

VENEZUELA.

SOME TIMELY AND INTERESTING INFORMATION.

Condensed Facts About the South American Republic—Its People Government and Resources.

Venezuela is in the extreme northern part of South America, directly facing the Caribbean Sea. To the West of it is the Republic of Colombia, to the South is Brazil, to the East are the territorial possessions of three European governments combined under the geographical name of Guiana. The furthest away from Venezuela is French Guiana, a territory of 46,000 square miles and 25,000 population, the chief city of which is Cayenne, whence comes the pepper, and to which French criminals convicted of serious offenses are transported. Next nearest to Venezuela, but not touching it at any point, is Dutch Guiana, a territory of almost exactly the same size as the French colony, but having a population twice as large. Paramaribo is the chief town. Next, and adjacent to Venezuela, is British Guiana, the size of which is in dispute.

The area of Venezuela is 632,000 square miles, larger than that of any country in Europe except Russia, and larger than that of any State in the United States. The area of Texas is 265,000 square miles.

The population of Venezuela by the last census was 2,550,000. This is more than Denmark's and less than Switzerland's. It is about the same as that of Massachusetts. The last official estimate of the population of Massachusetts, made on Jan. 1, 1894, was 2,472,000. By the federal census of five years ago the population of Massachusetts was 2,238,000.

Caracas, the capital and chief city of Venezuela, has a population of 70,000, or less than that of Fall River. It is built on an elevation of 7,000 feet above the sea level. It was founded in 1567. Caracas is an Indian name—the name of the Indians of the neighborhood which the Spanish pioneers affixed to the original title of the new town, Santiago de Leon. In 1812, the year of the latest American war with Great Britain, an earthquake in Caracas buried 12,000 persons in the ruins of a part of the city. The date of this earthquake was March 23.

There are 200,000,000 acres of forest lands in the Republic of Venezuela. Rosewood, satinwood, mahogany, and white and black ebony are found.

The distance from New York to La Guayra, the port of Caracas, is 2,200 miles. In addition to coffee, gold, and fine woods, Venezuela exports hides, cocoa and cattle. The distance from La Guayra to London is nearly 5,000 miles.

The salary of the American minister to Venezuela is \$7,500. The rank of Venezuela's representative at Washington is that of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary. Although Venezuela has been for many years a republic its official representatives are profound believers in a conventional observance of official etiquette. A considerable number of diplomatic disputes have taken place between the Venezuela State Department and the representatives of various foreign governments over details of routine and usage.

On the North shore of Venezuela, or rather to the north of that republic, are several islands of greater fame than large area, particularly the island of Curacao, a Dutch possession; the island of Trinidad, a British possession; the island of Tortuga, and the British Isle of St. George.

Some of the most picturesque and loquacious parrots and lively cockatoos come from Venezuela.

The length of Venezuela from East to West is 900 miles, and from north to south 775 miles.

There are fourteen varieties of monkeys in Venezuela and no cuckoos. The name Venezuela means Little Venice.

The coffee crop of Venezuela amounts to \$15,000,000 a year in value. The average crop is 60,000 tons of coffee. Two-thirds of this product is exported, mostly to England. Maracibo is one of the centers of trade; Maracibo coffee is known everywhere.

Venezuela first made declaration of its independence in 1810. The present republic was formed in 1830, in the same year that Belgium became an independent monarchy. The rival political factions in Venezuela are the Unionists and the Federalists. The former favor a centralized government, the latter are for home rule. Both are opposed to foreign invasion, encroachment or confiscation.

The army of Venezuela, on a peace footing, consists of 1,000 horsemen, 4,000 infantry soldiers, and 1,000 artillerymen, exclusive of the local militia, and irregular troops. By the law of Venezuela all citizens between the ages of 18 and 45 (both inclusive) are liable to service in the national militia.

The average gold product of Venezuela in a year is \$1,000,000. The standard of value in the Republic of Venezuela is the bolivar, so called after Simon Bolivar—and the value of it is the same as a French franc—19.3 cents. Venezuela does not produce silver. Much of the foreign debt is held in England. The exports of Venezuela exceed the imports by \$3,000,000 a year.

