

KILLED BY SHAKING.

New York Doctor Discovers New Way of Destroying Germs.

Experiments Conducted by Dr. S. J. Meltzer Increase Our Knowledge of the Peculiarities of Bacteria.

A London dispatch telling of experiments in which bacteria were killed by a mechanical shock alone was read with peculiar interest at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Fifty-ninth Street, New York.

Dr. Meltzer is a graduate of the University of Berlin and is known to the profession as a diligent student. Dr. Meltzer, it was said at the college, has not only demonstrated that incessant vibrations from strokes of an engine and violent shocks are destructive to germ life, but he has also furnished valuable data on the problem as to whether or not vibration is a factor in the maintenance of life.

He performed his first experiments with the help of an agitator, an apparatus similar to the shakers used in bottling establishments, and took as the subject of his test the bacillus megatherium, or the "elephant" germ. He put cultures in flasks, about one-third full of solution, and subjected some of them to a shake of 150 severe movements a minute.

The result was that he found that the number of germs in the agitated fluid in no instance amounted to as much as one-tenth of those in the unshaken samples. The number was invariably smaller than at beginning of the experiment.

Dr. Meltzer's experiments with the effects of slow but incessant vibrations upon germ life were carried on in the engine room of a Harlem brewery, where the machinery is kept running day and night. He found that after four days bacteria were dead in flasks which he had left there, while steady growth had taken place in specimens of the same culture which had been left in ordinary conditions.

MAY FIND CAPT. KIDD'S GOLD.

Big Excavation to Be Done in New York on Site of the Home of the Daring Pirate.

Public curiosity bids fair to be aroused to an unusual degree by an excavation soon to be made on the property at the junction of Peary and Beaver streets, New York, because on that spot, according to report, once stood the house where lived Capt. Kidd when he was not busy with his "long, low, rakish craft." Not only will an excavation be made, but as a 15-story building is to be built on the site, caissons will probably be put down, so that if the late Capt. Kidd stored his treasure, there nothing can prevent its discovery.

In Kidd's time the shore of East river was between what are now Pearl and Water streets—all beyond that on the present map being "made ground"—and the present owners of the plot in question say that the report of Kidd's possession of it at one time is well authenticated. The plot is flat-iron shape.

NEW EQUIPMENT FOR CAVALRY

The Lance, Helmet and Cuirass is Soon to Be Abolished in the French Army.

Cuirass, lance and helmet are deemed so far as the French army is concerned. At an early date these relics of ancient times will be abolished and French cavalry will resemble the cavalry of the United States. Ever since the experience of the British cavalry in the South African war this has been a foregone conclusion. The lessons taught in that conflict brought home what has been demonstrated during the American civil war—that firearms are the staple weapons for cavalry as well as infantry. The cuirass is useless in a melee, but worse than useless for general cavalry purposes, since it cannot stop a bullet. The lance is a hindrance, and the brass helmet superfluous and conspicuous.

RAPID TRANSIT IN THE EAST.

Prediction Made That Soon Journey Over Trans-Siberian Road Can Be Made in Forty-eight Hours.

Henry Clark Rouse, of New York city, president of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railroad, has returned from a tour of the world. While abroad he investigated the construction and equipment of the Trans-Siberian railroad, making the trip from Peking to Moscow in the record time of 17 days, 10 hours, over the East Chinese and Trans-Siberian railroads. Mr. Rouse believed that the road will be of great commercial value. He finds it well constructed and well conducted, and believes it will soon be possible to make the trip by rail from Berlin to the Pacific coast in less than a fortnight.

Deadly Gas Leakages.

The number of fatalities from the leakage of illuminating gas is not only large but increasing. An investigating committee in Boston found that a moderate increase in pressure caused leakage in 89 per cent. of all houses examined.

SCARLET FEVER SERUM.

New Discovery Made in Berlin Said to Successfully Combat the Disease.

Scarlet fever is likely to be eliminated from the list of dangerous diseases, should the claims of Prof. Adolph Baginsky, director of the Kaiser and Kaiserin Frederick hospital for children, at Berlin, for a newly discovered serum prove true.

