

**TO SEEK NORTH POLE**

**ENGLISH EXPLORERS WILL ATTEMPT LONG JOURNEY.**

**Two New Expeditions Are Preparing to Start for Unexplored Regions—Nansen's Discovery of an Ocean Lifts Veil.**

London.—Sir Clements Markham has made some interesting comments on arctic exploration in discussing before the Royal Geographical society the plans of two new expeditions which are now preparing to start.

Dr. A. H. Harrison, who has already received the diploma of the society, is the first in the field. He has made an attempt to reach Prince Patrick island and traverse part of the Beaufort sea in the hope of discovering land.

Another aspirant is an enthusiastic young Dane, Einar Mikkelsen. His intention is to ascend the Mackenzie river, meet a whaler by previous arrangement and, having established a depot at Prince Albert cape, he will, in the early spring, work westward for 400 miles and return southward to the mouth of the Mackenzie river, with the object of discovering land if it exists.

The discovery by Dr. Nansen of a polar ocean with a depth of 2,000 fathoms has lifted the veil from the arctic regions and made all things clear," said Sir Clements. "That this ocean extends to and beyond the pole is shown by convincing evidence. At the present time Beaufort sea is bounded by the Parry islands on the east and Alaska on the south and is the least known of the arctic regions and one which contains the most interesting geographical secrets. Knowledge of the arctic region will remain very incomplete until this sea has been explored, and I would like to see the Discovery anchored in a secure harbor in Melville sound for two winters.

The vessel should be manned by British seamen, sufficient in number to form three extended sledging and three depot parties. This geographical achievement is properly the work of the government, but if Great Britain's rulers continue to neglect this duty, so deeply felt, and well performed of old, it must be advocated by the society."

**AD FINDS LOST DAUGHTER.**

Girl Missing for Twenty Years to Rejoin Her Anxious Father of Sayre, Pa.

Sayre, Pa.—Printer's ink is responsible for C. R. Bennett, of Sayre, securing information regarding his daughter, who when he last saw her was a crying baby in her grandmother's arms, but is now in the full flush of womanhood.

The daughter was born in Riegelsville, Pa., on November 22, 1853, and was baptized as Louise D. Bennett in the Episcopal church at Easter. Six months after her birth her mother died and the child was given into the keeping of the grandmother with the understanding that Bennett would be notified once a month as to her welfare. After two years the grandmother ceased writing Bennett.

During all the intervening years he has yearned for his child and recently Rev. F. T. Cody, rector of the Church of the Redeemer, advertised in all the religious papers of the Episcopal church, saying that he had valuable information for Louise D. Bennett. She finally replied herself from the home of her uncle in Denver, Col., where she resides, financially independent, and now a reunion of father and daughter is being arranged.

**GOOD HOME FOR TERRAPIN**

Held as Bait and Highly Priced by Owner Whose Brother Cut Initials on It.

Arcadie, La.—A peculiar relic of old times was discovered on the Pentecost farm, near town, a few days ago, the discovery being a terrapin on the shell of which was cut the inscription "J. M. P., 1861."

Fred W. Pentecost, who was exhibiting the curiosity to friends in town, stated that the inscription was cut by his brother, John M. Pentecost, on the late given, as the handwriting was plainly recognizable, and there could be no possibility of deception about it. Furthermore, the brother who cut the initials and date left this state soon afterward, and could not have done so in more recent years, not having been here.

Fred Pentecost has a tender feeling for the old terrapin, and is keeping him at his own home now, and will care for his wants in his "old age."

**To Cut Price of Lilies.**

The bureau of plants is engaged on a work which will reduce the price of Easter lilies. The bureau imported from the Philippines a lily resembling the common Easter lily. It bears only one flower to the plant, but develops in a remarkably short time. This lily has been crossed with the common Easter lily, resulting in a hybrid, bearing as many flowers as the old Bermuda lily, which will develop in four to five months.

**Urges Guinea Fowl Raising.**

According to a bulletin of the department of agriculture the growing market for guinea fowl suggests a more general breeding for food purposes in the United States. It is declared there is already a fair demand for them in New York and other eastern cities, which could easily be increased. The flesh is much like that of the ordinary chicken, and the birds are easily raised.