There are more than two hundred lakes within the boundaries of Venezuela, one of the largest being 1,600 feet above the level of the sea. The Orinoco river, the largest in Venezuela, is 1,100 miles long. It is five times as long as the Hudson river, but less than one-third the length of the Amazon, and less than one-half the length of the Mississippi. The roads of Venezuela are inferior. Communication is difficult. The Government, however, has expended large sums of money

for the improvement of the approaches to some of the larger towns. There are twenty States in Venezuela, the official division being based on the Constitution of the United States. There is also a Federal district, corresponding to the District of Columbia, and there are several outlying territories.

The mineral products of Venezuela, in addition to gold which English speculators are seeking by summary annexation of Venezuela territory to the British possessions, are iron, zinc, cobalt, silver, lead, tin and antimony. There are also extensive products of salt, alum, lime, sulphur and asphaltum.

The summer season in Venezuela lasts from November to April. The winter season lasts from April to November. The climate of the temperate part of the country is the finest in South America, the most equable, and the most salubrious, outside of Peru. The women of Venezuela are of the Spanish type, and are celebrated for their beauty. The language of the country is Spanish; no language is sweeter. About 45,000,000 persons altogether speak Spanish as their native language, a majority of them living in South and Central America.

Venezuela imports from the United States in a year about \$4,100,000 worth of goods, chiefly manufactured articles. From Great Britain it imports \$3,800,000, from Germany \$2,100,000, from France \$2,000,000, and from Spain \$200,000. This is the country from which Venezuela imports most, and this is the country to which Venezuela exports most. Venezuela's exports to the United States average \$12,000,000, to France \$7,000,000, to England \$2,100,000, and to Germany and Spain \$600,000 each.

The debt of Venezuela at the time of the last computation was \$22,000,000, or about one-fifth of the present debt of New York City. The debt of Venezuela was \$11 per capita. In the United States the per capita debt is \$14, in England \$87, and in France \$110.

The Life of a Salmon.

Entering rivers to spawn, going down to the sea, and re-entering the rivers, constitutes, shortly, the life history of the salmon. Speaking generally, it feeds but little in fresh water, and loses weight; in the sea it feeds ravenously, and increases at a most remarkable rate. One British-killed salmon has attained to seventy pounds in weight and four and a half feet in length. This fish was taken in the Tay, and a cast of it is now in the Buckland Museum. Although this was a monster fish, almost without precedent, yet forty-pound salmon are not at all uncommon. In rivers the food of the salmon consists mainly of ephemerae and their larvae, worms, and the spawn and fry of various fresh-water fishes. In the sea its food is more varied and abundant. Salmon are invariably found in the proximity of shrimp grounds, and they devour enormous quantities of sand eels. That, however, upon which they must depend for sustenance is the myriad fry of the coarser sea fish. Of course, it is difficult to follow the fish in its migrations in salt water; but, from several sources, hints may be had of its wanderings.

Salmon seem to swim in the sea in comparatively small droves, probably of from twenty to a hundred; and it is certain that they are much given to hugging the coast line. They stay long on banks or in channels where favorite food is to be had, and are only driven off by receding tides. In spring and summer they do not inhabit deep water, but keep more to the banks, usually in only a few fathoms of water. At this time the sand-lance is much fed upon, as is the sea urchin; and his assertion stands almost alone—that the salmon's food chiefly consists of a numerous class of small creatures (Entomostracous crustacea) found in semi-solid masses upon the surface of deep water; in short, that the salmon swims in a species of animal soup, in which it has merely to open its mouth and swallow what enters it.

Big California People.

California's tall men have been hunted up by the San Francisco Examiner, and the result shows that there are a notable number of unusually tall people in that State of big things. Not a few tall women have been discovered, incidentally, in the hunt for big men. The picture and pedigree of the tallest man in each county are printed, and the showing is a handsome collection of big, brawny citizens.

The tallest man in the State lives in San Francisco. His name is Joe Jenkins. He was born in Oakland twenty years ago, and he is now 7 feet 4 inches tall. His parents and relatives are of average height.

Wiley Church, of Sonoma County, is only 17 years old; is already 7 feet and a quarter of an inch tall and is still growing. No other member of his family is above the average height. The next tallest man is Joseph W. Hyde, of Stockton, who is only half-an-inch under seven feet in height. He is only 23 years old, and may stretch out a little more yet. His father is more than six feet tall.

Has Laid 5,000 Eggs.