Prof. Baginsky modestly disclaims the credit for the discovery of the serum, which has been named antistreptococcus, and which has been applied with undoubted success at the hospital under his charge.

The discoveries now made public are the result of 12 years' uninterrupted research and experiments. In that period 701 patients have been subjected to the antistreptococcus serum treatment, with the result that the character of scarlet fever has been definitely established and its germ classified with bacteria. The percentage of deaths has been reduced to such an extent that only eight per cent. of scarlet fever patients succumbed. Prof. Baginsky said:

"I began my investigations in 1891. My object then was to determine the nature of the disease. The only credit which I appropriate in the discovery is that I proved that scarlet fever has a microbial origin, known as streptococcus.

"After I had investigated a large number of cases to prove the recurrence of streptococcus, this germ served as a basis for further experiments by Herr Aronson, and after continued laboratory experiments, including injections of streptococcus into rabbits and horses, Herr Aronson produced the 'antistreptococcus,' with which our researches were continued."

NOT BUYING ODD WARSHIPS.

The Reasons Why Germany Decided Not to Acquire the Ships Being Bait for Argentina and Chile.

The German navy department, after considering the proposal that Germany purchase the four battleships being constructed for Argentina and Chile in England and Italy, has decided not to do so, for two reasons. First, because the government is not willing, in view of the present state of the imperial finance, to ask the reichstag for the \$17,500,000 required; second, because the general staff of the navy does not wish to incorporate into the German navy guns of different calibers, and turret machinery and other essential features of warships which are not similar to those in use on German board-built vessels. It is pointed out that the present homogeneity of the navy would be impaired were the four warships to be acquired by Germany, as the gunners can now be changed from ship to ship without loss of their efficiency. But if the four foreign-built vessels were taken over with their armament separate stocks of ammunition and differently drilled crews would be necessary. It is also asserted that the construction of all four of the ships is so far advanced that the German constructors would be unable to change the plans.

HIS COURAGE FAILED HIM.

French General Unable to Fasten Decoration of Legion of Honor on Woman's Dress.

Mme. Carlier, who was awarded the Legion of Honor for bravery during the Armenian troubles, has been invested by Gen. Florentine, grand chancellor of the order. Mme. Carlier, who was accompanied by two friends, was received in state by the general staff in full uniform. After reading the decree conferring the decoration the general's troubles began. He attempted to fasten the cross on her breast; after the usual custom and at first experience considerable difficulty in getting the pin through the material of the madam's dress. When that was accomplished the general found he had struck an unlucky spot. The pin invariably stuck in her corset. After several futile efforts the general gave up and laid the cross on the desk before her. The next part of the ceremony is the accolade, or a kiss on both cheeks. Here his courage failed completely. After a pause he requested madam to remove her glove, and then he kissed her hand. He afterwards escorted her to the door, expressing his regrets.

HAS SEEN THREE CENTURIES.

Siberian Farmer Who is Credited with More Than Two Hundred Years of Life.

A man who is more than 200 years old, already in the third century of his life, is said to be in a hospital in Tomsk, the capital in the far-away province of that name in western Siberia. He is a small peasant farmer, bed-ridden, but still sound in mind. He remembers seeing Peter the Great and the Catharines.

Among the documents given as proof of his extreme age is a passport bearing the date of 1763, in which he is described as a man 60 years of age. He has been a widower 123 years. The certificate of his wife's death shows that she died in 1780, after 47 years of married life. His son, who died in 1824 was said to be 90 years old.

Millions for the Canal.

The Panama canal treaty provides for a cash payment of \$10,000,000 to Colombia by the United States, and after a period of nine years an annual rental of \$250,000.

Famine Bread in Sweden.

The famine bread upon which 70,000 persons in northern Sweden are now subsisting is made from ground pine bark and leek and moss.

A BIG CHINESE SUITE

New Minister Bringing from China Distinguished Young Men.

The Grand-Nephew of Li Hung Chang Among the Number—Young Men to Be Educated in American Institutions.

