

COAL INDUSTRY.

Statistics Which Show That United States Will Soon Lead the World in Production.

While Great Britain is still the largest coal producer of the world, the United States is a close second, and if the present rate of gain is continued will soon become the leading coal producing country of the world.

The United States, however, has gained much more rapidly than Great Britain or indeed any of the important coal-producing countries of the world.

As an exporter of coal, however, the United States takes low rank in production to its production and stands fourth in the list.

ROMANCE BURIED IN A GRAVE.

Alfred Alden, Descendant of John and Priscilla, Dies in Wisconsin.

In a new-made grave in Oak Hill cemetery, at Janesville, Wis., divided by half a continent from the wild New England shore where nearly 300 years ago a band of his exiled forefathers

Born in Plymouth Rock, and reared in the puritanical atmosphere of his forefathers, inheriting the hardihood and love of pioneer life typical of that pilgrim band, Alden at the age of 27 sought the freer life of the west.

Alfred Alden never married nor was he ever known to seek the society of the other sex since his voluntary exile from the home of his forefathers.

THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

Where Are Still 1,888,017,692 Acres of Land Open for Settlement.

Figures furnished by the secretary of the interior show the public domain consists of 1,888,017,692 acres and last year 8,453,780 acres were disposed of by the government to settlers.

In addition to these lands the Pine Mountain and Zacha Lake reserve in California, the Prescott reserve in Arizona, and the Pecos River reserve in New Mexico have been opened to settlement.

The department of the interior has inaugurated a forest reserve system for a graded force of officers in control of the reserves.

Stone and Oil.

D. C. French, the sculptor, says that there is more chance for young Americans in sculpture than in painting.

A Patent Cigar.

Two Virginians have patented a cigar in which a leaf stem is inserted in the center to impart fragrance to the filler.

SITUATION IN CUBA.

Views of Rev. Alfred de Barritt, a Congregational Minister.

Says If an Outbreak Against Americans Should Occur It Would Be Their Fault—Unfriendly Attitude of American Officers.

Rev. Alfred de Barritt, who, four months ago, founded a Congregational church in the city of Havana, has returned to this country for help in aid of his religious and educational work in Cuba.

Mr. De Barritt spoke about present conditions in Cuba and the possibility of an outbreak against the Americans. "If this occurs," he added, "it will be the fault of the Americans. The Cubans are a peaceful people, but they are also proud and sensitive, and many things have been done recently to anger them."

"The payment of the Cuban troops and requiring them to lay down their arms was a mistake. The disarming was a great humiliation to the men and the first thing a good many of them did with their \$75 each, was to buy new guns and machetes."

"There is as yet no distinct idea in the minds of the majority of the people as to what they really want, whether annexation or independence. But they obtain their ideas of the United States government from the American officers, and these ideas are not favorable."

DOUBLE-DECKED TURRETS.

A Most Important Question That Must Be Settled in Regard to the Kentucky and Kearsarge.

The question of double-decked turrets on the new battleships Kentucky and Kearsarge will shortly be presented to the navy department in forcible form. The ships are now nearing completion and will probably be ready for their trial trip at Newport News by November. It is now realized that this method of adding to the armament of a ship is most unwise, as it not only impairs the lives of the officers, but men who must inhabit the turrets, and may contribute to the instability of the ships which carry this enormous load.

The officers who will be detailed on the ships for the trials object to the arrangement, although they have not been on board, and the ship's turrets have not been put in place yet.

Capt. W. M. Folger, former chief of ordnance, who will command the Kearsarge, will probably file a protest against the system; he will, however, await the results of the first experiments at sea with the double-decked turrets. While at the navy department recently he expressed himself to the officials in such a way as to indicate his purpose, and he was comforted with sympathy for his complaint, which may encourage him to ask to have the upper turrets, containing eight-inch guns, removed.

ROMANCE IN SOUTH CHICAGO.

Miner Returns from the Klondike to Find His Sweetheart a Step-mother.

The romance of a miner who returned from Alaska with a bronzed face and a bank account to claim his South Chicago (Ill.) sweetheart, a former school-mistress, only to find that she had married a widower with three children, came to light the other day at the Phil Sheridan school. The scholars had just taken their seats when a knock was heard at the door of the eighth-grade room.

