

## MENIER'S

**Squatters on Island in "Chocolate King" Kick**

**Defy His Authority—Said to Be Pirates and Wreckers of Worst Kind—Improvements Mr. Menier Is Making.**

A special to the New York Herald from Quebec says: Public attention is likely soon to be directed again to the island of Anticosti, and to Mr. Menier's treatment of some of its residents. Complaints made by these latter and by some of their friends and sympathizers against the French "Chocolate King" are evidently to be exploited in England.

Rev. Mr. Stobo, agent of the Bible society in Quebec, has gone to England, it is said, to start a campaign against Mr. Menier and to try to raise funds for the defense of those whom he is seeking to expel from the island.

The primary cause of all the trouble is a group of settlers who defy Mr. Menier's authority upon his own property and count upon religious and national prejudice for support in their revolt. They are described as pirates and wreckers of the worst description, and are said to have come originally from Newfoundland. They squatted on Anticosti without authority and live largely upon what they can loot from vessels wrecked on the harborless coast of the inhospitable island. In some seasons these wrecks are very numerous.

Commandant Wakeham, who has charge of the dominion government steamers cruising in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, reports that Mr. Menier is expending millions of money upon the island, and is rapidly transforming it into an agricultural and sporting paradise. He is constructing breakwaters and harbors at suitable places on the coast, building villages, clearing land, making good roads and constructing pulp and sawmills, and, while the improvements cover only a small corner of the island—for Anticosti is 125 miles long by 30 miles broad—the remainder of the territory is to form an enormous fish and game preserve. The Jupiter and other rivers swarm with salmon, and water fish frequent the shores of the island in great abundance, and bears, foxes and other game inhabit the forests in large numbers, and Mr. Menier is also stocking them with moose, caribou, deer and buffalo. In a very few years he will own one of the finest game preserves in the world.

## TELLS ABOUT LIQUID AIR.

**Expert in New York City Says That of Itself It Is Not Explosive.**

Charles E. Triffer, the liquid-air expert, referring to the cable announcement from Vienna that Austrian army officers have discovered a method of utilizing the enormous explosive power of liquid air in naval warfare, said: "The discovery is not new. Liquid air alone is an absolutely colorless, harmless factor. It cannot be exploded. But when mixed with chemical matter known as hydrocarbons, it becomes explosive to a high degree. Hydrocarbons are such things as coal oil, alcohol, paraffin, turpentine and the like. It is more powerful than dynamite or gun cotton."

"One thing is noticeable about the power of the air. From the volatile nature of it it cannot explode by spontaneous combustion, as gun cotton does. It cannot explode by concussion or reverberation, as dynamite does. In fact, the only thing that will release it is a lighted match or an electric spark. Nothing else will do it. For this reason it possesses an unusual advantage for use on a shipboard. Particularly in this case in torpedoes or shells."

## OSTENTATIOUS DISPLAY.

**The Crews-Primrose Wedding at London Rather Splendid American Extravagance and Show.**

The ostentatious display at the marriage of the earl of Crews to Lady Margaret Primrose, second daughter of Earl Rosebery, at Westminster Abbey, comes opportune as a sufficient reply to the invasions distinctions drawn in London between British and American society methods. The Vanderbilt and Sloan weddings called for tirades from the press against Americans for flashiness and millionaire extravagance, etc. But Lord Rosebery certainly capped the record by the arrangements to have the bridal party cinematographed on entering and leaving the abbey. For this purpose he had the awning at the entrance removed and the party, on leaving the old edifice, "marked time" to a certain degree, in order that the pictures might be a complete success. The bridal party drove to and from the abbey in open carriages and everything was done to insure the widest publicity of every detail of the arrangements and a description of the presents.

## Sun Nearly Burned Out.

Mr. Borkedal, of Norway, announces that the sun is burning out more rapidly than is usually believed, and that unless something interferes our grandchildren will see its extinction. Mr. Mohn, also of Norway, has checked Mr. Borkedal's calculations, and finds them correct.

## Woman Suffrage in Kansas.

Municipal woman suffrage is a condition and not a theory at Beatrice, Kan. At the recent election the town elected its mayors, five aldermen and a clerk.

