A BIG PURCHASE.

HOW DUPONT SUPPLIED THE POW DER FOR THE CIVIL WAR.

As "Mr. Jones" the Great Powder-Make Bought All the Saltpetre There was in England and Charged the Government Nothing for His Services.

On the banks of the Brandywine, in Delaware, are the great Dupont Pow-der Mills. Established in 1802 by the French Royalist, Eleuthere T. Dupont de Nemours, who found republican France an uncongenial home, they have grown to be the greatest mills in the world for the making of explosives. At word for the inaking of explosives, the time of the civil war the Duponts were, as they are to-day, powder makers for the United States government. In 1861 the secretary of war sent for the Duponts, and La Motte Dupont, one of the heads of the firm, went to Washington in reply to the summons.

'Are you prepared to furnish a very large amount of gunpowder?' the secretary of war.

"That depends on our obtaining salt-petre," was the answer. "The saltpe-tre of the world is mined in India, of course, under the control of the British government and the markets are in London and Liverpool."

The secretary of war was startled. If England should prove unfriendly dur-ing the course of the war which was opening, the saltpetre market would, of course, be closed to the United

"The government must buy a large amount at once," he said.
"Excuse me," said Mr. Dupont, "the

"Excuse me," said Mr. Dupont, "the United States cannot go into the mar-ket and buy saltpetre at any reasona-ble price--indeed, it might not be able to buy it at all, but the Duponts can get it without exciting comment."

"Will you go to England and buy it-buy all there is?"

Mr. Dupont agreed to go, and he and the secretary of war talked a few moments longer; they made a few fluores and the powder man was provided with letters of credit on the Rothschilds.

On the next steamer he sailed for England and presented himself with letters of introduction to the Roths

"Very sorry, Mr. Dupont, your letters of credit have not arrived," and he was politely bowed out.

He next presented letters of introduc-

tion to Baring Brothers, the London correspondents of the Duponts. One of the firm, a Mr. Archibald, cordially received the powder manufacturer.

"Very happy to meet you, Mr. Du-pont. We have never had the pleasure of meeting a Dupont, although we have done business with the firm for fifty

'I am very glad to meet you," said the American, "for I am in need of

"We shall be most happy to furnish with all that you require. About now much will you need?"

Mr. Dupont looked meditatively at

Mr. Dupont looked meditatively at the floor for a moment, and Mr. Archibald looked with some curiosity at his American customer. A homely man was this powder maker; high cheek bones, a square chin, covered with a thin, uneven bristly beard, spectacles on his deep, kind eyes; a man who somewhat resembled Lincoln in the character of his face. Mr. Archibald thought he might want several hundred pounds. This American had perfered pounds. This American had per dred pounds. This American had per haps found London a little more ex-pensive than in his western simplicity he had supposed. Mr. Dupont, looking

said: I shall want 500,000 pounds, and I want it right away."

Mr. Archibald was amazed. Only his

British phlegm prevented him exhibit-ing his astonishment. Was this Amer-ican a new Monte Cristo!
"By right away, do you mean now?"

he managed to ask. "I mean in twenty-four hours; that

is what we call 'right away' in

"You will pardon me if I consult my partners--it is a good deal of money." Mr. Dupont admitted that it was a good deal of money and he took his hat.

"By the way, when you send word to my hotel, ask for 'Mr. Jones.' I am registered under that name."

Before he was out or bed the next morning Mr. Archibald called. The Barings would let Mr. Dupont have the

Mr. Dupont now had money to burn (this is not altogether slang) and he set out to buy saltpetre. He proposed to buy only the large lots, but to buy them all. He went first to Liverpool, and found the saltpetre in the hands of four dealers. He was a "Mr. Jones," who wanted some saltpetre.

He bought the stock of all the dealers

and each man hugged himself with deuntil he discovered that there was none in the market, and the price had advanced; therefore, the balance of his days, he cursed the tricky Yankee.

