

SILENCE LAW IN BERLIN.

In That City Legislation Is in Force on All Sorts of Every-day Noises.

No other large city is as quiet as Berlin. Railway engines are not allowed to blow their whistles within the city limits. There is no loud bawling by hucksters, and a man whose wagon gearing is loose and rattling is subject to a fine. The court have a large discretion as to fines for noise-making. The negro whistlers who make night shrill and musical in Washington would have a hard time if it in a German community.

Strangest of all, piano playing is regulated in Berlin. Before a certain hour in the day and after a certain hour in the night the piano must be silent in that musical city. Even during the playing hours a fine is imposed for mere banging on the piano.

In Paris it is only during the carnival and on fete days that the sound of the French horn is tolerated. At other seasons it is rigorously prohibited by the police.

German intolerance of noise is not a recent thing. Wallenstein, who demanded absolute quiet, had 130 houses torn down in Prague and sentries posted all round in the distance, to secure silence. There is a tradition that still further back in time a Bohemian shepherd, seeing the monk Adelbert asleep, blew on his pipe in mischief. The monk called down the curse of deafness on him.

UNLESS POLICE INTERFERE.

A Spanish Officer Who Thought He Could Clean Out the Whole United States.

"I chance to hear a conversation a few weeks ago in Havana that was both interesting and amusing," remarked a gentleman who was until recently connected officially with the United States consulate at Havana, to a Washington Star reporter. "While dining in a cafe one evening my attention was attracted by a Spanish officer and an Englishman seated at an adjoining table. The Spaniard, who was a well-known officer, was somewhat flushed with wine and he spoke in loud tones, his remarks being fraught with braggadocio. The Englishman was also a well-known resident of Havana, having large business interests there."

"I cite the incident," continued the ex-official, "merely to show that the Spaniards feel thoroughly confident that they could make a strong, if not overpowering, showing in case of war with this country. The subject was discussed by the Spaniard and the Englishman for several moments, until finally the former sneeringly said: 'Why, I could land in Florida with 25,000 men and walk right through the whole United States.'

The reply of the Englishman was the amusing part of the incident.

"Yes, you could," he said in a most sarcastic manner; "yes, you could—if the police didn't stop you."

FOUND HIS WAY HOME.

A Lonely Fox Hound That Traveled a Distance of Five Hundred Miles in Six Weeks.

"Did you ever hear of a dog travelling from Mississippi to Kentucky?" said a gentleman from Houstonville recently to a New York Telegram reporter, "without a human companion?"

"Well, I heard Col. Tee Carpenter tell of a wonderful hound of his. He says that some years ago he sold a hound to a gentleman of Corinth, Miss. The dog broke away from the expressman on the train when in northern Mississippi and was not heard of for some time. The Mississippi gentleman wrote to Carpenter and asked what was the reason the dog had not been sent. Carpenter looked the matter up and found that the dog had jumped out of the express car while the train was running at full speed. About six weeks afterward the hound showed up at Carpenter's house in Lincoln county. He had come home alone, being guided by that peculiar instinct with which dumb animals are gifted. He had travelled fully 500 miles. The dog was never of any value thereafter and he was completely prostrated by the trip. He looked like a skeleton when he got back to Kentucky, and could never afterward run fast enough to keep up with Carpenter's other fox hounds."

OLMSTED'S QUEER WILL.
Divided His Worldly Possessions Between His Wife and Bar-num's Circus.

William Olmsted, who died recently at his home, four miles from Cassopolis, Mich., left a strange will. He was an eccentric old man and did not live in harmony with his relatives. According to the will, which has just been probated, he left to his wife the old homestead, consisting of buildings and 40 acres of land, and the balance of his possessions, amounting to about \$10,000, was left to Barnum's circus. The relatives will contest the will.

Teeth Worked by Hand.
Old people who have lost their teeth and do not care about wearing false ones find a difficulty in eating their food. The result is the invention by a Frenchman of a chewing apparatus. This is held in one hand and a fork in the other. A piece of meat, or whatever is to be eaten, is placed between the blades, which are opened and closed three or four times, and by this means the food is reduced to a state of pulp.

Population of Alton, Ill.
Alton has just taken a census which shows the population of that city to be 13,647. This shows an average growth of 500 per annum during the eight years since the last federal census was taken, and an increase of more than 33 per cent. over the returns of 1890.