## Behind the Times.

Turkey and Greece are the only European countries without telephones.

## FLAWS IN FEDERAL BUILDING.

**Milwaukee's Post Office Found Wanting in Important Features.**

The completion of the new federal building in Milwaukee at a cost of \$1,000,000 has attracted general attention to that structure and some remarkable things connected with it. It has been ten years in course of building and the post office department and the collectors and United States marshal are about to occupy quarters there. Carpets are down and furniture in and they have already begun to take possession.

It was discovered that no telephone wires had been put in the building. When the linemen said that they would have to string the wires through the windows and down the chandeliers there was a general protest, which resulted in an order to take up all the carpets and tear up the floors in order to get the wires in properly.

Then it was discovered that this building alone of all the Milwaukee big buildings had no lighting plant of its own. Inquiry along this line developed the fact that Henry C. Payne's Electric Road and Light company had a contract for a term of years to light the building. Then it was remembered that the original plans provided for a lighting plant, but these plans were changed after Mr. Payne made a trip to Washington.

It developed that under the contract all the wires in the building belong to the lighting company. The building also has no freight elevator.

## COULD NOT PLAY "DIXIE."

**Theodore Thomas Causes Consternation Among Atlanta Patrons.**

The social and the musical aristocracy of Atlanta, Ga., packed the Grand opera house the other night to hear the first concert given by Theodore Thomas and his orchestra from Chicago. Their coming has been heralded for some weeks by the newspapers, and much space is given to a description of the personnel of the orchestra and its leader. Mr. Thomas was requested to play "Dixie" and dumfounded his admirers by the announcement that his organization could not play the favorite southern patriotic tune, and, in fact, that no "popular" music was included in any of the programmes. He eventually explained that such a high-class orchestra could not afford to dally its time away on such compositions, and thus allayed the excitement which at first threatened to work some loss to his stay at Atlanta.

## A GRAPHOPHONE INVITATION.

**People of New Orleans Use Unique Means of Gaining the Ear of the President.**

Spellbinders who have not been able to secure time in which to work off oratorical efforts upon the president have adopted a unique way of being heard. The people of New Orleans want President McKinley to visit the Louisiana industrial exposition, and, instead of extending an invitation in the usual way, a citizen of New Orleans delivered a speech in a graphophone and the cylinder was sent to the white house. This will be placed in the graphophone at the executive mansion and the president will undoubtedly be so much influenced by the oration he will visit Louisiana. Invitations sent in this way at least have the advantage that the president can listen to the appeals at his leisure and he cannot be pressed for an answer on the spot.

## ENABLES THE DEAF TO HEAR.

**Young Mobile Electrician Has Perfectly a Successful Apparatus for the Use of Mutes.**

M. R. Hutchison, a young electrical engineer and graduate of the Alabama Polytechnic institute at Mobile, placed on exhibition an instrument he calls the "Akoulallian," which enabled two young men born totally deaf to hear sounds which they repeated as far as they were able.

The same electrical principle is employed in the larger apparatus by which an instructor can communicate speech to any number of pupils at one time without confusion.

Hutchison has put together a portable instrument by means of which a deaf mute was enabled to hear the playing of a piano at a distance of 60 feet and to distinguish a voice in ordinary conversation.

## Caucasian Tribes.

The mountain dwellers of the Caucasus ranges are so deep and so completely isolated from one another that the tribes which inhabit them have preserved their distinctive characteristics much more decidedly than most parts of the world would have felt the touch of European civilization. Some of these tribes boast of great antiquity, and certain families have preserved for many generations ancestral headdress, such as armor and weapons, furniture and garments.

## Proposed Official Marriage Bureau.

An appropriation of \$3,000 for the exportation of German girls to the German colonies, with the object of preventing the evils caused by the union of white colonists with black women, was recently proposed in the reichstag. Herr Bebel, the social democrat, however, managed to make the plan of an "official marriage bureau" so ridiculous that the government withdrew the proposal from this year's budget.

## Cheap Wool.

Indians in Oregon market every spring tons of wool gathered from sheep that die on the range during the winter.