"I would like to see Miss Leta Lake," said the miner.

"Miss Lake is no longer here," said the teacher. "She gave up teaching when she married, a few months ago."

The miner was assured that it was not only possible, but a fact, and that the erstwhile teacher of the Phil Sheridan eighth grade was now rocking the baby of her predecessor in a little town in southern Ohio.

Men are fond of laughing at the women for their unpractical clothing, in which comfort and convenience are sacrificed for looks.

BEET SUGAR.

Germany's Success in This Industry a Great Encouragement to This Country.

Germany's success with beet sugar, as shown by official reports, has been so marvelous as to justify fully the hopes of the agricultural department for the future of the industry in this country. In the 20 years from 1878 to 1898 the beet acreage of Germany increased from 258,809 to 1,054,229. The harvest per acre has averaged from 11 to 14 tons, ranging from \$11 to \$73 per acre, or several times the value of the wheat crop.

Thus it will be seen that, while the increase is four times as great, the production is five times as much as 20 years ago. This remarkable result has been achieved by improved processes of manufacture, so that, while in 1878 it took 11 tons of beets to make a ton of raw sugar, only seven tons were required 20 years later.

It is also worth noticing that beet sugar is a great revenue producer, having contributed to the imperial treasury last year \$24,067,298 in taxes. Beets can be raised in the Mississippi and Missouri valleys quite as well as in Germany.

RELATIVE OF ROCKEFELLER.

Dismissal of Miss Williams as Kindergarten Teacher Stirrs Up Quite a Fuss.

Miss Bessie Rockefeller is a relative of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, and Mrs. Rockefeller's husband is the richest man on the continent and momentarily growing richer. Miss Bessie Williams is the kindergarten teacher in the district school of the little village of Pocantico Hills. Not far away, on the banks of the Hudson, is Mr. Rockefeller's splendid seat.

The board of school trustees lately appointed three members to examine into Miss Williams' work and to report on her ability. The three reported adversely, and, on the strength of the report, the board voted to dismiss the teacher. But the parents of her scholars and almost every resident of Pocantico Hills rose in revolt and declared that Miss Williams must not go.

One of the signers of the petition is John D. Rockefeller, who, of course, would not like to see his wife's relative out of employment. This petition has changed the mind of at least one trustee, J. H. Schen, a wealthy business man. But, as if to further prove her independence, that young woman vows she will not teach at Pocantico Hills another year.

METEORITE FALLS NEAR SHIP.

It Exploded with Loud Report Within 300 Yards of the Steamer Parmatetta.

The P. and O. steamer Parmatetta, on her way from Singapore to Hong-Kong, after passing the Paracels, came into a heavy squall of wind and rain. The wind was from the northwest with considerable swell, vivid flashes and lightning, loud peals of thunder and torrents of rain. At about 11 a. m. a meteorite was seen to fall into the sea not more than 300 yards clear of the ship and exploded with a loud report. There was a vivid flash of lightning at the same moment of a distinctly blue color and almost instantly followed in a second or two by a deafening peal of thunder that seemed right overhead of the ship.

LARGER THAN EVER.

Applications for Patents by Inventors Never Were So Numerous Before.

The receipt of applications for patents on inventions are larger now than they have been in any other years save 1896-97, which were the banner years. Last month there were 3,647 applications received at the patent office, nearly 1,000 in excess of May, 1898. Judged from receipts the largest invention now being done in the mechanical and chemical lines. A significant decline has been in progress in bicycle inventions. Patent office officials interpreting this significant decline, say that it puts bicycles on a par with other vehicles as a large but steady industry.

Going Without Drink.

Many animals in desert regions never have any water except the dew on vegetation. A parrot in the London zoo is known to have lived 52 years without drinking a drop of water.

Why He Won't Marry.

Paderewski denies the rumor that he will marry. The Chicago Record suggests that probably he cannot afford to take chances on losing his hair.

WAS VERY ROMANTIC

South Dakota Couple Marry Again After Five Years' Separation.