Diamonds in Africa.
It has been discovered that the native African chiefs in the diamond regions have great quantities of valuable diamonds which were accumulated years ago. They treasure them as charms and are unwilling to sell them.

IT PROVES A SUCCESS.

Practical Test of the Holland Submarine Boat.

Travels a Quarter of a Mile Completely Submerged—Detroit Man Who Invents Another Submarine Battle Boat.

John P. Holland's submarine torpedo boat proved itself a success the other afternoon. The craft made a dive beneath the waters of Staten Island, ran a quarter of a mile completely submerged, and rose to the surface again.

John P. Holland was in command, and stood in the little conning tower directing the operations of the boat. His crew consisted of three men, Nathaniel Addison, the engineer; George Meyer, the electrician; and W. F. C. Mindemann. A tugboat with several officers of the company on board followed. The Holland ran five miles on the surface until off Sewaren. Then Mr. Holland clamped down the top of the turret and by the turn of a lever threw the horizontal diving rudders down. The boat then had its conning tower and six inches of the superstructure protruding above the water's surface. It was running at eight knots an hour and carried 5,400 pounds of ballast.

The "sport," however, was not stopped by the matador's mishap and third and fourth bulls were killed by a woman fighter of considerable note both here and in Spain.

The boat ran a short distance, then came to the surface. It ran on the surface for a mile and once more dived. This time it continued under for a distance of a quarter of a mile, which was covered very quickly. When it reached the surface again Mr. Holland stepped out on the deck and received the congratulations of his friends. The boat is designed to run 50 miles under water, and to be capable of navigating to a depth of 100 feet.

Albert Tellier, an employee of the Detroit (Mich.) Ferry company, has constructed a working model of a submarine torpedo boat which he thinks is better than anything in that line yet invented.

The boat is shaped like a fish, with one fin underneath for steering and one on either side to regulate the depth at which she is to travel. The side fins work on pivots and are under the control of the man in the turret. When the desired depth is reached the fins are straightened and hold the boat there. Should it be decided to go deeper than the fins will take her, water tanks all along the bottom are opened, and down she goes. To raise her the water is pumped out.

The torpedo tube is in the bow and the boat can be tipped up or down by simply filling the tanks at one end or the other. The boat is worked by a naptha engine when traveling on the surface, but when she dives electricity from storage batteries is the power. It is thought she will make 15 miles under water. Compressed air in tanks is furnished for submarine trips.

MEETS DEATH IN A COFFIN.

The Horrible Fate of an Alabama Young White Man in Ending an Officer.

The other night in the town of Chavie, Ala., Thomas Bennett, a young white man who was charged with horse stealing and was being chased by a constable, ran into a coffin shop where a negro boy who knew him was at work and begged the boy to conceal him. An open coffin sitting on the wooden horses suggested itself as a proper hiding place, and Bennett got in and the boy screwed on the lid.

When the officer arrived the boy took off his heels out of the back door and remained away at home. Upon his return the coffin was lying on the floor upside down, and when it was opened Tom Bennett's corpse was found within.

The negro had screwed the lid on too tightly, and Bennett, having exhausted his strength, had struggled to raise the lid, and so doing had overturned it.

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Taxes to Pay There.
Killingberg-an-Main, in Franconia, as a result of the municipality engaging in business, has no taxes to pay and distributes profits to the individual citizens. The town runs terra cotta works, the profits of which last year, after the town expenses had been paid, were 90,000 marks.

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Electric Cars in Mexico.
The syndicate operating the street railways in Mexico are introducing electricity as a motive power. The company owns 140 miles of road.

Ships on the Atlantic.
The Atlantic ocean is crossed monthly by 1,000 ships.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NILE-ORLEANS

Est très répandue en Louisiane et dans tous les Etats du Sud. Sa publicité offre donc un commerce des avantages exceptionnels. Prix de l'abonnement, pour l'année: Edition quotidienne, \$12 00; Edition hebdomadaire, \$3 00

DIAZ MAY STOP BULL FIGHTS

Brutal Exhibition at Monterey Said to Have Aroused the President of Mexico.