## AH - AH - KEE - CHEW.

**Distressing Affliction of a School Girl in Washington.**

**Sneezed at Rate of 50,000 Sneezes a Day Until Science Removed Cause of Trouble—Most Remarkable Case.**

One hundred sneezes a minute, 50,000 sneezes a day, such a record reads like a page from a fairy tale or the preamble of a patent medicine advertisement. It is neither one nor the other, however. It is the true story of a case of sneezing which occurred in Washington only a few weeks ago and was reported to the Medical society by Dr. Walter A. Wells, of that city.

The subject was a schoolgirl, who had hardly ever sneezed before in her life. The attack began at school one day in October, and had been preceded by a cold lasting a couple of weeks, during which she had sneezed somewhat, but not unaturally. The sneezing spell broke out at just nine o'clock, when she had taken her seat to begin her morning work. In that first hour her schoolmates counted about 1,400 sneezes. Everything she did for it or that anybody else did made it worse.

Medical aid was summoned. A number of the learned doctors visited this interesting case, and each prescribed something different. All the so-called sedatives were tried, as opium, bromide and hyoscyanus, in the very largest doses, but none seemed to sedate. Still the sneezing went on, and the patient was becoming exhausted. A consultation of doctors was held; they decided to agree. The patient must be chloroformed. This was done, but it and all other attempts made by the doctors were to no purpose.

Finally a close investigation was made and a growth was found located deep in the nose which is known as periphora. Dr. Walter A. Wells, who is an expert in such matters, undertook their removal by operation with electric needles. A number of operations had to be performed before all the abnormal growth was eradicated, but from the first the sneezing began to grow less and less frequent until it finally ceased.

## DOWN ON TOD SLOAN.

**English Jockeys Hammer the Little American—Criticism of His Riding.**

As a result of the incident of the Epsom spring meeting which resulted in the disqualification of Tod Sloan, the American jockey, who was riding Eou d'Or, the stewards were careful to make it clear that they did not consider Sloan blamable. This course is extremely difficult to a stranger, and Eou d'Or proved practically unmanageable. The sporting wisacres deduce therefrom that Sloan's method of riding does not give him great command of his horse and that he cannot get enough leverage if his mount is inclined to swerve.

Sloan's defeat on Jolly Tar in the race for the Tudor plate was a great disappointment to his supporters, who are indignant at the manner in which he was treated by the other jockeys. One of the sporting experts writes that the Tudor plate was "the most unsatisfactory race this year," adding "no one watching the race with a fair, open mind can have any hesitation in saying Sloan was hampered, and knocked about in a series of 'pockets' which annihilated all chance of winning, and the sequel was that he ceased up, seeing that all effort was useless." This means that the English jockeys have begun a repetition of the tactics of last year.

## IN INTERESTS OF SCIENCE.

**Prof. Agassiz, of Harvard, Engages Dr. Braunner to Land an Expedition in South America.**

Prof. Alexander Agassiz, of Harvard, has made arrangements for Dr. Braunner, of the geology department at Stanford university, to land an expedition into South America in the interests of science.

The work will be upon the coral and stone reefs of the Brazilian coast, extending from Ceave nearly to Rio de Janeiro. The stone reefs will be mapped and their relations to the geological history of the South American continent will be studied.

Collections will be made for the museum of comparative zoology of Harvard university. Prof. Agassiz will afterwards publish the results of the work in the bulletin of the museum of comparative zoology at Cambridge.

The party will leave New York about the 1st of June and will return in the middle of September.

## He Knew Better Than the Preacher.

The first palm leaf fan of the season made its appearance on the streets of Chicago the other day. Its wielder was a large fat man with a bald brow and red face. He mopped savagely at his head as he leaned against a corner of the Western Union building. "Yes," he said, in response to an inquiry, "I suppose it would be a good deal hotter down there, if there was any such place, but the preachers can't fool me. This is it."

## Eagle in a Muskrat Trap.

Harry Watson, a Goheen (N. Y.) trapper, upon visiting his muskrat traps a few mornings ago, found a huge bald eagle fast in one of the traps. The bird showed fight, and Watson had an encounter he will long remember before he succeeded in securing his prey. The eagle measured seven feet from tip to tip of wings.

## By Another Name.

There are no trusts in England. They are called chartered companies.

