

WOULD BE ONE AMONG MANY.

Foreign Count Who Was Engaged to Several American Women Gets into Trouble.

Enterprising foreigners desiring to enter into matrimonial relations with American women would do well to ponder on the case of Count Malte Lewen Stiergranat, son of the chamberlain of King Oscar of Sweden, who is now in jail in New York city on a charge of breach of promise preferred by a young lady of wealth and position. The count is a good example of the noble foreigner who cometh to Columbia to seek a bride and a fortune. He was arrested two weeks ago at the suit of Miss Leah M. Boswick, who alleged in her petition that she had reason to believe that the count was about to sail for Sweden, and not marry her, as he had promised. The count was immediately arrested, and being unable to give \$500 bail, was committed to jail.

The count is a tall, handsome-looking young man of 27 years, and has all the appearance of a gentleman born and bred. It is evident that he does not consider the offense a particularly heinous one, and is more surprised at the incarceration than concerned as to his fate. He explained to the justice before whom he was arraigned:

"I was not aware that I was obliged to marry her simply because I had become engaged. It was my impression that I could become engaged to as many girls as I desired, and did not necessarily have to marry any of them until I really found that one had suited me best."

He was informed that although such might be the custom in Sweden, it could not go in America, and reserved his decision. His father is one of the richest and most influential men on the Scandinavian peninsula, and, although it is improbable that \$50,000 will be paid over to the unhappy lady whose affections the stalwart Swede has stolen, he will undoubtedly be made to pay dearly for his presumption.

COBRA VENOM FOR LEPROSY.

Poison of the Serpent May Rid the World of a Malady—How Discovery was Made.

Dr. Bertrand Wilkinson, of Omaha, general surgeon of the Union Pacific Railroad company, was at the Victoria hotel, New York city, the other day, and he said that if Dr. Thomas J. Biggs, a former surgeon of the United States army, was on the right track the new century would rejoice to see the dreadful scourge of leprosy, if not totally removed from among human ailments, at least reduced to a minimum. He said: "Startling as this announcement may seem, stranger still is the means Dr. Biggs proposes to employ to rid suffering humanity of the awful pest. The remedy whose effectiveness he hopes to demonstrate is nothing more nor less than the deadly venom of the cobra. Curious, too, that the idea of inoculating the leprosy patient was suggested by the savage, demon-worshipping hill tribes of far-off India. Many of these people, seeking to die by means of the cobra's bite, have been cured of leprosy."

"As there are mere cases of leprosy in the United States than is popularly supposed, and especially as we have just annexed a colony of these unfortunate with the Sandwich islands, the importance of Dr. Biggs' discovery—if the results of his investigations justify his hopes—cannot be overestimated. The medical profession will follow developments in this instance closely."

TO KEEP REINA MERCEDES.

Former Spanish War Craft to Remain Federal "Show Ship"—Effort Made to Buy Her.

An offer from a prominent firm of ship brokers doing a large business to purchase the Reina Mercedes and any and all of the other war craft captured during the late war has aroused a suspicion that Spain is trying in this indirect manner to obtain possession of the vessels and thus remove the offense to Spanish pride caused by the floating of the American flag over her ships. The offer mentioned no figures, but simply requested that the navy department name its price for the Mercedes and the remainder of the captured Spanish ships.

The navy department will not sell any of these vessels, and that answer will be returned to the writer of the letter. Secretary Long has decided that it would not pay to attempt to renovate the Mercedes and use her as a warship. The cost would be not less than \$500,000, and the ship would, when repaired, be of old type and not up to the requirements of a modern naval ship. Therefore the repairs to be made upon her will be confined to a little painting and cleaning and patching, and the Mercedes will be left as a show ship, like the old Constitution, to gratify the patriotism of the American people.

UGHT TO BE UNIFORM.

Attention of Congress to Be Called to Different Emblems in Use by Army, Navy and Coast Survey.

Attention of congress will be called to the advisability of establishing uniform flags for the army, navy and coast survey services. Each of these services has ships in commission, and if the president were to board vessels representing them one after the other three distinct flags would be hoisted in his honor.

In European countries there is one emblem recognized as the "ruler's" color, and it is hoisted on shore and afloat whenever he is present.

Both Flecks.

