

THE VOLTA BLOWN UP

COL. COLT SUPERVISED THE REMARKABLE EXHIBITION.

Forty Thousand Saw the First Explosion By the Aid of Electricity—The Secretary of War Was Present in Castle Garden.

The civilized world had a hearty laugh at the unique proposal that some one in authority arrange a naval battle between the United States and Spain outside the harbor of New York.

Fifty-six years ago over 40,000 people witnessed the explosion of a steamer in New York harbor by Colonel Colt.

Though Robert Fulton was one of the first improvers of the torpedo, it is generally known that Samuel Colt, of the Colt revolver fame, was the father of the modern submarine battery.

The Government placed a schooner at Colt's disposal in August, 1842, to experiment upon on the Potomac.

Two months later, October 18, 1842, Colt's battery produced a still more notable effect in New York Harbor in the presence of 40,000 citizens.

It is worth reproducing the report made in the Evening Post of October 19, 1842, of this event, not only to show the entire success of the experiment and the manner of reporting the events of that period, but to contrast the space afforded and the utter absence of that vivid description with a similar spectacular event of the present day journalism.

A vast multitude assembled yesterday afternoon to witness the explosion of Colt's submarine battery placed under a vessel of 260 tons.

The name of the vessel was the brig "Volta." The experiment was performed under the auspices of the American Institute, while Colonel Colt applied the electric spark from a battery on board the revenue cutter "Swing."

In the month of April following a brig of 500 tons was blown to pieces while sailing at the rate of 5 knots an hour while Colonel Colt, the operator of the battery was on shore five miles away.

Mrs. Green (who thinks of airing)—But is the girl honest? Can she be trusted?

CHILDREN'S TRAINING.

Each Little One Needs Careful and Earnest Study.

The unformed characters of children are so different, that in a family of brothers and sisters no two are alike, and each little one needs careful and earnest study.

A wise mother must discriminate judiciously between natural juvenile failings and real naughtiness.

All healthy, strong, vivacious children are restless, wilful, and mischievous in a greater or less degree.

Very imaginative children, on the other hand, will circumstantially narrate incidents which they declare they have seen, or as having happened to themselves, and it is not easy to make them grasp the fact that this is a falsehood.

Always avoid arousing the violence of a really passionate child. Remember that nine times out of ten it is the disposition of you, your husband, or some relative that has descended upon the little one, who is really more to be pitied than blamed.

When very juvenile youngsters hold their breath in that alarming fashion in the middle of a cry, the quickest way to bring them round is to rub a wet sponge or flannel on the face; the unexpected shock speedily produces the desired effect.

The great secret of management lies, however, after all, in discipline. Have a few rules and regulations as you possibly can, but have those kept to be letter. Don't excuse any deviation herefrom, but insist with quiet firmness on their fulfillment.

About Precious Stones.

Agate quenches thirst, and if held in the mouth allays fever.

All precious stones are said to be purified by a bath in honey.

Amber is a cure for sore throats and all glandular swellings.

Amethyst banishes the desire for drink and promotes chastity.

Cat's-eye is considered by the Chinese as a charm against witchcraft, and to be the abode of some genii.

Coral is a talisman against enchantments, thunder, witchcraft, and perils by flood and field.

Diamond produces somnambulism and promotes spiritual ecstasy.

Emerald promotes friendship and constancy of mind.

Garnet preserves health and joy.

Leadstone produces somnambulism, is dedicated to Mercury, and in metallurgy stands for quicksilver.

Moonstone has the virtue of making trees fruitful and of curing epilepsy.

Onyx contains in it an imprisoned devil, which wakes at sunset and causes terror to the wearer, disturbing with ugly dreams.

Opal is fatal to love, and sows discord between the giver and receiver.

Sapphire produces somnambulism, and impels the wearer to all good works.

Topaz is favorable to hemorrhages, imparts strength, and promotes digestion.

She Stopped to Play with a Kitten.

An authority on the subject of airing, in discussing the question of the age at which training should begin, declares that twenty-three is quite early enough.

Mrs. Brown (the girl's former mistress)—You need not be in the least alarmed. She is perfectly honest.

Mrs. Green (who thinks of airing)—But is the girl honest? Can she be trusted?

HOW BICYCLES ARE USED IN WAR

Armies of All Nations Supplied With the "Silent Steed."

Great progress has been made with the bicycle as an adjunct to military service both here and in European countries.

In the United States the military cyclist has attained considerable prominence, largely due, perhaps, to the general popularity of the bicycle.

For courier service, scouting, road sketching, surveying and route reconnaissance he regards the bicycle as invaluable.

The machines now in use in the regular service, together with the usual equipment, tip the scales at about seventy pounds.

The customary gear of the army wheels is 66 2/3. Puncture-proof pneumatic tires are used and every wheel has a brake, the weight of the outfit being such that it is almost impossible to stop by back-pedaling when going down hill.

Throughout the country there are many cycle corps in National Guard regiments. Greater New York has half a dozen, the Thirtieth and Eight regiments comprising specially well-trained companies.

It is said that within a short time a bill will be introduced in Congress authorizing the purchase of a sufficient number of bicycles to supply each fort and military station in the country with ten machines.

The bicycle in the Russian army has been a source of gratification to the great White Czar.

As long ago as 1887 the French adopted the bicycle for use in military operations. The folding machine is used, it being preferred to any other.

