

SPANISH POST OFFICES.

Lack of System Makes It Difficult to Find Letters Properly Filed.

A foreigner in Spain sees many irregularities, especially in the post offices. At Potes, a village of 1,200 inhabitants, in northern Spain, the postmaster was an old man, who was usually found asleep, and resented being stirred up to deliver a letter.

A NEWSPAPER "BEAT."

How a "Seep" Was Made on the First Naval Battle of the War with Spain.

Walter Russell contributes an article entitled "Incidents of the Cuban Blockade" to the Century. Mr. Russell says: My time while on the blockade, serving as a special artist, was about equally divided between the various warships and a small steam-yacht the duty of which was to divine intuitively when and where something was to occur, and be there to witness it.

A correspondent who by common consent was chairman of our strategy board was on board the ship at that time, and observed another slight crew. So we headed eastward from Havana, while the blockading fleet lay basking serenely in the sun.

NO MORE FLYING DUTCHMAN.

There Has Been Nothing Launched in This Century Which at All Resembles It.

We could not possibly manufacture the Flying Dutchman out of anything launched this century. Attention is called to this fact by Clark Russell in the Pall Mall Magazine. Think of a four-masted ship, says he, with her dreary black-and-red hull, her iron masts, her metal shrouds, her short poop or long-deck deck, her bewildering complications of double yards—think of such a ship luminous with the seaglow, breasting the surge of the Cape. Accursed! Impossible! She could never make a Flying Dutchman in the spiritual meaning of that terrific sentence of doom!

The four-master in taking her place would, with thundering canvas, thrash the memory of her out of the seaman's mind. But in that seventeenth-century craft in which the profane and stubborn Dutchman put to sea he is still to be encountered. Doubt it not. Nothing to the north of 34 degrees south; but down there, on soft, misty, moonlit nights, the specter glides into being; the vision shapes itself into tall, pale man with a long, white rippling beard, standing beside the helm, "all silent and all damned," as Wordsworth says; or she flies past over mountainous sea, leaps, as it were, out of some sudden shriek of storm and wool-white squall of foam—leaps and dissolves like the sea-fog swelling from her bow.

THE WORLD TOSPY-TURVY.

An American Electrician Has a Plan to Bring About That State of Things.

Visionaries have long dreamed of so changing the earth's axis as to confer on "Greenland's icy mountains" the temperature of "India's coral strands," and vice versa. Newton Harrison, an American electrician, comes to the front with a new plan for turning the world topsy-turvy and making it move this way or that way at his pleasure. The force he would employ for this purpose is electricity, and by merely touching a button he would regulate the climate of the entire world. His scheme is to girdle the earth with a current of electricity strong enough to overcome the present magnetic poles of the globe.

SAVED HIS CIGARETTE.

A Hardy British Officer Finished His Smoke Despite a Shattered Hand.

Several years ago, when England was waging one of her small border wars in northwestern India, some Gurkha regiments had taken possession of a small village, the natives having fled to a high cliff near by, from which they poured down a heavy fusillade upon their enemies. While a volunteer force of British under an English lieutenant were scaling the cliff under cover of the bush to make a flank movement, the rest of the command returned the natives' fire from the village streets. Leaving against the doorpost of a hut stood a young English officer smoking a cigarette and giving occasional orders to his men. Within the hut the surgeon had established a small hospital.

California Has the Biggest Bird.

The South American condor is no longer the king of flying birds. The rare California vulture, which is now only to be found in the Cocopah mountains, holds the honor. It stands about four feet high, though it is neither as weighty nor as strong as many birds of smaller size. It has much the same appearance as the turkey buzzard, which it resembles in its general appearance. It is for this reason that the eggs of this bird are now more valuable than those of the great auk. There are 15 perfect specimens of the latter known, while only two eggs of the California vulture are preserved.

An Old Work on Mathematics.

The Rhind manuscript, now in the British museum, is the oldest intelligible mathematical work extant that has ever been deciphered.

Bulletin Financier.

Lundi, 28 novembre 1898.

COMPTOIR D'EGANGES (ORLANS) (BOURSE) DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS.

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MARCHE MONETAIRE.

Nouveau-Orléans... 72

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Bulletin Commercial.

Lundi, 28 novembre 1898.

MARCHE DE LA NIE-ORLEANS.

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COMMERCE.

Le Marché de Trade donne les cotés suivants pour les lots de charbonnement de café.

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WAGNER IN HIS GAY MOODS.

The Great German Composer Was Found Playing Dapperous and Absurd Pranks.

"When not deep in meditation, or roused to anger by stupidity or impertinence, Wagner may well be said to have been boisterously gay," writes Houston Stewart Chamberlain, of "The Personal Side of Richard Wagner," in Ladies Home Journal. "This was, so to say, his normal state when in society, which accounts for his being so much beloved by children and by animals; hence, also, he never could endure the society of pedants and seekers for notoriety. The men he preferred were those full of fun and repartee; the ready wit of a peasant entertained him more than the learned sayings of a savant. He walked very fast, scrambled up mountains like a chamois, and was particularly fond of long excursions on foot. Being very small in stature, and wiry, he used to the very end, as a youth he was renowned for gymnastic feats, and at 60 years of age he used still to climb tall poplar trees and to frighten his family by all sorts of daring antics. Even within a year of his death he would occasionally, when in high spirits, astound his sedate German friends by suddenly standing on his head or by playing leapfrog over the archmarch of his drawing-room."

APPENDICITIS.

The Dangerous Affection Cannot Be Cured Without an Operation.

That there is really no medical cure for appendicitis, even though some cases recover without operation, says the Medical News, is the opinion of many eminent physicians, and according to experience, though it is a surgical disease, operation may not be necessary in every case, from the fact that the ailment is a stoppage of the drainage from the appendix to the colon, and preliminary treatment is often worse than useless. Thus the opium treatment, though relieving pain and discomfort, entirely masks the symptoms at a most important time, for it is in the first 24 hours from the beginning of the attack that physicians can decide not only as to the probable course and result of the case. It is found, for instance, that if there is no increase in urgency in five or six hours the patient is not in immediate danger when kept at perfect rest in bed, and if in 12 hours there is still no increase in the severity of the symptoms the patient should begin to improve. On the other hand, if the urgency of the case has steadily increased in 12 hours from the time when the diagnosis was made an operation will probably be called for. After two attacks a patient is sure to have a third.

Antique Furniture in Havana.

Collectors of antique furniture have struck a bonanza in Havana. In preparing to return to Spain army officers are placing on the market pieces of fine workmanship and ancient pattern, which are being eagerly snapped up by dealers. A correspondent cites a handsome old walnut wardrobe, with three full-length level mirrors, valued at \$150, which sold for less than \$15, and that is simply one of many examples.

Frog Beats Like a Lamb.

A species of frog which dwells on the Western Tiers, Tasmania, has a voice which resembles the bleating of a lamb. In the old days a shepherd, hearing the sound, thought he had discovered a contingent of lost ewes and lambs and followed the sound for some days, returning in rags and hair starred.

Chinese Interpreters to Order.

Germany is sending as interpreters to its Chinese possessions at Kiaochow graduates from the Berlin seminary for oriental languages, who have had three years' training in the Chinese taught at Berlin.

L'ABELLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS

Est très répandue en Louisiane et dans tous les Etats du Sud. Sa publicité offre donc au commerce des avantages exceptionnels. Prix de l'abonnement pour l'année Edition quotidienne, \$12 00; Edition hebdomadaire \$3 00; Edition du Dimanche, \$2 00.