Woman, Who Is Wealthy, Meets Her Former Husband on Street and Recognizes Him Although Sick and Emaciated.

The return to Highmore, S. D., of a man and woman divorced five years ago, but who are again husband and wife, adds the last chapter to a romantic story of love and war.

Five years ago Henry Ballantyne and wife, of that place, married to separate. They had been agreed not quite 12 months. Ballantyne was a prosperous grain buyer and owned several good farms near Highmore. These he deeded to his wife. The few hundred dollars he was able to scrape together in cash he put in his own pocket and left to begin life afresh in a new location.

As soon as he had gone his wife sued for a divorce. There was no defense and a decree was granted. The land given her by her husband she sold to advantage, and by shrewd reinvestments accumulated within the next few years a comfortable fortune.

The past winter she spent in southern California. On her way home a month ago she stopped temporarily in San Francisco. On the street there one day she met an emaciated figure in army blue hobbling about with the aid of a heavy cane, in a vain search for employment. It was Ballantyne, discharged from United States volunteer service and invalided home from the Philippines after a fever which left him in such poor health as to destroy his usefulness as a soldier.

Ballantyne was about to pass his former wife without speaking to her, but she, when she saw his wasted form and miserable condition, felt all her old love for him revive. She hurried him into a carriage and to her hotel, where comfortable quarters, good food and the services of a competent physician soon produced a marked improvement in his health. Last week the two were remarried and have just returned to Highmore together.

ARMOR PLATE PROBLEM.

Secretary Long Decides to Buy Small Quantity and Let Congress Settle Question of Remainder.

Secretary Long has passed upon the armor bids submitted recently, deciding to purchase a small quantity of armor and to let the next congress decide what shall be done towards securing the remainder needed for the armored ships already authorized. The armor companies having stated that they could not furnish Krupp armor of the high grade required by the department at the price fixed by the law, but that they could continue the supply of Harveyized armor at \$400 per ton, the secretary has ordered the purchase of some of the latter. The bureau chiefs have reported that this Harveyized armor would answer the requirements for the armor of the four monitors to be built, and also for the diagonal plates of the battleships Maine, Missouri and Ohio, now under construction. The diagonal plates were wrought into the ships at a comparatively early period of the construction, and the secretary's decision will go far towards preventing the delay that would ensue had it been decided to purchase no armor.

NOT PASTE DIAMONDS.

Earrings Go Through Evanston Laundry and Are Found in Sewer.

After going from a pocket of a night-gown, through all the processes of an Evanston (Ill.) laundry, and finally into the catch basin of a sewer, two diamond earrings were the other day returned to their owner.

Mrs. J. V. Taylor, who lives at Greenwood Inn, Evanston, placed her earrings in the pocket of a night robe, and, forgetting about them, sent the gown to the Ortlund laundry on Jackson street, Evanston.

Two days later she missed the diamonds and had a search made of the laundry, but they were not found there. The boys opened a catch basin near the laundry and found the jewels, restoring them to Mrs. Taylor. They had gone through the laundering process, but were none the worse for wear.

DARING FEAT OF FIREMAN.

Standing on the Pilot He Rescues a Child from Her Desperate Position.

Alexander Jarvis, a fireman on the Indianapolis division of the Panhandle, performed a most daring feat the other night. He was on the New York fast mail No. 11, and when a short distance from St. Paris, O., it was discovered that a small child was playing on the track. The engineer reversed and applied the air, but it was realized that the train could not be brought to a stop in time to avert a tragedy. Jarvis crawled through the cab window on to the running board and thence to the front end of the engine. Bracing himself with one foot and holding firmly with his right hand, Jarvis leaned forward and as the point of the pilot reached the child Jarvis' strong hand grasped the clothing and the little one was lifted out of harm's way.

The American Art Prize.

In Washington a project is on foot to establish in America a national prize of Paris similar to the noted French prize of Rome. Such a prize is intended to give meritorious young Americans an opportunity to perfect themselves in the Paris schools of beaux arts and belles lettres. The Washington committee is asking the Paris academy for its cooperation in the project.

ROBS DEATH OF ITS CHILL

New York and Philadelphia Men Dedicate a Cemetery to Be Kept Light and Beautiful.