The trickles a girl gets at the lake will stay by her longer, says the St. Paul Dispatch, than the young man she annexes.

THE OLD MAMMY WON.

Court Awards Custody of Two White Children to a Negress.

The Rival Claimant Was the Mother of the Two Girls—Remarkable Suit at New Orleans.

Lizzie Jefferson, an old negro "mammy" of New Orleans, has been awarded the custody of Annie and Lucy Galaw, respectively, her rival claimant for the children being the mother. The suit which resulted in the negress obtaining permanent custody of the children was the first of its kind ever decided in Louisiana, inasmuch as "mammy" is as black as the proverbial ace of spades and the children have not a drop of negro blood in their veins.

But in spite of the fact that they are white, Lucy and Annie, who were weeping bitterly during the progress of the case, in fear of being given back to their mother, rejoiced exceedingly when Judge Aucoin pronounced judgment in favor of the negress. Behind the case there is an unusual story.

V. Galaw, the father of the little girls, died eight years ago. He was very poor and was not on the best of terms with his wife. He knew "Aunt Lizzie," and just before death claimed him he asked the old woman to see that his children did not come to want. The faithful negress gave him the promise, and for the last seven years she has worked night and day for her charges, clothing them nicely, and, since they have been old enough, sending them to the public schools.

"Aunt Lizzie" is a caterer in a small way and earns a comfortable living. She announced her intention not long ago of sending the elder girl to Europe to complete her education, for the child is very bright. The devotion of the negress to her "babies" has long been the talk of the neighborhood.

Not long ago the mother married again and demanded that "Aunt Lizzie" give her and her husband, rent free, a room in the house which was sheltering her girls. The negress refused and the mother brought suit to recover her children. All these facts were brought out in court.

After hearing the evidence Judge Aucoin said he was satisfied that the children were better off with "Aunt Lizzie," and he so ruled, much to the disgust of the mother.

NEW DRUG HABIT.

A Druggist of New York Added to the Use of Pilocarpine Hypodermically Injected.

Thomas Frazer, a druggist of 2336 Second avenue, New York, has acquired a unique habit, which, according to the physicians in the Harlem hospital, has no known parallel. Eight years ago Frazer was treated in St. Luke's hospital, where he received injections of pilocarpine varied with morphine and cocaine. After he was discharged he continued the use of the drugs. He was taken to the Harlem hospital the other day. Dr. Muller, who is treating him, said:

"We find that Frazer is a slave to the drugs he learned to use while in St. Luke's. His arm is full of sores made by the needles of hypodermic syringes. Every two hours he requires an injection of pilocarpine. Half an hour after the pilocarpine he must take two grains of morphine, and half an hour later three grains of cocaine. It is the first case on record, so far as we know, where a man has acquired the pilocarpine habit."

Pilocarpine when taken inwardly constricts the blood vessels.

QUITTING PUBLIC SERVICE.

As Result of Mistaken Economy Navy Department Is Losing Its Draftsmen.

As a result of mistaken economy the navy department is losing its draftsmen and designers, most of whom are stationed at the navy yards and shipyards where government work is carried on under contract. Private concerns are taking advantage of the experience gained by these employes and are engaging their service at higher salaries than the department is willing to pay. Rear Admiral Hichborn, chief constructor of the navy, has repeatedly recommended an increase in the pay of naval draftsmen, who receive four and five dollars per day for their services, but nothing has yet been done, and the government finds itself in the position of being short-handed at a time when there is a large amount of work to be done. The situation is described by Chief Constructor Hichborn as a serious one, of great embarrassment at this time to the programme of speedy construction.

WOMEN SHIPPED BY EXPRESS.

Two Wives Sent to Their Husbands in the Klondike as Freight on Transportation Line.

The Nugget express has evolved a scheme that eclipses all for uniqueness. The other night it shipped from Seattle, Wash., by the City of Seattle two wives, Mrs. Mullarkey and Mrs. Jones, to their husbands in the Klondike. The ladies are sent as express matter. The Nugget express, for a stipulated sum of money, is conveying them, also their children, to Dawson.

Candy by Mail. A San Francisco dressmaker, ate some candy that she received by mail, but it is thought she will recover. This, proves, suggests the Chicago Times-Herald, that candy, which comes by mail is not necessarily fatal if you keep anti-dotes handy.