## RENTAL AGENCIES.

**Have Been Established in New York for Handling of London Houses.**

Ambassador Choate's difficulty in securing a London home derives an element of humor from the fact that Mr. Choate regarded this as possibly the most easily settled question of his London experience. A few days before he sailed for England he said in an interview that all his preparations to begin work in London were complete save for the selection of a house. That, he said, would be a matter of only a few days; indeed, he seemed to consider it a most trivial matter. Subsequent events have shown the fallacy of that idea and the American ambassador was at last accounts homeless. One feature of London house renting which has recently attracted attention is the advertisements of London owners in American newspapers. Several large London establishments to let for the season have been advertised here, says the New York Sun, and there are said to be several New York agents who have London houses on their books.

Whether or not there are American tenants enough to make such attempts worth the while here has never been proved yet, as the fashion of putting these establishments on the New York market is a new one. One real estate firm had last year a houseboat as well to dispose of. An American seeking some economical way to spend a summer thought of the houseboat idea and applied to the agent. It was disillusionizing to hear that the rent was \$40,000 for the season, and that less would not be accepted. This offer was regarded as out of the question, even in view of the additional recommendation that the boat had stable facilities for six horses.

## FIXES BRITISH PRICES.

**Influence of American Competition in the Iron Trade Is Unpleasantly Felt.**

The Times has printed a lengthy article on American competition in the iron trade and called attention to America's jump in exports of iron and steel, one result being that English prices and exports alike are not entirely fixed by home or continental competition, as they used to be, but by the prevailing tone of the markets and industrial situation generally in the United States. It adds that a notable case in point was the combined effort of the British rail manufacturers to keep up the price of heavy sections, which resulted in the partial ruin of that branch of the business, the Americans taking the orders instead of the British.

Continuing, the Times remarks: "The situation is truly serious for the British manufacturers, who are asking two fundamental questions—whether American competition must inevitably regulate in the future British exports and prices, and whether it is worth while struggling on under such an overwhelming incubus."

## DATE PALMS FOR ARIZONA.

**Plan of the Government to Utilize the Most Arid Sections of the Southwest.**

The most expert pathologist of the agricultural department, Dr. Zwingle, is now in Morocco on a mission which the department hopes will launch a new and profitable industry in the most arid sections of our southwest. It has been found that date palms, with some irrigation, will grow as well in Arizona as in Arabia. Early Mormon settlers in the territory proved this many years ago, but the trees were not of the best variety, and date growing never developed as an industry. The agricultural department has prepared to push the experiment on an extensive scale, however. Dr. Zwingle is making a close study of the African date palm, selecting the very finest varieties, and these best adapted to our arid region. These young trees will be carefully shipped to Arizona, where they will be planted and cared for under the close supervision of the department's experts. The plants will cost the department about five dollars each laid down in Arizona.

## WILL ASK NO QUESTIONS.

**Gov. Gen. Brooke is Paying \$3,000,000 to Cubans Will Not Go Behind Rolls Submitted.**

Governor-General Brooke, in the distribution of the \$3,000,000 to the Cuban soldiers, has determined to treat the Cuban officers as soldiers and gentlemen and not endeavor to go behind the rolls they submit. Hence the Cuban lists will be accepted on their face without eliminations, as previously cabled, namely those who entered the army after July, 1898, and those who are actually holding office. Any Cuban named on the lists who is identified by his captain will get a share. Gen. Gomez will also probably receive a share.

The names of several American newspaper correspondents are among the private. These men who are now in Havana ask that the word "honorary" be put after their names and announce that they will not take their portions.

Spain's Mineral Resources. Spain has greater mineral resources than any other country in Europe, including iron, copper, zinc, silver, antimony, quicksilver, lead and gypsum.

A Sale with Literary Tastes. Chief Diazulu, son and successor of Catewayo, is advertised as a subscriber to the London Times' reprint of the Encyclopaedia Britannica.

English Provincial Saying. They say in Pembrokehire, England, when it snows while the sun is shining, that "the devil is beating his wife."