**ISLAND TRADE GROWS**

**AMERICAN COMMERCE IS ON THE INCREASE.**

**Dealings with Noncontiguous Territory Will Amount to \$125,000,000 in 1905—Philippine Business Is Multiplied.**

Washington.—Commerce of the United States with its noncontiguous territory in 1905 promises to exceed by many million dollars that of any preceding year, according to a statement issued by the department of commerce and labor through its bureau of statistics. The estimate is made that the total commerce with the noncontiguous territory for 1905 will approximate \$125,000,000.

The bureau's nine months' statement, ending with September, shows that shipments from the United States to its noncontiguous territory amounted to \$38,552,174, against \$29,928,079 in the corresponding months of the preceding year, and that shipments of merchandise to the United States from noncontiguous territory in the same period amounted to \$86,550,150, against \$47,141,638 in the corresponding months of the preceding year.

These figures relate to merchandise only, and do not include gold and silver, of which the shipments from Alaska to the United States were only \$7,000,000 of gold produced in that territory and \$5,509,000 of foreign gold shipped from Alaska, being presumably that originating in British territory adjacent thereto. In merchandise shipped from Alaska to the United States there is a decrease of a little less than \$2,000,000. In shipments from the United States there was an increase of nearly \$2,000,000 to Alaska, of more than \$3,000,000 to Porto Rico, of about \$1,000,000 to the Philippines and of nearly \$1,000,000 to the Hawaiian islands.

In shipments from noncontiguous territory to the United States there was an increase of about \$5,000,000 from Porto Rico, of over \$4,000,000 from the Philippines and of about \$12,000,000 from the Hawaiian islands.

In the nine months ended September 30, 1907, the year prior to the annexation of Porto Rico, shipments of merchandise from that island to the United States amounted to \$1,767,038, against \$16,176,676 in the nine months just ended. In the nine months of 1897 shipments from the Hawaiian islands to the United States amounted to \$13,044,231, against \$35,689,751 in 1905. Shipments from the Philippines in the nine months of 1897 amounted to \$3,362,060, against \$11,792,724 in 1905. Shipments to Porto Rico from United States ports in the nine months of 1897 were \$1,504,974, against \$11,436,300 in 1905; those to the Hawaiian islands in 1897 were \$3,756,268, against \$8,968,049 in 1905, and those to the Philippines in 1897 were \$54,660, against \$4,482,537 for 1905.

**RICH, LIVES WITH HOBOES**

Old Man Is Now Under Treatment in a St. Louis Hospital.—"Blew In" \$5,000.

St. Louis.—Until he is well enough to travel Wallace Hungerford, aged 65, and who is said to be worth \$100,000, is being held at the city hospital. His attorney, H. E. Walbridge, will accompany him to his home in St. Johns, Mich.

For the past year Hungerford has been living in the slums of the city, chumming with hoboos and spending money with a high hand on all unfortunates that chanced to cross his path. He was found in a cheap lodging house in company with a gang of tramps who had been living on his bounty for some time.

The old man says he blew in about \$5,000 during the past year. Half, he says, went for "treats" and the other half was stolen from him by his comrades. Attorney Walbridge says Hungerford's family is a highly respected one in Clinton county, Michigan.

**20,000 HOBOES IN FRANCE.**

Support of This Army of Tramps Costs Government \$2,000,000 Yearly.

Paris.—According to the Revue Bleue there are in France 20,000 vagrants, who, although unprovided with lodgings and absolutely abhorrent of work, are daily fed, clothed and lodged at the expense of others. The support of this army of tramps costs the country about \$2,000,000 a year, not including the cost of the police and of the several institutions established in many parts of France to provide a temporary asylum to vagrants of both sexes. Serious demand is now made that the state shall take up the study of the best means to diminish vagrancy throughout the republic, and it is probable that the question will be discussed in the French parliament.

