

A MAIN CHANCE OF LIFE.

Some Interesting Results of a Calculation Upon the Percentage at Various Ages.

In the English Illustrated Magazine, Mr. J. Holt Schooling works out some interesting results as regards the chances of males at ages 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 and 90, living for ten years more, 20 years more, 30 years more, etc. For example, as regards 1,000 men aged 20, 939 of them "live ten years more," i.e., to age 30; that is 94 per cent, live to age 30 and six per cent, do not, so the chance at age 20 to live to age 30 is not quite sixteen to one in favor of living. Similarly, 550 out of 1,000 "live 40 years more," i.e., to age 60, so the odds in favor of a man aged 20 living to age 60 are 65 to 44, say five to four, in sporting phrase. Again, as only ten out of the 1,000 live 70 years more, i.e., to age 90, the chance of a man aged 20 attaining age 90 is only one in one hundred, or odds of ninety-nine to one against him. As to the chances for men aged 50, 770 per 1,000 live ten years more, i.e., to age 60; therefore, we may say the chance of a man aged 50 living to 60 is represented by odds of 77 to 23, or about seven to two in favor of the man aged 50 living ten years more. This chance, favorable as it is, is of course not nearly so great as the sixteen to one chance in favor of a man aged 20 living to age 30. Glancing at men aged 70 we see that only 335 per 1,000 live ten years more, i.e., to age 80; this means that 34 per 100 live the ten years and 66 per 100 do not, so the chance at age 70 of a man living to age 80 is represented by the odds of two to one against him. As for men aged 90, of 1,000 men alive at age 90, only four live to age 100. Thus at age 90, the chance of living ten years is very small, it being represented by the long odds of two hundred and forty-nine to one against the man—quite an outside chance.

A BEAUTIFUL CITY.

Such Is Manila, the Central Point of Interest in the Philippine Islands.

Manila is a beautiful city, about the size of San Francisco. It is built on both sides of the River Pasig, which is navigable to its source, says the San Francisco Chronicle. Old Manila lays on the left bank. Parts of the masonry stone wall, which was built around it 200 years ago, are still visible, and some of the gates survive, through which a stream of solemn friars, grinning Chinese, resplendent Spanish officials, beggars in rags, pious nuns, handsome seafarers, gay native girls, mestizos in uniform, natives in breech-clouts, four-horse carriages, two-wheel pony wagons and creaking buffalo carts pour from morning till night. The cathedral, monasteries and government offices are in old Manila; the business quarter, the foreign shipping houses, the banks, stores and custom house are in Binondo, on the other side of the river. Between the walls and the shore are the Luneta, the fashionable promenade, where the hand plars and society enjoy the evening breeze, flirts under hundreds of electric lights and drives around the circle in carriages, which follow each other in slow, dignified procession. The best houses in Manila are built of stone, and are handsome residences, though there is no window glass used in their construction. Instead of glass the windows are glazed with translucent oyster shells. This is cut into squares so small that a window eight feet by four will contain 250 of them. It is found that they temper the fierce glare of the sun and soften the light.

METHODS OF DUSTING.

Mr. Glimmermont Expresses the Hope That Some Day Men Will Use Clothes as Women Do.

"Man's dusting implement is a feather duster," said Mr. Glimmermont, according to the New York Sun, "woman's is a dust cloth. There can be no doubt which is the better, but each clings to his own. But think I see signs of a change. I saw a boy walk out of a store up the other morning and walk across the sidewalk to the curb and stand there and shake a dust cloth, just as a woman would shake one out of the window. I don't know where the boy got this notion, whether he made the discovery himself, that except under favorable conditions, with doors and windows open at both ends and wind blowing through, stirring up dust with a duster only serves to redistribute it, or whether there is a woman in this store who insists on dust cloths and has taught the boy the use of them."

"Why as the boy grows older and becomes confirmed in this way he will teach the use of the dust cloth to others, and to his children, and they will teach it to their children, and so it may finally come about in this simple manner that all men will come to use it, and that the feather duster will go."

American Gunners.

"Old Ironsides" may be called our luckiest as well as most famous battleship. In her hardest fight, that with the new British frigate Java, in 1812, she lost but nine killed and 25 wounded, though the total loss on her adversary was 161. In destroying the Guerriere, Cyrene and Levant the Constitution's casualty list was eight killed, 17 wounded, while that of the defeated vessels was 50 killed, 105 wounded. The London Times said in 1813: "The fact seems but too clearly established that the Americans have some superior mode of firing."

War News in Germany.

A paper of Bremen, Germany, recently told its readers that the Spanish fleet had bombarded Chicago.