According to advices received from China, the suite of the new Chinese minister to the United States, Sir Cheng Tung Liang Cheng, will be brilliant and unique. Besides 17 members of this suite, the new minister is bringing 12 young men, of whom ten are coming to study in this country at their own expense, including the grandson and the grandnephew of the Chinese grand secretary, Sun Chia-Nai, formerly chancellor of Peking university, and imperial tutor to the emperor of China.

The suite differs from any China sends to other countries, as many of the members are sons of the most distinguished families in the empire. Only a few years ago the Chinese considered appointment to a foreign country fit only for "second-class" people.

The names of the members of Sir Cheng Tung's suite are: First Secretary of Legation Chen Chao-Chang, Hanlin academicist, second-rank red button, first-class expectant taotai of Kuang Si province, and formerly acting provincial judge of Kuang Si.

Liang Ching Quei, M. A. fifth-rank crystal button, reader of the grand secretariat.

Shen Ai Sun, unattached expectant first-class secretary of one of the six boards.

Chang Chuan, third-class secretary of the board of revenue. Mr. Chang Chuan is a younger son of Victor Chang Chih Tung and studied a short time in Japan.

Hsia Chi Fu, third-class secretary of the board of works and expectant prefect. Hsia Chi Fu is a son of the late grand preceptor, Hsia Tung Shan, imperial tutor of the late Emperor Tung Chih, and has been a member of a former embassy to Japan.

Li Kuo Cheng, unattached expectant taotai. He is a grandson of the late viceroy of the two Kuang provinces, Li Hung Chang, elder brother of the late Marquis Li Hung Chang.

Feng Shen (Manchu), unattached, expectant taotai, son of the Tartar general, Ching Ting. He has traveled both in Europe and the United States.

I. Kuo Yoa, expectant prefect, son of the late Gen. Li Chao Pin, formerly provincial commander-in-chief of lower Kiang Su.

Chi Sien (Manchu), expectant first-class secretary of one of the six boards, son of Gov. Tuan Fang, acting viceroy of the Hukuang provinces.

Chang Wan Cheng, brevet sixth-rank button, son of the late vice-president of the board of revenue, Chang Yin Huan, G. C. M. G., special ambassador to Queen Victoria's jubilee and former minister to the United States, Spain and Peru.

Ching Pao Hsi, expectant prefect of Che Kiang, formerly Chinese consul at New York.

Several others, some of whom have already been attaches in Chinese legations either in Japan or abroad, also will accompany the new minister.

ANOTHER BAR TO MARRIAGE.

The Cecil Rhodes Scholarships Will Be Awarded Only to Single Students.

Another bar to marriage in higher educational circles has been raised in the conference of presidents of western universities over the award of the Cecil Rhodes scholarships. According to the decision reached by the conference, a married student is ineligible for scholarships. Inasmuch as there will be about 200 students selected each year to study in English universities, these students must postpone the matrimonial day at least three years.

Some of the qualifications decided upon were: The student must have had at least two years of college work in the United States; must be not more than 24 years of age; unmarried; legal resident of the state from which he is appointed; he must not have had his bachelor's degree longer than two years at the time of appointment.

Each state will have a committee of its own to look after the awarding of the scholarships. Dr. Parkin, the English representative, has left Chicago for Minneapolis. From there he will go to Canada for a conference with the Canadian educators, thence westward to the Pacific coast states, and then to Australia.

HARVARD'S STRONG MAN.

He Scores a Total of Two Hundred and Thirty Thousand, One Hundred and Seventy Four Pounds.

The first official straight test in Hemenway gymnasium, at Harvard, to establish a record under Dr. Sargent's new system, has just been made by E. W. C. Foster, a varsity crew member. He scored a total of 230,170 foot pounds. Foster was one of the ten strongest men in the inter-collegiate strength tests under the old system last year. The new system does away with apparatus, and a test has to be completed in 30 minutes. Foster's figures in foot pounds on the six series of exercises follow: Abdomen, 26,681; pull up, 5,314; push up, 8,670; back, 80,043; legs, 22,722; thigh, 106,720.

How to Kill Typhoid Fever.

The whole theory and practice of restricting the spread of typhoid fever consists in doing just one thing—disinfecting," says the Connecticut state board of health.