**Mechanical Spanker in Use.**

An electric paddling machine, invented by Prof. Dennis, is now installed in the public school in East Penna, a suburb of Peoria, Ill. The method of operation is to place the pupil over a chair near the spanking machine, press a button, and a series of paddles immediately play upon the spanker. Residents of the village have protested, and declare they will take their children from school if the use of the machine is not stopped.

**King to Give Autoboat Prizes.**

King Victor Emmanuel, the ministry of marine, and several public institutions have promised important prizes for autoboats if the next contest for the Mediterranean cup takes place, as proposed, between Palermo and Toulon, in which case important Italian firms will participate.

**WELL HALF A MILE DEEP.**

**Borings Fail to Find Desired Artesian Flow in Ohio State-house Yard.**

In 1857, for some reason, it was thought profitable and possible to secure an artesian well in the state-house yard. The geology of Ohio as a science was still unwritten, in fact, the first volume of the Ohio geological reports contains the written record of this boring.

Down 2,776 feet—over half a mile—the auger was sent by the slow and laborious process of the time, and nearly a year was spent in the work. The boring was commenced on November 4, 1857, and stopped October 1, 1858. No artesian water was found.

The boring was made in the eastern part of the grounds. Its site was pointed out to the writer some years ago, and it is now probably covered by the cement walk extending out to Third street from the judiciary building. Water was struck and plenty of it—fresh, salt, sulphur, magnesian, etc., but none of it came to the top.

Prof. Theodore G. Wormley, the professor of chemistry in Stirling medical college, embraced the opportunity to secure the temperature of this deep boring. With a thermometer placed in a specially prepared iron case and left in the bottom of the boring 24 hours, he found the temperature at the bottom to be 88 degrees Fahrenheit. Making deductions for the distance below the surface at which the heat of the sun ceases to be felt, he computes that the temperature increased one degree for every 71 feet of descent. At that time European scientists who were carefully studying this branch of physical geography had estimated that the temperature increased in such conditions one degree for every 68 feet.

There is no record of the cost of the boring, but it must have been considerable, as the facilities and apparatus were primitive compared with those now in use. Though failing of its principal purpose, the state seems to have turned it to account through its geologists, so that it was not wholly money wasted.

**PECAN SHELLING SEASON.**

**An Industry That Gives Employment to Many Hundreds of People.**

Some idea of the magnitude of the pecan nut meat industry may be had when it is stated that in San Antonio (Tex.) alone there are 1,700 members of the Pecan Shellers' union, a labor organization composed of men engaged as a regular business in the shelling of pecan nuts and extracting the delicious kernels.

Not all of the pecan shellers in San Antonio belong to the union. There are several hundred other men, women and children in that city who gain a livelihood from the work. There are branches of the Pecan Shellers' union in Austin and several other towns of the state.

The pecan nut shelling season lasts from October 1 to July 1. The new crop of nuts begin to come into market about October 1, and from then until January 1 the business of extracting the kernels is very active. The kernels are shipped in large bulk to New York, St. Louis and other cities, where they are used by the confectioners in the manufacture of candies.

Pecan shelling is a comparatively new industry. It had its origin, so far as its becoming a recognized business is concerned, a few years ago when a candy manufacturer of New York visited Texas.

He ate some of the candy made and sold by Mexican street vendors in San Antonio. Pecan kernels form an important ingredient of this candy. As an experiment he arranged for a small shipment of the pecan meats to be made to him.

The kernels were received in due time, and the highest art of the candy-maker was employed in their use. The pecan candy became popular almost instantly, and other orders for the pecan kernels were placed.

That was the beginning of an industry which now gives employment to several thousand people. There is a big demand for the pecan kernels in every large city in the country.

**Indians Going to School.**

The Indians of western Nevada are taking more kindly to the government school than ever before. At present there are 260 students and no more can be received until new buildings under way are completed. It was only a few weeks ago that the government ordered the installation of a school at old Fort McDermitt, in Humboldt county, to relieve the congestion in the Carson school.

**She Had Recovered.**

Mrs. Ferguson (to caller)—I never did like her, and when the impudent, hing spoke to me the way she did I was speechless with indignation. I couldn't say a word.

