

EXPLORERS IN THE PACIFIC.

Spanish Ships Cruised for Years But Discovered Nothing.

The first European explorer who looked down upon the broad waters of the Pacific saw them stretched away calm and unruffled into the apparently endless distance of the south, and it was from this circumstance that the greatest of the oceans got the two names by which it has ever since been known.

It is easy to understand their experience when we look at a map of that part of the world. For we shall find that a line drawn around the pole 10 degrees south of the equator would pass through more than 20,000 miles of ocean and less than 4,000 of land.

Potatoes, native to Peru, were discovered by the Spaniards in the neighborhood of Quito, where they were cultivated by the natives.

Everybody knew Mr. Hastings, just as everybody knew Mr. Smith, but the two men were of different report. Mr. Smith was known for the hand that helps and the word that cheers as no other man in the neighborhood.

He Prefers the Old Version. A story is told of Mr. Gladstone and a prominent government official, who at one time was the ex-primer's private secretary.

Quite a Difference. The great fire in 1872 in Boston burned over sixty acres, and entailed a loss of sixty million dollars, or a million an acre.

How Big a State Missouri Is. One of that greatest tier of states reaching from East to West across the country, beginning with New York and Pennsylvania, with Ohio, Indiana and Illinois following in order, is the state of Missouri.

ECHO OF THE PASSION PLAY

Wonderful Realism of James O'Neil's Make Up.

"Fifteen years ago," said an old Cleveland playgoer, "James O'Neil and William Seymour were both members of the famous stock organization at Baldwin's theatre, San Francisco. It was during the third year of Mr. O'Neil's stay as leading man at the Baldwin that he appeared as Christ in Salmi Morse's 'Passion Play.'"

Angers Are Not Horses. Everybody knew Mr. Hastings, just as everybody knew Mr. Smith, but the two men were of different report.

Clouds You Can't See. Did you ever realize that rain-clouds are sometimes quite invisible? When the sky above is bluest and clearest great masses of rainy vapor may yet be passing over.

Poor Little Town. Some people are as modest about their place of abode as others are vain of theirs.

A Resolution Worth Keeping. The one New Year resolution which ought to be kept above all others is the one which pledges its maker to pay his debts.

All Her Feet. William Tell—She's had many a young man at her feet. Miss Spyte—Of course, when she buys a new pair of shoes.—Yonkers Statesman.

THE RETORT COURTEOUS.

Some Clever Answers to Offensive Remarks.

Clever answers to offensive questions or remarks stand in a category of their own. It is by no means so easy as some imagine to reply to an insulting speech in such a manner on the spur of the moment so as to carry off the honors of war.

A Fortunate Accident. "Col. Bolebug is one of the luckiest men I know. He was in a railroad accident last week and had the good fortune to lose his right arm," said Gilhooly to Pete Amsterdam.

A Fable. A Civilized Country was appealed to for Assistance by an Armenian, who was about to meet Death at the Hands of a Savage and Mohammedan Turk.

A Puzzler. A little boy read in a Sunday school paper the story of a missionary having been eaten by cannibals.

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SCIENTIFIC SCRAP.

All the land above sea level would not fill up more than one-third of the Atlantic ocean.

Boston's highest tide was April 16, 1851. It rose to 15.66 feet, and was 33 over the coping of navy yard dry dock.

Sweden is about to undertake the measurement of a degree of latitude within the Arctic circle. An expedition will be sent out in May to make a preliminary survey.

Adding pencils are being made which have a sliding register plate set in the side of the pencil case to be raised by pressing the point of the pencil against the paper or desk and register any number of points.

A Parsian ophthalmologist says that the incandescent electric light is the least harmful to the eyes of all artificial light.

Two Englishmen have invented a pneumatic tire for wagons and bicycles which will not puncture, as only a solid or cushion tire rests on the ground, two small inflatable tubes being set in the bottom of the U-shaped rim to back the outside tire.

A Good Remedy for Boils. "I never knew what a boil was until recently I have been afflicted with a number of these disagreeable eruptions. I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla and in a short time it purified my blood and the boils entirely disappeared and I have not had any trouble with them since."

Hood's Pills are easy to take, easy to operate. Cure indigestion, headache.

Home For Williamsport. Williamsport is to have another industrial institution, to be known as the Boys' Industrial Home, and is to be connected with the Girls' Industrial Home, on East Third street.

The new home will be erected in the vicinity of the Girls' Home and will cost \$4000. It will accommodate from twenty-five to one hundred boys.

One Corporation Allowed to Go \$6,500,000 Short on a Debt to the Government.

The administration's dealing with the Kansas Pacific, having agreed to settle a thirteen million debt for half that sum, is regarded as a great victory for the jobbers and the corporation.

To give you an opportunity of testing the great merit of Ely's Cream Balm, the most reliable cure for catarrh and cold in the head, a generous 10 cent trial size can be had of your druggist or we mail it for 10 cents.

It is the medicine above all others for catarrh, and is worth its weight in gold. I can use Ely's Cream Balm with safety and it does all that is claimed for it.—B. W. Sperry, Hartford, Conn.

The first trial trips on the electric rack railway up the Corner Grate, near Zermatt, were recently carried out in the presence of the inspectors of the Swiss Railway department.

REASONS FOR USING Walter Baker & Co.'s Breakfast Cocoa. 1. Because it is absolutely pure. 2. Because it is not made by the so-called Dutch Process in which chemicals are used.

ALEXANDER BROTHERS & CO. DEALERS IN Cigars, Tobacco, Candies, Fruits and Nuts. SOLE AGENTS FOR Henry Maillard's Fine Candies. Fresh Every Week.

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF CARPET, MATTING, or OIL CLOTH, YOU WILL FIND A NICE LINE AT W. H. BROWER. 2nd Door above Court House. A large lot of Window Curtains in stock.

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NO BETTER GIFT than a year's subscription to DEMOREST'S MAGAZINE can be made. THE COLUMBIAN and Demorest's Family Magazine. Send your subscriptions to this office.

The Twentieth Century. There has been considerable newspaper discussion as to when the 20th century will begin. The New York Sun settles the question with the following illustration: "The 20th century will begin at midnight, December 31, 1900, January 1, 1901."

A Few Useful Hints. Here are some new things we ought to know: That chloride of lime spread around wherever rats frequent will abolish them. That a teaspoonful of vinegar put into the water in which tough meat or fowl is to be boiled will make them tender.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Three specimens of the rare white partridge (Perdix cinerea) were recently exhibited at a meeting of the Linnaean society, in London.