## BOY WONDER IN MATHEMATICS.

**Eleven-Year-Old Lad Who Solves Hard Problems in Trigonometry.**

Attention has been directed recently to a little 11-year-old boy named Alexander Bowley, who lives in the quaint old town of Hanfield, in Sumex, England.

The cause of young Bowley's sudden fame among men of learning, particularly those interested in higher mathematics, is his remarkable talent for trigonometry—indeed, in this particular he is one of the most precocious youngsters of the nineteenth century. In all other respects young Bowley is simply a rollicking, mischievous English boy, full of health and spirits, and rather inclined to be cheeky.

He is practically self-taught, as he has never been to school. And, although his father was able to help him at first, the boy has become father to the man, and long ago passed the paternal mathematician. He has keys to Todhunter's works on trigonometry, but not to any other of his text books.

Before he was put to mathematics he was forever puzzling his head over word squares, double acrostics, etc., and at the age of eight he was found solving sentences in cipher. So he was given a little Euclid. He is making fair headway in other studies.

As an instance of his knowledge of trigonometry he was recently given 26 trigonometrical transformations, out of which he quickly solved 18, while out of seven of the more difficult examples of functions of two angles from Todhunter's large work he solved six.

## WOMAN'S FIGHT WITH WOLVES.

**Pennsylvania School-Teacher Has a Thrilling Experience in a Storm.**

Miss Maggie Hart, a young school-teacher at Hobbie, eight miles west of Hazleton, Pa., had a most remarkable experience during the recent storm. On Tuesday the few children who had braved the elements were either taken home by their parents or friends, leaving Miss Hart alone in the building. The storm increased in intensity, and by night it had reached such proportions that the teacher considered it safer to remain for the night.

During the night Miss Hart was startled by the growling of wolves at the schoolhouse door. They saw comfort within, and seemed to be gaged by the blasts of wind which swept through the forest surrounding the school. In their efforts to secure shelter they gained the window sill and broke a pane of glass.

It was then that the plucky school marm's nerve asserted itself. Securing her rifle, which she carried, a dead wolf fell across the sill. A pack of hungry animals quickly tore the carcass to pieces, then made another attack on the schoolhouse. Again and again the rifle rang out and the maddened animals were forced to retreat. The next morning the bones of two animals were found near the window, and it is certain that many of the others were wounded.

## NOT ABANDONING ELECTRICITY.

**Navy Department Finds It Not Expensive, However, to Extend Its Use on Our Warships.**

Assistant Secretary Allen, to whom the subject of the extension of the use of electricity aboard ship has been referred by Secretary Long, has decided that pending the completion of the Kearsarge and Kentucky and the test of the electrical devices on them, it would not be wise to provide for further extensions in the use of electricity as a motive power for deck winches and boat cranes. The decision, Mr. Allen says, does not involve the abandonment of the use of electricity in any sense; on the contrary, the United States having been foremost of all naval powers in the application of that means of transmitting power, intends to maintain its position. A study of the plans for three battleships, Alabama, Illinois and Wisconsin, made it apparent, however, that if electricity was to be used for the cranes and winches, it would involve the enlargement of the dynamo plant aboard ship at the cost of over 500 tons of coal room, because that much space must be taken from the bunkers.

The decision affects only the deck winches and boat cranes.

## AMERICAN BOYS FOR JAPAN.

**Native Over in This Country to Secure Youths for Education in Business.**

S. Odagaki, representing the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha and other interests of the Mitsui family in Japan, is in Seattle, Wash., for the purpose of securing a number of bright American boys to be sent to Japan and China and educated in oriental business methods, with a view of extending trade with the United States. The Mitsui family, it is said, is the richest in Japan, and its various interests are capitalized at over \$50,000,000.

## Old Age Pensions in England.

Old-age pensions or other relief will become necessary if the limitation of the age of workmen is carried much further in England. One of the largest chemical manufacturers announces that it will engage no new men above 30 years of age. Curates complain that they find it difficult to obtain employment if above 30 and almost impossible if above 40 years of age.

## Tank Steamers.

Though the first tank steamer was built only 13 years ago, there are now 180 tank vessels in existence, nearly all steamers, with a register of 401,024 tons.