Mr. Ferguson (butting in)—That must have happened before we were married.—Tit-Bits.

**STENOGRAPHERS' ENGLISH.**

**Some of Their Blunders Make the Employer's Life a Burden—A Few Instances.**

In some stenographic systems an arbitrary sign may stand for one, two or even three words. Sometimes the mistranslation of one of these signs leads to funny results, says Success Magazine.

"The deed shocked the nation to the heart-core," was what was said, and the typewriter evolved: "The dead shocked the notion to the hard car." "The rumor was but transient, though," was hardly recognizable as "The rammer was trains end through." A rear-end collision was evidently in that girl's mind. "As manna fed the Jews," was ingeniously tortured by another young woman into "As mamma fed the jays." Yet she was a Sunday school teacher.

"Plays, creeps and laughs, the innocent," crooned the man, one day, moulting the opening lines of some projected baby verses. When the typewriter tapped out: "Plays craps and leaves the innocent," he scanned her visage, closely.

He said: "The voice of Dr. Jocelyn was heard calling for assistance," and it came out: "The vice of Dr. Josh Lane was hard killing four assistants." When "But she held Jake too dearly for that, and so—passed on," was dictated, and it came out: "But she held Jake, two, drawing for that and so passed, one," would it have been unjust to credit the girl at the machine with an elementary knowledge of gambling?

Occasionally a new beast or bird is discovered by the typewriter, thus: "The sea-quail was, etc." the intention being "the sequel was, etc." This was in line with a blunder made by the same girl, who had avowed that "a gull sunk the schooner," instead of "a gale." On another occasion she declared that a pair of lovers "hatched up a pretty squirrel," instead of their having "patched up a petty quarrel."

Having confessed that once upon a time she had been a waitress in a popular restaurant, the reason is clear why "Foist the males of the dynasty" was ticked out: "First, the meals of the dinnerster." This sounds like a "made-up," but it is fearful fact.

"The president was heard with acclaim," dictated the man. "The present was hard with a clam," was what the typewriter insisted that he had said, as she tearfully hunted for her notes.

**EXODUS OF IRISH YOUTH.**

**Aged Parents and Small Brothers and Sisters Left in the Villages.**

It is largely as a result of the unprecedented loss of half its population in half a century that the present condition of rural Ireland is so interesting a study, says Plummer F. Jones, in American Monthly Review of Reviews. The depopulation of Ireland has largely changed the life of the people, and the Ireland of to-day lacks much of being the Ireland of 60 years ago.

Owing to lack of labor, the former intensive cultivation of the soil has ceased. Tillage has been superseded by pasturage. Thousands of acres that in former years were teeming with laborers planting and working potatoes and turnips, and harvesting wheat and oats, are now turned out in grass, and the song of the laborers and the whetting of scythes have been hushed, and in their place can be heard the howling of cattle and the tinkling of sheep bells.

In all parts of the middle, south and west of Ireland one sees evidences of this remarkable change—more remarkable since the signs of former possession and cultivation are still so evident. For 60 years the young and vigorous farm hands have been dropping the hoe and spade and emigrating to America, leaving behind them to attempt their work their infirm old parents and their little brothers and sisters. The children dream through their boyhood and girlhood of the time when they in turn can go down to Newtown and sail on the big ship for Quebec or Boston.

Whole villages have thus been robbed of their young people, and vast country sections that once seemed with vigorous farm laborers now contain but a handful of men who are really capable of hard labor. Indeed, one of the most striking, and at the same time most melancholy sights in rural Ireland to-day is the unusually large number of dependent-looking old men and women who mope absent-mindedly about the roadways of the country-side or the alleys of the hundreds of semi-deserted villages. Their sons and daughters have grown up and gone to seek their fortunes in the west. Not one in a hundred of them will ever return to hoe and spade the rocky, old Irish fields again.

**Cheating.**

"Didn't those hideous campaign caricatures make your wife angry?" "No," answered the serene politician. "After studying them carefully she has concluded that I am not nearly as homely as I might be."—Washington Star.