MONEY-MAKING MACHINE.

Odd Contrivance Used by Green Goods Men in Representing a Fraud on a Victim.

In a trial which is now progressing in the county court in Brooklyn, District Attorney Clarke has had occasion to show the workings of a machine used to catch persons susceptible to the influence of the green goods idea, and by which it is said at least \$50,000 had been obtained.

The district attorney told the jury that the defendants offered for \$35 to give \$100 in money so closely resembling the genuine that it was guaranteed to pass the inspection of bank cashiers. The victim was then invited to see the counterfeit plant in operation.

Then Mr. Clark showed the jury the mechanism and explained its workings. It consisted of a copper box about two feet square, with a false bottom and cover. It is alleged that the Fausts would take two genuine bills, wet them with "secret" preparation, place a piece of tissue paper between them, and then put them in an envelope. The latter would then be placed in the box and the cover closed. Half a dozen batteries attached to the box would then be set in operation, the strange noises impressing the victim and making him believe that some strange eitement was going on. In the excitement the false bottom would be allowed to drop over the first envelope, leaving exposed another envelope in which three genuine bills would be found.

The center bill would be supposed to be the counterfeit that had just been made. The prospective victim would be allowed to take it to a bank, and, finding that it passed muster, usually returned to get large quantities of green goods, which were palpably frauds.

NEW PLAN OF BRITISH NAVY.

The Cruiser Divisions Are to Keep the Fleets in Touch with One Another.

An important naval reform is being gradually accomplished by the British admiralty. At the present time the British navy somewhat resembles a dismembered body. Some part of it floats in almost every sea, but in disjointed squadrons that are isolated from one another. The new system is designed to keep the various sections of the fleet in touch with one another by means of cruiser divisions.

Already one has been formed in the Mediterranean, and the nucleus of another, of which the Good Hope is the flagship, is in commission. The Australian, the China and the other important stations are also to have their light cavalry division, each under the command of a rear admiral, as soon as these can be got together.

It is intended that the cruiser divisions on the different stations shall not always be kept in the shadow of the commander-in-chief's flagship, but shall be in a sense links in a chain that will bind together the British squadrons all over the world. There will be constant intercommunication and a combination of forces right from the channel to the farthest naval station, making in effect one big fleet, instead of several smaller ones. Separate commands are to remain, but isolation will disappear.

POSTER WAR ON IN PARIS.

Fierce Battle Being Waged Between Total Abstinents and Liquor Sellers.

An amusing war of posters is being waged in Paris between total abstinents and liquor sellers. The hostilities were started by the issue of a poster on official white paper, declaring alcohol to be still worse. This is signed by M. De Selves, the prefect of the Seine, and M. Mesurier, director of the municipal hospital of the charity department. Cafe proprietors and liquor sellers of all kinds were seriously alarmed, and their trade corporations have been holding meetings all the week. They will shortly reply with 25,000 posters, declaring alcohol not to be poison, quoting the article in which M. D'Elant, the director of the Pasteur Institute, says: "Use it, but don't abuse it," and also statistics regarding the amount of alcohol, rum and wine used in Paris hospitals.

STILL HANKERS AFTER POLE.

Leut. Peary Ready to Go North Again if He Can Secure Sufficient Financial Backing.

Robert E. Peary has announced his intention to, if possible, make another try for the north pole. Speaking of this to a New York Herald representative, he said: "If I could obtain backing to the extent of \$200,000 or \$150,000, I should start again for the arctic regions, and I am absolutely confident that with such backing I could reach the pole."

Famous Book is Mutilated.

Te copy of the famous 1623 first folio Shakespeare which Emperor William I. presented to the Berlin Royal library has been completely mutilated by some malicious reader. The whole "Comedy of Errors" has been cut out.

A Lavish Family of Sultans.

A dispatch from Aden says the sultan of Obbia is a prisoner, says the Chicago Record-Herald. How many of these one-horse sultans are there any day?

A MUSIC TREATMENT.

Being Used in New York for Curing of Sick and the Insane.

After Being Tested, Supt. Clover, of St. Luke's Hospital, Declares That the Treatments Have Passed Experimental Stage.