It is reported at Monterey that President Diaz has taken up the question of bull fighting, with a view to putting a stop to the indulgence in the republic. His course is attributed directly to incidents of the other day, when famous matador was fatally gored and a woman bull fighter badly injured in this city. The better element of this section has become disgusted with the terrible brutality of the so-called sport.

Caro Chico, renowned throughout the republic as a matador of extraordinary skill, gave a special performance for the benefit of a large party of excursionists from the states. While trying to kill the second bull he was caught on the infuriated animal's horns and thrown into the air several feet. He had no sooner struck the ground than the maddened bull rushed upon him and gored him again. Had it not been for the frantic efforts of his plucky assistants Caro Chico would have met immediate death. The spectators numbered fully 8,000, among them being many American women, who fainted. Caro Chico was taken from the arena in a helpless condition, and it was reported that his injuries were fatal.

The "sport," however, was not stopped by the matador's mishap and third and fourth bulls were killed by a woman fighter of considerable note both here and in Spain.

While trying to kill the fourth and last bull she was also tossed into the air several feet, but, regaining her strength, she finally killed the animal after five thrusts of the sword.

SELL THEIR CHILDREN.

Heartless Method of a German Sailor and His Wife of Raising a Few Paltry Dollars.

Children are cheap in New Jersey if the price put upon them by Albert Schmidt may be considered the market value of youthful humanity. Schmidt is a German sailor, who has been living to the last five months at Bound Brook, N. J. Three children have been born to the Schmidt family. One of them was a curly-haired lad of six years, whom they called Alfred. The other lad of the family was a tot of three years, and they called him Joseph.

A few days ago the Schmidts permitted their neighbors to know that they were in bad luck. So they said they would sell the two boys. There were bidders in plenty after the fact became known, and after a dicker John Mossqua, a Hungarian, bought Alfred, the six-year-old, for \$20. Joseph was not so much in demand in the child market, so the smaller lad went for the paltry sum of five dollars, making a total of \$25 for the two lads.

The Schmidts gave but one reason for the sale of the children and that was the old one that the money was needed.

As soon as the money was obtained Schmidt and his wife divided it and immediately left Bound Brook for parts unknown. There was a third child in the family, a tiny bit of a girl. There was no purchaser for her, and she was sent to Schmidt's mother, who lives in Eighty-fourth street, New York.

TO HANG ALL MEANEST MEN.

Georgia Man Suggests a New Reform Scheme Calculated to Improve Public Morals.

Capt. W. H. Harrison, chief clerk in the state controller-general's office at Atlanta, Ga., proposes a unique plan for elevating the moral standing of the community. He wants to hold an election in every county on January 1 of each year for the purpose of deciding by ballot who is the meanest man and the most unfeignable scoundrel. On the 1st of February the man receiving the highest number of votes is to be hanged until he is dead, and as there are 137 counties in Georgia, the state would get rid of 137 of its worst characters every year.

Mr. Harrison proposes to introduce woman's suffrage in this contest and women will be eligible for election. Capt. Harrison says:

"By executing the rascals-elect we would rapidly get rid of the worst element of our population. Just before the 1st of January every year there would be a big exodus. The rascals would leave the state as frightened rats fly from a burning barn. In addition to that, the complimentary vote many would get could not but have a wholesome effect. Fellowes who are not living single or treating their neighbors right would receive timely warning and many a downward career would be checked before it got beyond reformation."

TORPEDO WITH A MAGNET.

The Enemy's Ship Attracts to Itself the Little Missile of Destruction.

Twenty Whitehead torpedoes were received at the United States torpedo station on Goat island, Newport, R. I., the other morning, and electricians, gunners and other government employees were at once put to work perfecting what, it is believed, will prove to be the most powerful destroyer of modern naval warfare. Within the next week Lieut. Commander McLean will test one of these new torpedoes, which the government has possessed for more than a year.

This new torpedo is provided with a magnetic needle so applied to the steering apparatus that within the range of 500 per annum during the eight years since the last federal census was taken, and an increase of more than 33 per cent. over the returns of 1890.

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Bulletin Financier.

Lundi, 11 avril 1898.

COMPTOIR D'ÉCHANGES (CLEARING-HOUSE) DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS.

jeudi 11 avril ... \$4,440,266 00 \$424,677 00

Même temps la veille ... 2,037,285 00 246,879 00

SUR PLACE.

Nouvelles cotations ...

Argent multilingue, par ...