This great supply of saltpetre bought the next thing was to hire ships carry it to America. He found Ameri can vessels in Liverpool which would undertake to transport it, a matter of some risk, for saltpetre was contraband

The loading began; everything moved slowly. Mr. Dupont was exasperated at the tedious delays, for all the means of transportation moved deliberately in England. At last the vessels were ready and he informed the harbor master that the ships would sail at high tide that evening. The harbor master found it impossible to have the napper ready. impossible to have the papers ready-it would take two or three days. There was red tape here and red tape there. Mr. Dupont was now in a fever of im-patience. Every hour increased the danger of the government finding out that all the saltpetre in England was about to go over the sea; another day's delay and the ships might not sail at

all. He pressed the harbor masitre on clearance papers. The polite offi-explained that it would cost him estion if it was known that he had

And how rouch is your position "Three hundred pounds a year."

Mr. Dupont looked at the harbor master attentively; he was a man of ver sixty years. 'Then he put his hands n his pockets and looked out the office w, which bristled with masts of all nations. Now Mr. Dupont knew his Dumas well, and at that moment he was turning over in his mind the meth-od the Count of Monte Cristo used to rid a garden of dormice which ate his

"I should like to draw a check for three thousand pounds in exchange for the papers," he said. The ships sailed on the next tide.

When Mr. Duront reported to the secretary of war there was a love feast in the office of the war department. After the congratulations were over the secretary said:

"How much do we owe you, Mr. Du-pont?" The powder maker named the amount

of his expenses, to which he added \$15,-000 to the harber master. "But what charge do you make for your services in the negotiation? Then this Franco-American, who might have demanded a princely sum for his extraordinary services, bowed

to the secretary and replied: "I have had the distinguished honor of helping the government; I wish nothing further."

There is a sequel to this story. When There is a sequel to this story. When the war was over, Mr. Dupont, realizing the tremendous risk run by the government in relying upon native saltpetre, set himself to inventing an artificial substitute, and hereafter, with mountains of nitrate of soda in Chiii, and potash everywhere, the United States will never be in such straits

again.

In 1884 this distinguished powder maker fell a victim to his enthusiasm for his business and while experimenting with high explosives, was kitled in an explosion.--New York Trib-

HARDTACK BETTER THAN BREAD. Army Food Which improves Upon Close Acquaintance.

Acquaintance.

"One of the queerest things about new troops is the prejudice against army crackers," said the major, as he recalled some happenings of the civil war, "but they am get over it in time and come to understand that the soldler's stomach has no standby like hardtack. Our company had this ten-derfoot notion that fresh or dry bread is better than crackers for soldiers on for march. On one occasion we load-ed up with bread to last for three days. The second day most of it was sour, and the third day it was worse. Before we returned to camp we were crazy for crackers, and we never went back on them after that.

'We learned to appreciate hardtack in the forced march from southern
Tennessee to Louisville in 1862. Regular rations ran out and flour was issued instead of crackers. This didn't
seem objectionable at first, but when
we had to march all day and got our rations of flour at midnight, with orders to move at 3 a. m., the heavy
swearers came into action. There was
no time to cook even flapjacks or sinkcrs, and if you attempted to carry flour
in the rain you came out at night with a bag of paste. A cast iron stomach could not stand such messes as the soldiers made of the flour. They made dough and baked or half baked it in ashes or on dirty hot stones, and ate so-called biscuits, with the soft, un-baked centers burning lips and throats, and, after they were swallowed, lying like lumps of lead in not overstrong stomachs. The whole division cheered like wild men when we struck the cracker line at West Point, on the Ohio."—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

After Long Years.

"Do you remember," said Miss Ancient Oldgirl to Col. Crabtree, "how when you were a young man you proposed to me and I rejected you?"

"It is one of the happiest recollections of my life," said the Colonel with

an air of gallantry. And Miss Oldgirl is still wondering.—Puck.

THE SONG OF THE BULLET.

I peacefully slumbered a thousand years, A thousand years and more,
The conturies, with noiseless tread,
Marched past my chamber door,
And grassos grew and flowers bloomed
At my threshold, year by year,
At peace withfed and man were we
And nothing knew of fear.

A rude awakening came one day, One day in the long ago, When the awful fire of hate had set The heart of man aglow, Of misery and death. Woe was in my cursed voice, And evil in my breath,

And evil in my preasu.

Over the land and over the sea.

A frantic thing, if y.

Courageous men grow faint with fear.