Music, as a cure for mental and bodily ills, has been embodied in a distinct system of therapeutics, and regular treatment has been administered to patients in hospitals and private practice in New York city for more than a year. Superintendent George F. Clover, of St. Luke's hospital, New York, has been an interested observer of the trial in that institution through the last winter.

He became interested last year in the voluntary work of a group of trained musicians, under the direction of the leader of the new school of therapeutics, Miss Eva Augusta Vescepius, who began her practical demonstrations two years ago. Superintendent Clover said in discussing the results of several months of treatment in the hospital:

"There is no doubt in my mind that in certain forms of disease the use of music, as directed with trained knowledge, has been of marked benefit, and that it has passed the experimental stage as an adjunct to the art of a physician."

Recently a victim of malarial fever, ignorant of music, but susceptible to its charms, had a treatment under the direction of Miss Vescepius, consisting of four classical numbers, arranged for piano, haritone, contralto and soprano solos. Sleep was soon induced and lasted for several hours. The patient was weak and emaciated. The fever was banished, and the patient has no symptoms of its return.

A case of a remarkable success in the treatment of mental disorder, in private practice, was of a young woman who had been for several years a victim of periodical insanity. She was brought by a friend to the music room of Miss Vescepius, and on hearing the "Pilgrims' Chorus" from "Tannhauser" exclaimed:

"What is that? Please play it again." She listened with seeming delight to the repetition of the number. Her melancholia gradually disappeared under successive treatments, and her recovery is now considered complete.

STREW SEA WITH FLOWERS.

Gloucester, Mass., Pays Its Annual Tribute to the Lives of Fishermen Lost in the Deep.

Nearly 1,000 people, including men, women and children from all walks of life, crowded Atlantic wharf, at Gloucester, Mass., and witnessed a beautiful, yet pathetic ceremony, when 74 flowers emblematic of the 74 lives sacrificed in the fisheries from that port during the past year were cast in the waters of Gloucester harbor by 74 children.

Following the exercises on the wharf a memorial service was held in the city hall, at which David F. Robinson, of Gov. Bates' council, presided. Rev. D. C. Charlton read the names of the fishermen whose lives were lost during the past year, and brief addresses were delivered, the speakers paying eloquent tribute to the lost fishermen, adding words of sympathy and comfort for their survivors.

These memorial services are conducted annually under the auspices of Gloucester Seamen's Bethel, of which Rev. D. C. Charlton is director. The records of the Bethel show that during the past 72 years the deep claimed 5,646 lives from among the fishermen of Gloucester harbor. Nine hundred and eighty-nine widows and 1,890 children have been left to mourn these tragic deaths. Seven hundred and thirty-two vessels have been lost, representing a total value of \$3,493,046.

AMERICAN HENS CHALLENGED.

Exhibiting Ability to Be Tested in Competition to Be Held by Australian Poultrymen.

The following challenge has been issued to all American poultrymen by the secretary of the "laying competition" in Australia to determine the ability of hens to lay eggs:

Americans are invited to send over three pens of the best laying strains of any breed except Brahmas to take part in the next competition, in April or May next. The pens each consist of six pullets, but in case of death we shall ask for eight birds to be sent. To show we are in earnest we are prepared to pay all expenses.

These Americans have been chosen to send specimens: W. K. Hays, Henleyville, Cal., white Wyandottes; Mrs. A. H. Hansel, Loup City, Neb., single comb brown Leghorns; W. B. Caldee, Fayetteville, N. Y., white Wyandottes.

Duck Dinners.

Duck dinners are the latest society fad in America. The ladies who attend are dressed to imitate ducks. Duck decorations appear on the table, and the menu includes ducks cooked in various styles. Even the ices are made up in duck shapes.

Nearly a Million Births. There were 927,052 births registered in England and Wales during 1901. These figures are equivalent to a birth rate of 28.7 per cent. in 1,000 persons living, which is the lowest on record.

Fire Damages Boston Landmark.

Long wharf, Boston, almost as celebrated as Faneuil hall itself, the ever notable Cradle of Liberty, has been partly destroyed by fire.