**Mine Hospitals in Africa.**

Positions as matrons of mine hospitals are much sought after by nurses in South Africa. Nearly all the Johannesburg mines have their private hospitals, the matrons of which are well paid and have comfortable apartments.

**Friends for Self-Defense.**

Jinks—I tell you what it is, there is nothing like having lots of friends. Winks—I presume not.

Jinks—No, sir. As soon as I lose a job my friends go all around hunting a new place for me so as to save me the trouble of borrowing from them.—Stray Stories.

**RICH MAN IN THE ARCTIC.**

**Young Englishman of Means on Exploring Expedition in Polar Region.**

An enterprising young Englishman named Alfred H. Harrison started last summer down the Mackenzie, the great northern river of Canada, to spend the winter somewhere in the neighborhood of its mouth. His winter camp is supposed to be in the delta among the Eskimos. Next spring he expects to set out on an exploring expedition into an unknown polar area.

All the maps show a great number of arctic islands to the north of this continent. But the western part of this region has not yet been explored excepting very near the coast, and there is a stretch of about 1,000 miles of sea to the west of Prince Patrick Island and Banks Landing where not a bit of land is shown.

The Jeannette drifted through the middle of this region without seeing land until she got north of the New Siberia islands, where she discovered three islands. No reason is known why there should not be other islands, and Harrison's purpose is, if possible, to find new lands, should any exist in this part of the Arctic.

Harrison has one advantage over most explorers and that is that he is a man of means. All he had to do was to select his field of work, settle the bills for his outfit, and go on his way.

He is bearing the whole expense himself, except that he received a loan of scientific instruments from the Royal Geographical society, and some of the sledges and other equipment used by a south polar expedition were presented to him.

The work before him is difficult and hazardous, but there is every reason to hope that he may be able to add something at least to our knowledge of this unknown area. He is an experienced traveler, and has trained himself very thoroughly to carry out his work on scientific lines. He has a number of excellent assistants and expects to buy dogs of the Eskimos in the Mackenzie delta.

According to our present knowledge, it is doubtful if the more northern arctic waters in this region contain any islands. Not far north of Franz Josef Land Dr. Nansen came upon a sea with soundings of 2,000 fathoms.

It is believed that this deep sea extends over the whole of the north polar area to within 100 or 150 miles of the continent. If this is the case, no land is likely to be found, except on the continental shelf, where the soundings rarely exceed 300 fathoms. If Harrison discovers new islands, the probability is that he will find them within 200 miles of the coasts of North America or Asia.

**FARE WAS PARTICULAR.**

**Humane Young Woman Gave Cabby a Most Unpleasant Sensation.**

The young woman was about to take a ride in a cab. She was evidently a humane young person, because, when the driver of the vehicle brought it at her signal, she proceeded to question him, relates the Baltimore News.

"Has your horse done much work today?" she asked.

"He's just come out of his stable, lady," replied that person, mendaciously.

"The girl felt the quadruped's sides. He seems to be very warm," she ventured.

"Yesum; his stable's warm. He's a heap more comfortable trotting about than he is in his box stall."

The young woman peered at his hoofs.

"Are his shoes all right?" she asked. "Sure," said the driver. "We have a veterinary who shoes the horses every morning before they come out of the stable, and every evening before they go in."

"Is he very old?" faltered the girl, gingerly prodding the horse's lip in a vain attempt to see his teeth.

"That hoss ain't nothing more'n a colt, miss," responded the driver, seriously. "He ain't been in harness more'n a year. But he has the sweet disposition for sure, and he's as steady as an old hoss. He's a regular kitten for gentleness and spirits."

The young woman smiled as one who feels that she has done all she can in the cause of humanity. "Well," she said, "don't drive fast," and stepped into the vehicle.

"If there's anything I ha's it is to take these S. P. C. A. ladies a-riding," confided the driver in a growl to a fellow cabman as he adjusted his reins.

"Every time I try to make this old brute trot a bit now she'll be poking up the trap and a-screaming at me. I sure do hope his shoes'll stay on till I get her wherever she's a-going."