NEW WAR ENGINE TESTED.

Rapid-Fire Gun Is Mounted Upon a Speedy Motor Carriage for the British Army.

Motor carriages upon which modern machine guns are mounted will be introduced in the British army before long if the experiments now under way prove as successful as expected. One of these new fighting machines will be inspected by Lord Kitchener of Khartoum. It was adapted by Hiram Maxim from the plans of Frederick E. Sims.

Among the displays at the automobile show recently held in the Old Deer park, Richmond, was a military motor quadricycle, the device of Frederick E. Sims. The quadricycle carries a maximum gun of Mark IV. pattern, and bore 3.02 inches, runs by timing gear up to 18 miles an hour, will cover 120 miles before becoming exhausted, or 250 miles with a reserve of petroleum, and can be worked—gun as well as motor—by one man. The motor is made self-cooling, self-feeding and self-igniting by means of the inventor's magneto-electric ignition system.

This "Sims Motor Scout," as it has been named, was twisted and turned over grass and cinder track with the greatest facility, and with unvarying silence. The gun sweeps a wide field, and can be aimed, whether at the halt or in speed, to right and left. A thousand rounds of ammunition can be easily stowed on the machine, in boxes of a hundred, advantageously disposed for replenishing the gun feeder. A new form of tire, combining the cushion, pneumatic and solid, is fitted to the motor scout, and will, it is claimed, allow of the machine being worked over rough country.

This compound tire is cooled by rotation, has side flanges to the rim that afford protection against collision with such objects as curbstones, and eliminates side slips. Should a puncture occur the tire collapses entirely inside the rim and the wear falls partly on the side rims and partly on the tread.

SCHOOL FOR SIGNAL CORPS.

To Be Opened Up at Fort Meyer About October 1—Experiments with Automobiles to Be Made.

Gen. Greeley, of the signal corps, will establish a school at Fort Meyer for the instruction of men of his command, and where experiments with new inventions will be made. At the beginning of the Spanish war the school of this character at Fort Riley, Kan., was abolished, and nothing in this line of training has been given the members of the signal corps. They have, however, been getting instruction of the most practical kind in the field, and this corps has gone through the war with spotless record.

The school will be opened about October 1, when three automobiles which have been contracted for from a Chicago firm will be delivered. Two of these machines will be used in connection with the wireless telegraphy. Each will be equipped with a complete set of instruments, and they will be sent to different parts of the country to conduct experiments under all conditions. The third automobile will be used for general transportation purposes, and the utility of these machines will be given a practical test.

There will be accommodations for at least 100 men. They will be put through a course of training in the duties exacted of them, and after a term at this school the members of the signal corps will be well equipped for their duties, and have a great deal of practical knowledge about electricity and telegraphy.

WILL RIDE ON CHIMNEY TOP.

A. M. Schreyer to Run a Wheel on a Home Trainer for a Week in Washington.

Alexander M. Schreyer, known as the "Australian Whirlwind," will attempt to ride a bicycle on a home trainer for a week on the top of a chimney 195 feet high and nine feet in diameter in Washington, D. C.

The hole in the center, from which the smoke used to issue, will be boarded over, and on the boards Schreyer will set up his home trainer. On one side of the chimney top will be erected a tiny one-room house, where the bicyclist will live during the week in which he is making his roller ride.

A sort of windlass is being constructed on the chimney edge. A long rope will run through it to the ground, and by it the bicyclist will receive his three meals a day.

To protect Schreyer from the sun's rays a gigantic parasol will be fitted to the handlebars of his bicycle. There is scarcely any part of Washington from which he will not be seen. There will be no gate receipts. As the match is only against time and the laws of gravitation, there will be no prize money for the winner. To defray his expenses Schreyer will sell advertising space on the Pennsylvania avenue side of the chimney.

Queer Villages in New Guinea.

In New Guinea the village of Tupu-wei is most remarkable. The houses are all supported on piles and stand out in the ocean a considerable distance from shore. This is to protect the villagers from the attacks of the dreaded head-hunters always looking for victims. Other villages in this queer land are perched up in the trees for the same reason.

He May Die in One of Them. Aguilando lost his brass band, but the Kansas City Times reminds us that he still holds a large assortment of last ditches.

Canadian Forests. Canada's forest area is said to cover 800,000,000 acres.