DOUBT ITS EFFICACY.

Use of Formalin for Blood Poisoning Not Recommended in U. S. Army.

Ever since Dr. Charles Barrows reported a cure of puerperal blood poisoning by the injection of a solution of formalin into the blood of a patient, at Bellevue hospital, New York, more or less doubt has been expressed by physicians as to the general efficacy of the treatment. Dr. Barrows himself, it is said, has not been sanguine, and the results obtained by a series of experiments by Dr. W. H. Park and Dr. W. A. Payne in the bacteriological laboratory of the health department are not calculated to establish confidence in the method. These physicians, it is asserted, have, by experimenting with rabbits, satisfied themselves that the evil effect of formalin is greater than the good which it accomplishes in attacking germs. Dr. Park said:

"We took about two dozen rabbits and, at a given time, inoculated each with the streptococcus germ. An hour later we gave 12 animals an intravenous injection of the formalin solution. In every instance except one the rabbits that had not received formalin outlived the others by from 12 to 24 hours. Specimens that were treated did, however, show signs of temporary relief, but they soon relapsed into their former condition."

DOUBLE SPEED OF WARSHIPS.

Germany Said to Have Acquired an Invention Which May Revolutionize the Navy.

Emperor William's navy has acquired an invention destined to revolutionize the whole system of vessel construction and to make the German warships the swiftest fighting craft afloat. The invention is credited to Prof. Kretzschmer, chief of construction in the German navy, who completely rejects the traditional type of ship patterned after the fish and substitutes for it one in the form of an aquatic bird.

By antifriction wave resistance the new formants make the propelling capacity of the screw 50 per cent., thus making possible a corresponding acceleration of speed without increased expenditure of power.

The new type of boat will make no waves, or construction of any kind, but will glide along the surface with the easy motion of a duck. The German naval authorities believe their latest acquisition is a tremendous advance in the direction of increasing the fighting efficiency of warships.

MORE REINDEER FOR ALASKA.

Contract Cleared for Government for Supplying of the Natives with Meat.

At Washington ten days ago the government awarded the Northwest Commercial company a contract for supplying and transporting another 1000 reindeer from the Siberian coast to Alaska. The company is closely allied with the Northwest Siberian company, which owns trading and mining concessions on the Siberian coast, and has already purchased hundreds of reindeer from natives in exchange for merchandise. The balance of the reindeer will be rounded up from Siberian wilds during the spring and summer.

There are now in Alaska about 10,000 reindeer, last year's increase amounting to 1,500. The government's object is to aid the natives in supplying them with meat and facilities for transportation.

MARK TWAIN POPULAR.

The Viennese Impersonate the Noted Humorist at a Fancy Dress Ball.

At the grand fancy dress ball given by Princess Pauline of Metternich at which the head only was disguised, the character most frequently seen was that of "Mark Twain," a signal proof of the lasting impression his wonderful personality left on Viennese society. His bust and photograph were in great demand beforehand. His magnificent head, with its mane of white hair, his bushy eyebrows and mustache, were faithfully reproduced.

The ladies all copied Gainsborough's pictures and the beauties of the European galleries, several making up from family pictures in imitation of their grandmothers three and four times removed.

GIFT FROM MISS ANTHONY.

The Distinguished Woman Suffragist Sends Books, Autograph Letters, Etc., to Congressional Library.

Susan B. Anthony has just sent to the congressional library in Washington a large number of valuable books, autograph letters and scrap books. This literature was all valuable material to Miss Ida Hamspeid Harper and Miss Anthony in writing the life of Susan B. Anthony and the history of woman suffrage. It will be needed no more by them, and so Miss Anthony has sent it to the congressional library, where an alcove has been made ready for it, which will be known as the Susan B. Anthony alcove.

But Think of the Size of Mosquito.

Those gunners on the Panther insist that they could hit a Jersey mosquito at a distance of two miles, says the Chicago Record-Herald, notwithstanding their poor luck at Maracibo.

French Dresses for German Emperors.

The German empress is now having her dresses made in Paris, says the Chicago Record-Herald. This looks like a bad slap at the "Made-in-Germany" tag.