Whea they hear my vengeful cry,

And women list, with anguished hearts,

To the dreadful song I sing;

For tidings of death and ravished love

To their tortured ears I bring.

To their tortured ears I bring.



The Tiger—I've been chasing a missionary for ten miles. Have you seen anything of him?

The Lion—He fust stepped inside.

OBSERVATIONS

Oak Grove is very popular for holding family picnics. Nearly every day, if you chance to pass by you can see families preparing to take their dinner under the shade. But in the face of all its popularity, it is certainly not the pice. Clean appearing grove of the nice, clean appearing grove of former years, and the many conven-iences for the comfort and enjoyment of pleasure seekers have gone to ruin. Seats and tables have been broken down, swings destroyed, and the sur-roundings in general show the effects of the howling gang of young men and boys who make the grove a rendezvous to carry on their gambling games, and other ungentlemanly conduct.

The captive Spanish officers are at Annapolis, where every kindness is being shown them by the authorities and the public. Captain Eulate, of the Vizcaya, is reported crazy. He is also reported to have shot 40 members of his crew, for deserting their guns under fire. His ship visited New York before the outbreak of hew York before the outbreak of hostilities and when he sailed away he made a courtly Spanish bow and said: "I go, but I shall return. Until then, farewell." The circumstances surrounding his second visit are not exactly what he had anticipated, and he has probably learned something about the Solder trick of the thing about the American navy. thing about the Schley tricks of the

A Maine soldier writes home that an Arkansas guard was chinning the Maine sentry, who was pacing his parallel beat. "S'near as I can see, there ain't much difference atween we uns and you uns, 'cept that we uns reckon and you uns guess." "That's abeut all, neignbor," replied the Maine man, "'cept that we can guess a darn site better than you can

An authority states that there are eight classes of people who are a detriment to a town; First, those who go out of town to do their trading. Second, those who oppose improvements. Third, those who prefer a quiet town to one of push and business. Fourth, to those who think they can do business slyly and without advertising. Fifth, those who de ride public spirited men. Seventh those who oppose any public enter-prise that does not appear to benefit them. Eighth, those who seek to injure the credit of any individual.

Men, women and children who are troubled with sores, humors, pimples, etc., may find permanent relief in Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Our Tiny Pacific Islands. Some We Have Owned Since 1857 and Still Uninhabited.

How many persons know that the United States has possessions in the South Pacific that might be used as a coaling stations in our campaign against the Philippines? asks the New York Herald. Did you ever hear of Baker Island, or Howland Island? It's a thousand chances to one that you never did, but they have been

United States possessions since 1857
It has been suggested that these tiny islands might come in handy just at this time, pending the annexation of Hawaii. They have never before assumed the slightest degree of imof Hawaii. portance, and even now the officials of the war department at Washington are not inclined to believe that they can be put to a practical use, excep in case of the most dire necessity.

Still, that emergency might possibly arise, and these desolate spots upon a still more desolate sea may yet serve a purpose heretofore undreamed of. The exact location of Baker Island, to be accurate it latitude. to be accurate, is latitude 13 minutes 30 seconds north, longitude 176 de grees 29 minutes 30 seconds west. Howland lies two or three miles to

Neither island is inhabited, except by sea fowl and a multitude of half starved, vicious rats. The latter do not hesitate to attack a human being. not hesitate to attack a numan being. At certain times of the year the islands are visited by vessels, which load with guano, which abounds in great quantities. What little vegetation there is is coarse and scanty.

Baker island has no fresh water,

but on Howland island are severa pools of brackish water, supposed to be partially freshened by distillation from the sea. The anchorage is said to be very unsafe. The former island boasts a movable wharf. It is quite impossible for vessels to load between

November and April.

Howland island is two miles long and half a mile wide. Baker island is one mile long and three-quarters of a mile wide. Aside from the fact that they are out of the usual sailing course, it would seem that the island would possess little value as a base of war supplies. But still there is some satisfaction in knowing that they are there, and that they belong to our government. The time may come when, insignificant as they now ap-pear, we may be glad of their exist-

NIAGARA FALLS

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The Pennsylvania Railroad Com-pany has selected the following dates pany has selected the following dates for its popular ten-day excursions to Niagara Falls from Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington: July 21, August 4 and 18, and September 1, 15, and 29. An experienced tour ist agent and chaperon will accompany each excursion.