SEWS UP A HEART.

Most Remarkable Operation by a Binghamton (N. Y.) Doctor.

Knife Wounds in Vital Organ Closed Up with Several Stitches and Patient's Life is Prolonged.

An autopsy on the body of Rabbi Louis Ginsburg, at Binghamton, N. Y., revealed the remarkable fact that he lived 40 hours after a knife wound in his heart had been sewed up, the operation having been performed by Dr. F. L. Forker. Death was caused by septicaemia of the pericardium. The autopsy showed that one wound passed almost entirely through the abdomen, between the stomach and left lung, through which a long slit was cut, the knife blade passing through the pericardium and entering the wall of the heart at the left ventricle, and lacking but an eighth of an inch of passing through the heart wall, which in that place was a trifle over half an inch thick.

When Dr. Forker reached the place after the tragedy he found the rabbi nearly dead from loss of blood. During the operation he transfused into the man's veins about three quarts of saline solution to take the place of the loss of blood and keep up life. It was then necessary to cut off one of the ribs and push back two others in order to get an opening to perform the operation. Then in spite of the flow of blood, Dr. Forker, assisted by Drs. L. H. Quackenbush and C. G. Cole, took three stitches in the heart and stopped the flow of blood.

In spite of the skepticism of other physicians, some of whom assisted at the autopsy, the autopsy revealed the stitches in the heart, just as Dr. Forker claimed. One of the stitches was taken deeply into the muscles of the heart and the other two through the heart skin. As soon as the operation was performed the rabbi regained consciousness and remained conscious up to the minute of his death. A few minutes before he died, at ten o'clock, he asked Dr. Forker to hurry and keep him alive for a couple of hours more.

SUBMARINE BOATS.

One Being Built Under Contract with Holland Company Causing Considerable Worry.

Naval experts are in a great quandary over the submarine boat which is being built at Baltimore under contract with the Holland company. Nothing has been done on the craft for a year or more, and it is already apparent to the officials here that the boat has many defects in a constructional and engineering way, which equal anything urged against it as a hazardous feature of the naval force. There is still doubt in the minds of many officers whether the submarine boat is a useful ship of war. The experiments abroad are not reassuring in this respect, and tests so far with the Holland boat in New York are not conclusive by any means. A great deal depends upon the forthcoming trial of the Holland boat under the auspices of the naval board of inspection.

The boat building at Baltimore will probably have to be altered materially, and much of its engine room equipment removed. In any event, it will be an undesirable craft to which to be attached, as its accommodations are poor. It will be impossible to remain on board any length of time without great discomfort. The question of changes and the future of the boat rest with the board of construction.

THE DYNAMITE SHIP.

Its Pneumatic Gun, So-Called, Are a Failure—Is Good Only for Dispatch Boat.

The Venusus is giving the navy department much concern. Constructor Feaster, of the Boston navy yard, is in Washington and will discuss the ship with the constructors and engineers there. It has been officially reported that nearly \$15,000 must be expended before the ship can again go into commission, and then it will only be serviceable as a dispatch boat, attached in all probability to the North Atlantic fleet. Its pneumatic dynamite guns, so called, are a failure, and while it is not proposed to go to the expense of removing that mechanism it is agreed that they are worthless as naval ordnance. The ship will have to be materially strengthened in the hull and other changes will be made, the work being done at the Charlestown yard during the next few months if the navy department authorizes the expenditure.

SAME AS THE DUM-DUM.

Bullets Sent to British Troops in Africa Denounced by Irish Nationalists in House of Commons.

The under secretary of state for the war office, George Wyndham, replying to a question of Michael Davitt, Irish nationalist, in the house of commons, acknowledged that bullets similar to the dum-dum bullets, which were condemned at The Hague peace conference, were being supplied to the British troops in South Africa. The statement was greeted with loud cries of "Shame."

Long Carriage Drive. A 1,500-mile carriage drive is not a common experience in these days, but that is the distance covered by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mason, who rode from Indiana to Westport, Me., between May 8 and June 18. They made a go-as-you-please affair of it, greatly enjoying the journey, says the Kennebec (Me.) Journal, and the horse actually gained flesh on the road.

COPPER PRODUCT.

Report of the Geological Survey Shows It to Be 630,375,591 Pounds During Year 1898.