A crowd of several thousand persons the other day witnessed the dedication of the Somerton Hills cemetery, at Somerton, Pa., which is to be conducted on a system of burial reform advocated by a number of prominent New York and Philadelphia men. There were more than 500 persons present from New York city.

The prevailing idea of the new form of burial is to remove as far as possible the gloom usually accompanying such ceremonies and to substitute for the ordinary burial ground a place which shall be bright and cheerful. The "reformers" have taken their inspiration from the following couplet by Oliver Wendell Holmes:

In the bright flowers that deck the solemn hills  
Thy glory in its narrow sphere.

Somerton Hills cemetery is laid out with fountains, and public promenades wide in and out among the graves. The latter, when prepared to receive a body, are to be lined with trailing evergreens and surrounded by growing flowers. The unsightly row upon row of dirt-covered mounds are unknown here, and everything possible is to be done to eliminate the chill and gloom of the ordinary burying ground.

Rev. Dr. R. S. MacArthur, of New York, delivered the dedicatory address, during the course of which he said:

I extend the right hand of fellowship to any man who will beautify the grave, or who will make it a spot worthy of its sacred associations.

A feature of the exercises was the music. Instead of funeral dirges the band played Meyerbeer's "Coronation March" and Haydn's "Gloria in Excelsis."

A chorus of fully 3,000 voices sang "Nearer My God to Thee."

The enterprise has been jointly undertaken by New York and Philadelphia men, who number among their adherents Bishop C. Peters and Col. A. K. McClure.

FINDS LIFE A BURDEN.

Big Dog Jumps Into Lincoln Park Pond at Chicago and Draws Itself.

A large black dog committed suicide the other day in the north pond at Lincoln park, Chicago. The dog came running through the park and leaped into the water, swimming rapidly toward the center of the lake. Then, ducking its head, the animal sank. Many persons saw the dog jump into the pond and much curiosity was aroused. When the animal went under it was taken with cramps, but in a moment the dog came to the surface and swam about in a circle. A dozen people on the shores whistled and called to the beast to no avail, and in a few minutes the dog again disappeared.

This time Park Policeman Edward O'Connor and other persons put off in a boat from the boathouse to ascertain if possible the reasons for the queer actions of the dog. Before the boat reached him the canine again ducked his head, and having apparently acquired the necessary amount of nerve, held his head under until he was drowned.

A few minutes before the suicide the dog was seen in North Park avenue. A man was attempting to lead him with a cord, but the dog rebelled and caused such a disturbance that many people were attracted to the spot. At last, finding himself an object of too much curiosity, the man cut the cord and the dog bounded into the park.

It was the belief of the spectators that the dog had been stolen by the man. What violent emotions prompted the animal to end its own life is a mystery, but there seems to be no doubt that the case was one of real suicide.

EXHIBIT OF FINE PRODUCTS.

Fine Display Promoted at Paris Exposition by American Agriculturists.

Charles R. Dodge, who represents the agricultural department in the collection of farm products at the Paris exposition, is enthusiastic over the prospects of the success of that branch of the American exhibition. He says it will be one of the finest displays of its kind ever seen, and will not only represent farm products but agricultural machinery and all industries relating to farming. An impression prevails in some quarters that the exhibit will include only products of the agricultural department. This is incorrect, and the farmers throughout the country are invited to contribute to the success of the enterprise. Circulars are being prepared giving suggestions to those who wish to send exhibits, and these will be mailed as soon as they are received from the printer.

SLOAN DIDN'T SCARE.

Man Writes Him from New York and Threatens to Expose His Alleged Crookedness on the Track.

Tod Sloan has given the London newspapers a letter he received from New York, signed S. A. Decker, demanding \$2500 under a threat of exposing the jockey as using the writer's invention of an electrical battery to win races on bad horses. The writer said: "We are stopped here by the law, and now you are reaping the fruits of our invention. I think it time to step in and call you down."

Beneficiary Could Not Participate.

At Iowa, Kan., the other day a ball was given in order to raise money with which to buy a cork leg for a legless and indigent citizen. There is a fine irony in the idea of dancing in aid of a legless man.