**Law of Opposites.**

Diggs—There goes Miggle. He's homely enough to stop a clock, but—Biggs—But what? "But his wife is pretty enough to stop a trolley car."—Chicago Daily News.

**Tommy's Idea of Them.**

Teacher—What are the parts of speech? Tommy Tucker—It's—It's when a man gatters.—Chicago Tribune.

**INDIAN BASKET-MAKING.**

**Enormous Demand for Them Has Lowered the Quality of the Supply.**

It is becoming more and more difficult, it is said, to secure finely woven Indian baskets, and, consequently, to form collections of the basketry of the aboriginal American. Fewer of the fine baskets are being made, and the number of those who desire to make collections is increasing. It is estimated that baskets valued at \$5,000,000 have been taken from California and Arizona within the last two years. Not all of these, however, were of the kind sought by the most exacting collectors. So heavy has been the demand that the southwest has been well-nigh denuded of the finer baskets. Most of the baskets now obtainable are made hurriedly and to fulfill the demand made by collectors. The Indians do not spend the same amount of time upon them as when they made baskets to be handed down as heirlooms. In some cases it is not possible for them to find the durable grasses which they once used, for civilization has extinguished them.

Some of the earlier baskets were the product of months of labor. Many of these cannot be bought for less than \$25, and as high as \$1,000 has been paid for specimens. The kind of basket that can be bought for \$1.50 or \$2 is not the kind which the experienced collector will accept. He wants a basket which illustrates the artistic taste and the skill of a tribe, not a "pot boiler."

At one time basket making was an art carried on by all the tribes of Pacific coast Indians from Alaska to Mexico. At present the tribes of Arizona make most of the baskets. The Mohi, or Hopi, and the Apaches make many baskets and plaques. The Pimas and Maricopas formerly made fine baskets, and some of the former do to-day. The Pimas learned the art from the Maricopas when the latter sought shelter among them from the slaughter of the Yumas, about 100 years ago. The Maricopas have allowed their basket weaving to cease, while the Pimas are again taking it up.

The cheap modern baskets have heavy fibers and coarse stitches or strands. The choicest baskets and those sought by the connoisseur are delicately woven with mellow-colored markings and soft, flexible strands. The latter are so well put together that they will hold water. It is said to be almost out of the question to form a complete collection of baskets, and to make a collection of 50 or 60 good ones, showing the different stages of development, means hundreds of miles of travel to the reservations, and the expenditure of much money and much speech in coaxing the remnants of the old tribes to part with their woven treasures.

**IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE.**

**Whether a Fellow's Enamorata Calls Him or Some Other Fellow Handsome.**

She was picturesque; he was athletic, alert and interested in everyone. They appeared to be the best of friends, says the New York Sun, and she was evidently generous toward other women, for as the two lounged on the sands at one of the fashionable beaches she did not resent his enthusiastically expressed admiration for her natural enemies.

"There's a fine, vigorous-looking girl," the listener heard him say, with manifest preference for the buxom and sumptuous in womankind, and his slim, lissom companion added without envy:

"Yes, and she's graceful, too," and so on, indefinitely. What more liberality could a woman show? After about an hour of that sort of thing, however, she finally turned full on him the serious gaze of her big, brown eyes and said, softly: "I'd like to have you show me a good-looking man."

He proudly called attention to himself. "Yes, I know," she said, "but another."

"They are few," he responded, with a Rooseveltian grin, "but there's one that he not bad."

The girl's eyes lighted up as she looked at the man indicated. "Stunning!" she said, enthusiastically. "So well built, and handsome, and brainy looking, too."

Her companion changed the subject. A few minutes later, the stranger again passed them in his walk up and down the beach.

"There's that handsome man again," said the girl; and the listener heard a barytone growl that sounded like: "Fat bloke."

**Old, Old Story.**

"Have a good time at the beach?" asked Ethel.

"No; deadly dull," replied Maud. "Only two men there."

"Well, couldn't you land one of them?"

"O, yes; but I was engaged to them both last summer."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

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