A novel use of catacombs. A great portion of subterranean Paris is honeycombed with catacombs which were once used as burying-places.

One of the drawbacks to the German cycling service is the use of cushion tires. The time is not far distant, however, when pneumatic tires will take the place of the old-fashioned and less resilient kind.

A folding wheel which can easily be put in rideable condition in less than thirty seconds is in use in the Austrian army.

"Come into the woodshed with me." "Hold on, pa. I ain't moved to go into no executive session."

A SOMBRE EASTER.

The Moravians Celebrate the Day at the Cemetery.

Moravians as a body are the most cheerful and literal-minded of Christians. When a Moravian repeats from the creed, "I believe in the resurrection of the body," he makes no mental reservations.

As in the grave all men are equal, there are no monuments in Moravian cemeteries; rich and poor alike have their resting-places marked only by small slabs of stone, briefly inscribed.

On Easter morning the cemetery of a Moravian village is the scene of the most significant portion of the church these marvelous gymnastical feats. service. At the first sign of dawn a band of trumpeters, their instruments being in accord with the Scriptural description of the general arousing on Resurrection Day, gather on the roof or in the tower of the church and play until all believers are awakened.

A few moments before sunrise the congregation, led by the pastor and the trumpeters, file out of the church and march to the cemetery. The throng clusters at the eastern end of the grounds and the service is resumed; as the sun rises, the concluding words of the pastor are spoken, and the trumpets raise a joyous anthem in which the entire congregation joins.

A Speedy Cure.

In an out-of-the-way part of Westmoreland, a old farmer, well known for his miserly habits, in order to save the candles, used to give the farm hands their supper in semi-darkness.

The laborers grumbled at this, but the farmer took no notice. Things went on much in the same way for some time, till the farmer had occasion to hire another farm-hand, named Tam Waring.

Tam, who was well known to some of the other laborers as a wild and reckless sort of character, and always ready for mischief, was informed how matters stood.

That night at supper, which consisted of porridge, Tam took his seat on the right-hand side of the farmer, and, watching his opportunity, quickly plunged a spoonful of hot porridge into the farmer's mouth.

"Weel, fairmer," replied Tam, "it's sae daurk, Ah couldn't tell whaur Ah was pittin' it. Ah thoht it was i' my ain mooth."

After that the farmer always took good care to have the kitchen well lighted.

The Origin of a Name.

games and mechanical toys of all kinds are apt to make the hatching of the eggs on Easter day an exceedingly enjoyable occupation for the children.

The lovely Marechal Niel rose owes its name to the Empress Eugenie. When General Niel returned from the scene of his triumphs over the Austrians in Italy after the battles of Solferino and Magenta a poor man gave him a basket filled with exquisite yellow roses. The general had a cutting struck from one of the blooms, and when the rose tree from it had grown he took it to the Empress Eugenie. She was charmed with the gift, but when she asked the name of the rose, she was told that it was unknown.

To Clean Shoes.

Orange Juice is an excellent cleanser of black boots and shoes. A slice of orange should be rubbed upon the shoe or boot, and as soon as it is dry should be brushed with a soft brush until it shines brightly.

A Novel Use of Catacombs.

A great portion of subterranean Paris is honeycombed with catacombs which were once used as burying-places. A novel use has now been made of these underground galleries that lie beneath the Jardin des Plantes, for they have been converted into a laboratory and aquarium.

It is said that Succé, who recently completed his sixty-fourth public fast in Rome, has abstained from food in his performances for 2,500 days of his life—nearly 7 years.

The novel feature of a gas-motor lately invented is stated to be the bringing of the fuel in the working cylinder into contact with air so highly compressed as to be intensely hot.

Many of the new velvet belts for spring are studded with medallions so large as almost to cover the velvet band.

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The Oregon's Great Record. After a 13,000-mile Journey She Needs No Repairs At All.

The navy department is proud of the record made by the Oregon from an engineering point of view. The reports to the department from the ship show that she does not need five cents worth of repairs to her machinery after her 13,000 miles of continuous run.

Regarding the Philippines "there appear but two courses which we can consistently pursue," a Philadelphia newspaper thinks. "One is to return the islands to Spain after the war has been concluded, and the other is to give the people there who have been in revolt against Spanish tyranny an opportunity to set up a stable independent government.

No Lack of Attention. Miss New—I can't get my watch to keep time properly. Jeweler—Perhaps it needs regulating. Miss New—Surely not. I move the regulator over the entire scale every day.

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State Troops' Pay Roll.

Word from Harrisburg says that the Adjutant-General's department is making out the pay rolls of the late National Guard, and it is expected that all of the work will be completed by next week.

Those of the Guard who were accepted by the government and entered the volunteer service will be paid up to the day they were mustered in, while those who were at the camp and did not enlist or were rejected will be paid up to the time the order was issued sending them to their homes.

Owing to the fact that the Guard had a real service camp, there will be no encampments of any kind held this year, and the money for that purpose will be used to pay the expenses of the State incurred in calling the Guard to Camp Hastings.

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. Full size 50 cents. ELY BROS., 56 Warren St., N. Y. City.

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 number of steamers wrecked upon rocks and shoals and in high winds on the passage from Pacific coast cities to Alaska show that the pilots have not yet learned the channels on their routes and do not know their business.

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