NEW KIND OF SHELL.

Its Use Is Not to Sink Ships But to Illuminate the Sea.

Will Float on the Water and Give Powerful Acetylene Gas Flame—Varied Uses to Which It Can Be Put.

Orders have been placed by the United States government for a new kind of shell which, while it would be powerless in the matter of blowing up a battleship, will if the inventor's claims are realized, minimize the danger of night attacks by the much dreaded torpedo boats and revolutionize warfare both on land and sea. The new device is an illuminating shell to float on water, giving forth a light, which, it is asserted, the beating of the waves is powerless to conquer and which in the case of six-inch shells is equal to a thousand candle-power.

Acetylene gas is the luminant used. It is generated from calcium carbide by contact with the water. The illuminating shell designed for naval use is a hollow cylinder made from drawn steel tubing, varying in size from three to six inches as to diameter and from three to five inches in length. At one end of the shell is a burner, through which escapes the gas generated after the charge of calcium carbide in the other end of the shell has touched the water. Between the charge of calcium carbide and the burner is an electric battery designed to light the escaping gas.

Discharged from a warship to any distance within two miles the shell is submerged for three-fourths of its length and the water entering small holes near the base comes in contact with the calcium carbide, which, transformed to acetylene gas, is ignited by the electric current. So strong a flow of gas comes from the burners that, according to its inventor, Col. William J. Wilson, neither artificial nor natural currents of air can extinguish the blaze, and he asserts that the shell can be held fully three minutes under water without extinguishing the light.

Should the government tests of this or another illuminating shell prove that the idea can be successfully applied the advantages will be many. In locating an enemy's fleet and lighting it up so that the gunners could get as good a range as in broad daylight, it is pointed out that illuminating shells would be of great utility. A line of illuminating shells strung across the mouth of a harbor would successfully prevent boats from running a blockade under cover of darkness.

IN MRS. MAYBRICK'S BEHALF.

Society for Amendment of Criminal Law Endeavoring to Secure Her Release.

The Society for the Amendment of Criminal Law has met at London under the presidency of Sir Charles Cameron. The members are keenly interested in the case of Mrs. Maybrick. They include Lord James of Hereford, chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster; Augustine Birrell, the famous chancery barrister and author; Justice Vaughan Williams and Matthew Wright. Sir Charles Cameron, who is well known as a prison reformer, said to a representative of the press:

"The Maybrick case is one of the planks of our society's platform, and now that Sir Matthew White Bradley, secretary of state to the home department, is reviewing the case by Lord Salisbury's direction and through the pressure of the American government, exerted through their excellent ambassador, it will only be a matter of a very short time, in my opinion, before her unconditional release. Until then this strong society will never cease to back up all efforts in that direction."

YOUNG DEWEY SUCCESSFUL.

Son of the Admiral Makes a Record as Traveling Salesman.

Admiral George Dewey's son, George G. Dewey, who travels for a New York dress goods house, was soliciting orders the other day from Cincinnati business men. He met with the same remarkable success that has been his ever since his father made the family name glorious at Manila, and he will carry away a big bunch of Queen city orders.

The admiral's son follows the bulk of his father, short and sturdy in stature. He has dark hair and keen eyes. In conversation with a number of other traveling men at the St. Nicholas hotel the other night young Dewey said his success since he started on the road a year ago had far exceeded his hopes. He modestly attributed his good fortune to his father's achievements, and said that as soon as he had made himself known he was given orders by patriotic merchants, whether they needed the goods or not.

Noiseless Cannon.

The new quick-firing guns with which the entire Austrian artillery is to be armed will be not only smokeless but also noiseless and flameless. The present guns, though loaded with smokeless powder, still betray their position by the flash and detonation, but the new Austrian weapon will be discharged without any flash or any report. An enemy might thus be shelled for hours, says the London Leader without the precise position of the artillery being discovered.

Women Employed as Sailors.

Women are employed as sailors in Denmark, Norway and Finland. The St. Louis Star remarks that in America they are not employed in that capacity, but they sail all the same.

Corea Led in Printing. Corea made the first movable type.