According to the report of the geological survey, through Special Agent Kirchoff, just issued, the production of copper in the United States for 1898 was 526,375,591 pounds, which is by far the largest ever reported. This report shows the general prosperity of the copper mining industry, the fall product being marketed at prices slightly better than those of 1897. The actual scarcity of copper, with its accompanying upward rush in price and its enormous expansion of stock speculation, did not in reality develop until the end of the year. It did not fell upon the returns for the year 1898.

As expected, the increase in the production of copper was largest in Arizona, while the lake district also reported an advance. Montana fell off considerably. Intense activity has developed in the search for new copper mines, and a large number of new undertakings have started. But the preparations for output on a moderate scale in the way of opening up mining property and providing a reduction plant require so much time that few of the newcomers will add materially to the copper market of 1899. What increase there will be will come from the older mines, and that chiefly from Arizona, the lakes, California and Utah.

ILLINOIS CHILDREN LEAD.

Stand at Head of List in Contribution to the La Fayette Monument Fund Being Raised.

All the contributions of the school children of this country toward the erection of a monument in Paris in 1900 have been received, and they amount to \$45,694. Every state in the union is represented in the fund, but to the children of Illinois belong the credit of subscribing the largest number of pennies. The contributions from Illinois were \$6,461, and of this amount Chicago gave \$3,328. Ohio gets second place with \$5,499.

The amounts subscribed by other middle western states included: Indiana, \$2,473; Iowa, \$2,107; Michigan, \$2,453; Minnesota, \$1,569; Wisconsin, \$1,250; Missouri, \$953, and Kansas, \$845. The children of Hawaii gave \$21.35, while those of Alaska contributed two dollars. No contributions have as yet been received from the Daughters of the American Revolution, who proposed to take up the matter and help swell the fund.

Besides this fund it is expected to realize at least \$100,000 from the La Fayette souvenir coins, but this amount will fall short of the sum it was hoped would be subscribed.

A LONG TRIP AHEAD.

John D. Davis and Wife Start from New York for San Francisco on a Gasoline Automobile.

John D. Davis and his wife, Louise Hitchcock Davis, have left New York for a trip to San Francisco on a gasoline automobile. The trip will be the longest, if completed, ever made by an automobile.

The automobile is a handsome contrivance, built compactly, and with the purpose in view of traveling over rough roads. It resembles a road phaeton. The wheels are of the bicycle type, with steel spokes and pneumatic tires. The back is built high, well cushioned and comfortable. A big trunk and a well-stuffed valise were strapped on the back of the vehicle. The automobile has a buggy cover which can be let down and up, and when the pair started for the Pacific slope the top was up. A long row of automobiles followed the travelers to Harlem. Mr. and Mrs. Davis will go to Albany and then to Buffalo, and along Lake Erie to Chicago and westward across the prairies to the Rocky mountains by way of Boulder, Col.

UNCLE SAM'S INDEBTEDNESS.

According to the Official Figures Just Issued It Amounts to \$1,436,700,703.

Uncle Sam's debt, according to official figures, amounted to \$1,436,700,703. Of this enormous sum \$1,046,048,750 is made up of interest-bearing bonds, and \$1,218,300 of bonds on which interest has ceased since maturity, while \$389,433,653 is the noninterest-bearing debt, representing the current paper obligations. These figures are exclusive of the gold, silver and currency certificates, as they are all offset by a corresponding deposit in the treasury. Some day the silver certificates and treasury notes will have to be redeemed, and the white metal on deposit will not be half enough to do it. Making allowances for this, Uncle Sam's debt is over \$1,700,000,000. To offset this the total cash balance in the treasury is \$294,280,000, which would pay off 72 per cent. of the floating paper, or would wipe out entirely the equity in the coin notes.

Electric Road Up Mont Blanc.

A Frenchman named Faber proposes to build an electric road up Mont Blanc. In order to avoid the glaciers he suggests tunneling just below a ridge which extends along the side of the mountain. The upper station will be located upon a rocky promontory some 800 feet below the top, which is simply a mass of ice. The road will be of the rack and pinion type, and about six miles long. Power will be derived from a waterfall. Two million dollars is the estimated cost.

Alpine Ice Quarry.