RUSSIA'S GREAT ARMY.

It Has Been Doubled Since the Last Turkish War.

The Russian army has been almost doubled since the last Turkish war, while the general staff has been increased by more than two-thirds. The three western frontier districts, Vilna, Kieff and Warsaw, now have 554 battalions, 396 squadrons, and 282 batteries with 2,070 guns, all on a war footing, or about six-seventeenths of all the infantry and cavalry of them as commander in chief. His special mission was to intercept the Baltic fleet, en route to England.

Russia is attacking more and more value to cavalry, and has already 22 divisions, whereas Germany only has one cavalry division of the guards in time of peace. At the end of the last year the cavalry divisions quartered around Warsaw were united to form an army corps, and the war office means to extend the system, and while thus separated Jones met the Baltic fleet. The merchant vessels were convoyed by the Serapis and another man-of-war.

Although the Bon Homme Richard was single-handed, her commander never hesitated, but immediately attacked the British war vessels.

The Americans fought like demons, and finally, when some of their guns became disabled, they grappled the British ships, and, removing the guns, and seizing upon lances, boarding pikes and whatever they could lay hands upon, they fought their way through the port holes, which were unusually large, and they waged a desperate hand to hand encounter in an attempt to board the enemy.

Finally, after four hours, the Serapis surrendered to the Bon Homme Richard, but so thoroughly cowed were the British crew that none of the sailors would haul down the vessel's colors when so ordered by the captain. Finally Capt. Pearson was compelled to execute his own command.

Ten minutes after the surrender of the Serapis the other British man-of-war surrendered to the Pallas of Jones' squadron, which had arrived during the latter part of the engagement.

The Bon Homme Richard was a complete wreck, and rapidly sinking. Jones ordered her crew, together with the wounded, removed to the Serapis, and 16 hours afterward the gallant Bon Homme Richard sank in Bridlington bay. Jones, with the remainder of his squadron and prizes, sailed for Holland. He was made much of at home for this action, which carried terror to the hearts of English sailors, and when he returned to America, in 1780, he was the recipient of an ovation as great as any naval commander of the revolution received.

DEWEY'S SQUADRON.

Armament and Cost of Vessels That Fought at Manila.

When Commodore, now Admiral, Dewey attacked Manila, the vessels composing what is known as the Asiatic squadron were: The Raleigh, a protected cruiser built in 1889, speed, 19 knots, cost \$1,100,000, carrying ten 5-inch and one 6-inch rapid fire guns, eight 6-pound rapid-fire and four 10-pound rapid-fire cannon, two Gatlings and four torpedo tubes. The Olympia, flagship, protected cruiser, first rate, built in 1891, speed 21.6 knots, cost \$1,596,000, carries four 8-inch breech-loading rifles, ten 5-inch rapid-fire guns, 14 6-pound and six 1-pound rapid-fire cannon, four Gatlings and six torpedo tubes. The Boston, a protected cruiser, second rate, built in 1883, speed 1.6 knots, cost \$1,619,000, carries six 6-inch and two 8-inch breech-loading rifles, two 6-pound and two 3-pound rapid-fire guns, two 1-pound rapid-fire cannon, two Hotchkiss, two Gatlings and four torpedo tubes. The Petrel, a gunboat, built in 1888, speed 16.8 knots, cost \$490,000, carries six 6-inch rifles, two 6-pound and two 31-pound rapid-fire guns, two Hotchkiss revolving cannon, two Gatlings and six torpedo tubes. The Calypso, a gunboat, built in 1888, speed 16.8 knots, cost \$490,000, carries six 6-inch rifles, two 6-pound and two 31-pound rapid-fire guns, two Hotchkiss revolving cannon and two Gatlings, a propeller cutter, propeller, carrying four guns, used as a dispatch boat.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Beggar Versus Work.

"Please, sir, won't you give something to a poor cripple?"

"I have no money."

"If you haven't any money, what are you walking around here for doing nothing? Why don't you go to work and earn some?"—Das Klein Witzblatt.

Caused by Drink.

At a recent English inquest it came out that of five persons who had received legacies of \$500 each two years ago four had already drunk themselves to death.

PAUL JONES.

How He Captured the Serapis in a Desperate Hand to Hand Conflict.

The depredations of the English upon our commerce during the revolutionary war became so annoying that the young colonies decided to purchase a squadron of swift sailing ships to harass the English in their own waters. With this end in view, they secured a number of vessels in France and sent the famous Paul Jones over there to take charge of them as commander in chief. His special mission was to intercept the Baltic fleet, en route to England.

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