we are told, comes nearest to being history's "universal genius" was 45 years old when he painted "The Last Supper."

Sir Christopher Wren designed St. Paul's cathedral at 46 and the towers of Westminster abbey at 50. John Hunter, the celebrated physician, wrote his greatest treatise when 66 years of age.

Pastor was 57 before he fairly got to work on his hydrophobia cure. Morse was 41 when he gave the world the telegraph.

TO EQUALIZE EXPANSION.

French Inventor Discovers a New Alloy Which Has This Effect in Metals.

By the discovery of a new alloy after claims he will be able to effect a saving of \$150,000 every year in the making of watches alone. The great discrepancy in the expansion of metals on heating, says an authority has often proved a trying experience to metal workers and is further complicated by the fact that in making alloys the change with temperature is often found to be quite different from a mere average of the constituent metals.

But in the new alloy, a composition of nickel and iron, containing 26 per cent of the former, the expansion under heat is barely more than quartz, which is almost immeasurably small. Already it has found favor with the French authorities for use in surveying instruments, where variations in climate render accurate measurements difficult. A far more general application will be found, however, in the case of clocks and watches. Regulation of the swing of the pendulum under the variations of summer and winter temperature is usually made by arranging a strip of some highly expansible metal to increase upwards from the bottom bearing, so keeping the length constant. While this proves satisfactory, the new alloy promises to relieve the difficulty involved in the adjustment of such pendulums.

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GREAT WEALTH IN TIMBER.

Forests of Philippines Contain Immense Quantities of Valuable Lumber Material.

The greater wealth of the Philippine islands is in timber, and if the government of the United States had taken them on speculation President McKinley would have been justified in paying several times the amount of the indemnity paid to Spain, writes William E. Curtis in the Record-Herald. Capt. George P. Abern, of the 8th Infantry, who has been chief of the bureau of forestry over there ever since the civil government was established, has just returned to his post at Manila after a couple of months at the exposition at St. Louis and in conference with capitalists who desire to engage in cutting timber for export to the United States, China, India, Australia and other countries where there is a profitable market and a large demand. When I asked him about conditions the other day he said:

"There is a vast natural forest wealth in the Philippines awaiting the development, but it requires time, money and wise management. The archipelago is the one undeveloped fertile spot in the orient. Markets for all the produce it can raise are strong and close at hand. Labor is not difficult to secure and there is no danger to life or property. Any company or individual desiring to investigate the forest resources of the islands will find the officials of the bureau of forestry in Manila ready to cooperate in furnishing information and there are competent officials in the field whose business it is to look after investors. A large number of very inviting fields of forest development should prove attractive to those who believe in the future of our possessions in the orient."

"The regions offering special attractions are the island of Mindoro, the east coast of Luzon, the Cagayan valley and the islands of Negros and Leyte. The greater the distance from Manila, the base of supplies, the less the chance for success. A company entering the Philippine field should be prepared to carry on some agricultural work in addition to logging, so as to give employment to the logger's family; it should also be equipped with a modern sawmill and a steam engine to supply the saw and China markets. It should have a lumber yard in Manila as well as in each Chinese port. A well laid-out town should be started for the employees. This scheme of exploitation can be started with a capital of half a million dollars. A tract of between 100 and 200 square miles of virgin forest may be secured for 20 years, and when secured a selection of the best sites for agricultural development should be marked out. Land may be purchased by the company and also by the employees, or may be taken up by them as homesteads. Philippine homestead laws command a high price all over the world, are easily raised, and are well secured. They should produce good results within a few years."

"The Philippines are centrally located and close to markets with a trade of more than \$100,000,000 a month, a trade that is constantly growing, and that will be of great value to the islands. We have valuable and vast quantities of hard woods, we have benzoin, copra, sugar and many other products which the world needs. Next year Manila will have the best harbor in the world, the largest and the facilities for loading and unloading large ocean steamers will make that port a great depot of supplies for that part of the world. It seems strange that so many people should be ignorant of the great future of trade in the orient. China is awakening and will not cease its strides in commercial development. Japan in the near future will be a powerful factor in the development and will look to the United States for cooperation."

Junk Crawled Through.

The most-imagined northern Chinese junk made first-class blockade runners. They are built very low in the water, with the decks almost awash when loaded, so that only the bow and stern rise noticeably above the water line. They are strong, flat-bottomed, and of unpainted, dirty wood, with no bright colors about them. Propelled by from 10 to 20 oarsmen, if the sails fall, they glide through the water with no noise or smoke, and are very difficult of detection. Dodging along the shore and among the numerous islets which extend from the Shantung peninsula across the mouth of Peihai gulf, they closely resemble the low, brown rocks, and during the last month hundreds of them have evaded the Japanese watches and carried tons of fresh provisions and vegetables to the beleaguered Port Arthur garrison.—London Times.

An Oak Tree Mine.

A Russian timber dealer has discovered a valuable mine of oak. It exists in a river of South Russia, in layers three or four feet deep, scattered over 150 square miles, and its most striking feature is its variety of colors supposed to be due to the variegated soil of the river bottom. Not fewer than 12 shades of pink, blue, yellow and brown have been noted, each log having its own uniform shade. The logs taken out have ranged from 40 to 200 feet in length and from 15 to 20 inches in diameter, and it is estimated that more than 250,000, averaging 70 feet, remain.—N. Y. Herald.

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