An Alpine glacier, near Briançon, is now regularly operated as an ice quarry, the blocks out and conveyed over an overhead cableway to a convenient place for shipment by rail to Paris, there to be used in the cafes and hotels of the metropolis.

HORRIBLY TORTURED.

Medieval Methods Employed by a Hungarian Judge.

Exercising Cruelties Resorted To to Force a Confession from Men Afterward Proven Innocent of the Crime Charged.

Much attention has been attracted by the charges against the local officials at Moca, Hungary, who are accused of torturing three men and three women to extort confessions that they robbed the communal treasury, a charge of which they have since been proved innocent.

Something was heard of the matter six months ago, when the torturing took place, but the details were not revealed until now. It seems that when the robbery was discovered the district judge ordered 12 arrests upon the most trifling suspicion.

One of the prisoners, Stephen Kovacs, upon declaring his innocence, was ordered to be tortured. His hands were tied backward to his feet. Communal Secretary Melnar thrashed him on the abdomen and the soles of his feet until the cane he used was split. The judge trampled on him with his spurred boots.

Kovacs not confessing under this treatment, Melnar ignited some spirits on a plate under his swollen feet, and then poured the burning liquid over them. The judge struck him about the ears until the unfortunate prisoner fainted.

When he came to, dreading further torture, he said that he had taken the money and buried it under a tree. A search of the place designated by Kovacs did not reveal the money, whereupon his hands were tied behind his back and he was hung up by the hands. He again became unconscious, but was revived and again thrashed.

Then Melnar thrust the blade of a penknife under his finger nail, causing him to lose consciousness again. Subsequently he was kept without food or drink for four days.

The other suspects were similarly treated. Eventually a blacksmith named Todt, who had not been arrested, confessed that he was the thief and restored the money.

It is stated that the Hungarian government knew the facts in the case, but allowed the officials to retain their offices until recently, when they were suspended, but not arrested.

In the Hungarian diet Deputy Pichler interpellated the government on the subject. He demanded that the district judge be thrashed to death.

Prime Minister Koloman von Szell promised that an inquiry would be made into the matter, and that the fullest legal punishment would be inflicted if the charges were proved true.

PRICE OF PEANUTS DOUBLED.

Talk of Forming a Trust and Enormous Demand at Street Corner Stands Cause the Rise.

People fond of the peanut will have to pay twice as much as they have been paying for packages sold at street corners. Quotations at Chicago the other day showed a rise of 100 per cent. for cleaned nuts and 75 per cent. for those in farmers' hands. At the new prices the peanut crop of 1899 will be worth somewhere between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000, which indicates that peanuts are no small thing. This large sum will be scattered through a comparatively small district in Virginia, where about all the American crop is grown.

The advance is due to several causes. Among these is the fact that the current demand is phenomenal. Dealers say that one-eighth of the crop is used by confectioners and manufacturers of other food products, and the other seven-eighths are consumed by individuals who buy in small packages. The visible supply is scarcely 100,000 bags. A year ago there were 350,000 bags in sight. Another reason for the advance is the talk of forming a peanut trust. The proposed trust is to include the cleaners of Virginia, who control the primary market, and is to be capitalized at \$5,000,000.

TO USE DYNAMITE.

Americans to Use It in the War Against the Filipinos Next Fall.

A special to the New York Herald from Washington says: Dynamite guns are to be used by the American troops in the fall campaign against the Filipinos. Preparations are being made by the ordnance department to supply Gen. Otis with six Sims-Dudley dynamite pneumatic weapons. The tests made at the Sandy Hook proving grounds of a gun of this type proved very satisfactory.

A gun of the same make was used by the Cuban insurgents in their operations, and Gen. Garcia declared that several towns were made to surrender as a result of the use of this weapon. Besides the dynamite guns, galling will probably be sent to Otis, and the army transports are to be armed with six-pounder rapid-fire guns to prevent any possible attack by insurgents.

Had to Save the Dog First.

A woman who was clinging to a cap-sized yacht in New York harbor refused to be saved until her rescuers pulled her pug dog out of the water. It isn't likely that they would have been severely blamed, says the Chicago Times-Herald, if they had rowed ashore after getting the dog.

Living Up to His Reputation.

It is announced that Dewey will arrive much earlier than was expected. The Kansas City Times aptly remarks that that is exactly the way he did when sailing for Manila.