Excursion tickets, good for return passage on any regular train, exclusive of limited express trains, within ten days, will be sold at \$10 from Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, and all points on the Delaware Division; \$9.60 from Lancaster; \$8.50 from Altoona and Harrisburg; \$6.90 from Sunbury and Wilkes-Barre \$5.75 from Williamsport; and at pro portionate rates from other points. A stop-over will be allowed at Buffalo, Rochester, and Watkins returning.

A special train of Pullman parlor cars and day coaches will be run with

each excursion.

Tickets for a side trip to the Thousand Islands (Alexandria Bay) will be sold from Rochester, good to return to Rochester or to Canandaigua via Syracuse within five days, at rate or \$5.50.

For time of connecting trains and further information apply to nearest ticket agent, or address Geo. W. Boyd, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Broad Street Station, Philadelphia. 7-7-6t.

Schedule of Trains to Eaglesmere.

Train on P. & R. leaving Blooms urg at 7.30 a. m. connects at Halls at 10.23, reaching Eaglesmere at

Train leaving Bloomsburg at 3.40 p. m. connects at Halls at 5.25 p. p. m. connects at Hans at 7. m., reaching Eaglesmere at 7. tf p. m.

Jurors for September Court.

CRAND JURORS.

CRAND JURORS.

Bernick—Fred Chrisman.

Bloom—E. F. Dietterick, William Kramer,
Edward Myers, J. H. Mercer, Charles
Quick, Joseph Witts, Thos. E. Wildsmith.
Briarcreek—Charlie Martz.
Catawissa broo.—I. G. Ervin.
Catawissa twp.—W. H. Roberts.
Centralia boro.—James Recce,
Centre—John Scott. Centralia boro.—James Recce,
Centre—John Scott,
Conyngham—John Frash, Wm. Riley,
Fishingcreek—Henry S. Hummel, O. S.
McHenry, O. S. Pealer,
Millville boro.—Frank Stadler,
Orange—Harrison Brenner,
Pine—William Swartz.
Scott—J. E. White,
Sugarloaf—I A. Ruckle,

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Benton twp.—Bruce Åsh.
Berwick—Chas. Haas, Miles Marteeny, Geo.
S. Mooney.
Bloom—W. B. Allen, Frank Derr, Wm.
Dentler, Edward Gerringer, Wm. Herbine,
B. F. Hicks, Frank Knorr, Jas. Magee 1st,
J. B. MeHenry, Wm. Pugh J. M. Walter.
Briarcreek—George W. Miller.
Catawissa boro.—Charles Brown, John R.
Deemer, Harrp M. Hamlin.
Centralia boro.—John B. Laughlin, Mike
Maddon, Robert White, Jr.
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Greenwood—George W. Derr.
Jackson—John Savage, J. H. Shultz.

man.
Greenwood.—George W. Derr.
Jackson.—John Savage, J. H. Shultz.
Madison.—Howard Greenly. Thomas Kinlin,
George Mausteller.
Main.—C. F. Hartzell.
Millville boro.—V. P. Eves, Alfred Hunter,
Labe Vicenter.

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TRAVERSE JURORS, SECOND WEEK. Beaver-John Clingerman. Benton boro.-H. O. McHenry.

Benton boro,—H. Ö. McHenry.
Benton twp.—R. M. Shultz.
Berwick.—James W. Basom, MacCrea Evans,
H. C. Laubach.
Bloom—A. H. Corell, George W. Hartzel,
B. Fred Hartman, Jacob Stiner, E. J.
Stetler, C. M. Terwilliger.
Briarcreek.—Samuel Rinard, Alfred Stiner,
Catawissa boro.—Jas. A. Guy, Chas. Heist.
Centralia boro.—James J. Colihan, Robt. P.
Farrel.

Farrel.
Greenwood—Lewis Robbins,
Hemlock—John Moore, Barton Purcel.
Jackson—Earl Derr Michael Hartman.
Locust—Daniel Knorr.
Madison—Latimer Whipple.
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