## A NEW SLEEPING-CAR.

**Is Called the "Ordinary" and Cuts the Price Just Half.**

**The Only Difference Between Them and the "Standard" Is That the New Coaches Are Upholstered in Case Instead of Plush.**

With the establishment of the "ordinary" sleeping car by the Pullman company on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad a mild revolution has doubtless been started in night railway travel. If the innovation proves as satisfactory as expected the new sleeper will shortly appear on almost every railroad in the United States. The Pullman company is so certain of the success of the "ordinary" that 50 of the cars have already been finished and 20 more are nearing completion.

The "ordinary" is so called to distinguish it from sleepers used heretofore, which will hereafter be known as "standard" sleepers. The "ordinary" simply cuts the rate of the "standard" squarely in two. The "ordinary" is an addition to the service of the railroad and does not displace the "standard," which will be continued and the same rates charged upon it as in the past. The same train that carries the "standard" will carry the "ordinary." The Baltimore & Ohio train from Chicago to Pittsburgh will have a standard, on which the passenger will pay \$2.50, and an ordinary, on which the charge will be but \$1.25. In all cases the ordinary rate will be half that of the standard, excepting when the standard charge is less than two dollars. The minimum fare on the ordinary will be one dollar. The road has added eight of the new coaches to its trains, running them between Chicago and Pittsburgh and between Baltimore and Newark, O., and providing for all night travel between these points.

The ordinary coach in every way as the standard, the only difference being that it is not finished so luxuriously or expensively. It is the same in length, breadth and height and on the exterior the appearance is about the same. The car is fitted with 14 berths, the same as the largest standard cars, and each berth is fitted with bedding of the same quality and quantity as a berth in a standard. The interior of the car is finished in birch and the car seats are upholstered with case instead of the plush used in the standard. There is no smoking-room for gentlemen, but as in the standard the ends of the coach are devoted to the washrooms for ladies and gentlemen. The absence of the smoking-room and the presence of the rattan upholstery strike the casual observer as the only differences between the two styles of sleepers. They are lighted and heated just the same and have the same porter service. There are some accommodations in the ordinary which the standard does not possess. Near one end of the ordinary there is an arrangement connecting with the heater for warming the luncheons of those who wish to bring their own refreshments on the train. Near at hand is a stationary stand for washing dishes.

## FIDDLE FOR PRIZES.

**Two Hundred Enter a Queer Contest in an Indiana Town—Enter-tain a Big Crowd.**

The Grand opera house at Terre Haute, Ind., was crowded the other night, and hundreds were turned away from the old-time fiddlers' contest, given by Post G of the Travelers' Protective association. There were more than 200 contestants from the bucolic neighborhoods of western Indiana and eastern Illinois. The prizes were donated by wholesale houses and manufacturers, and were articles of furniture and groceries, half a freight car load in all. The overture was "The Arkansas Traveler," with 200 fiddlers taking part. In each of the contests the contestants were numbered, and the audience was free in its advice to the judges, who had been selected from the audience. These were the oldest and youngest, tallest and shortest, fastest and leanest, most ragged and blind, oldest lady fiddler, best fiddler on a fiddle of his own make, one-armed fiddler, and, in a variety of the Indianapolis Journal, there was a jowbarn quartette, accordion playing and buck and wing dancing.

## GERMS IN 'PHONES.

**Boston Board of Health Puts an Expert on the Track of Suspected Bacteria.**

In order to establish the truth or falacy of the suspicion that disease germs lodge in telephone transmitters the Boston board of health has begun an inspection of transmitters and receivers of the instruments at public telephone stations. Dr. Hibbert W. Hill, director of the health department laboratory, has been instructed to make the examination. If active bacteria are found in any quantities the board will order public telephones to be sterilized at regular intervals.

## BUYS A MOUNTAIN.

**A Syndicate Pays a Quarter of a Million Dollars for Sulphur Deposits in Mexico.**

Gen. Gaspar S. Ochoa, owner of Popocatepetl, Mexico, has just closed a deal for the sale of that volcanic mountain to a syndicate of English capitalists. The price to be paid is \$250,000 gold. The most extensive sulphur deposit in the world is located in the crater of the volcano, and it is the intention of the syndicate to build a cogwheel railroad to the top of the mountain in order to handle the product.