In one coop at the poultry show is a hen which bears the world's record for length of days and ability to lay eggs. According to President Steinmensch, this speckled Plymouth Rock is fourteen years old, and has laid for nearly fourteen years. "Old Immortal," as she is called, has contributed about 5,000 eggs to the world's supply. "We have nicknamed her 'Immortal,'" remarked Mr. Steinmensch, "because her son never sets."

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The San Francisco Call says that there is no State in the Union save California that can celebrate her Christmas holidays with an ice palace festival in one place and a picnic amid blossoms in another.

"Bear's oil," so long and favorably known as beneficial in promoting the growth of the hair, and as improving its appearance, is now very seldom genuine, as all kinds of bland oils, vegetable and animal, have been used under that name, and generally with benefit to the user, as the genuine oil is scarce, and soon becomes rancid.

Reports from Alaska show that many rich finds are being made in the northern gold fields by small miners. As a result many of the miners will winter there in order to begin prospecting early in the spring. Many have hardly enough to eat to keep them alive, but they are determined to brave all for the chance of making a fortune.

It is not often, even in England, that three generations of one family sit in Parliament at the same time. This is the case, however, with one family, since Lord Warkworth was chosen to represent the South Kensington (London) District in the House of Commons. His grandfather, the Earl of Northumberland, now eighty-five years old, is naturally a member of the House of Lords, while his father, Lord Percy, represents the Berwick District in the House of Commons. Lord Warkworth is only twenty-four years old.

The bounding West is pushing along toward fame. "Owney," the post-alterer's pet dog, is a four-legged advertiser of the enterprise of Tacoma. The distance between this city and the "metropolis" of the State of Washington is all that remains to be completed of his journey around the world. It is possible that the citizens of that pushing village by the Pacific are so busy hunting wealth that they have neither time nor inclination to visit the outside world and send their dogs out as representatives of the Pacific slope idea. "Get there, somehow, but get there!"

A corporation has just been formed in Los Angeles, Cal., for the purpose of exploiting the gold fields which are said to exist in the sand along certain portions of the shore of the ocean between Redondo and Santa Monica. The corporation has a lease on a mile and a third frontage on the ocean, which it proposes to treat as soon as proper facilities in the way of machinery, etc., can be placed upon the grounds. Already, it is said, an analysis has been made, with the most promising results, and the company expects to develop an important mining industry.

The Chicago Telephone Company has introduced into its switch-board room, where a small army of "central" girls are employed, a new system of air supply that is very successful. The foul air of Chicago is first washed by forcing it through an artificial rainstorm. The water absorbs all the soot, dirt and micro-organisms in the air, leaving it pure as that of the mountains. The washed air is then dried, heated and forced into the closed room, and the entire air supply is renewed every three minutes. The filthy dregs left in the water by the air is a witness to the dirt that has to be breathed in by the average Chicagoans.

Reports of the Turkish massacres in Armenia during the past half year have often told how the Turkish women strove to incite the men to slaughter. In the New York Sun is printed a letter from the city of Alutab, about the November butchery of the Armenian Christians there, in which there was this painful passage: "What we heard was the indescribable roar of the mob, pierced by the sharp reports of guns, with now and then shrieks of agony or fear, and over all and most horrible of all the loud, shrill 'zulhakat,' very like the cry of our northern loons, prolonged and sharp-crisp, raised by the Turkish women crowded on the roofs and cheering on their men to the attack." Surely these women must be among the cruellest and worst of human wretches.

Robert Perry, a Chicago contractor, who has been spending two months in Johannesburg, South Africa, says: "I want to warn Americans to keep away from that part of the world. There is nothing to go there for. The climate is unhealthy, living is exorbitantly high, and the people who are there are almost in a starving condition. Natives do all the work in the mines, which are all owned by Barnato and Rhodes. The place is a desert where scarcely anything grows, and there is a water famine most of the time. Every imaginable thing is taxed heavily. Even Prebster's own paper has printed a warning to the world to keep away from the place. The people who have lived there ten or fifteen years are away behind the times. When I told them about the motorcycle and the kinetoscope, they thought I was telling fairy tales, and would not believe me."

Dr. Nathan Oppenheim writes in Babyhood: "Our usual method of re-buking and of punishing a child for falsehood is really as illogical as reproof for inability to draw, to play a musical instrument, to learn handwriting at a glance. A child should be blamed for lying only after tried and proved ability to recognize, discriminate, and tell the truth; in addition, only after it has been definitely decided that his physical and mental conditions are normal; after we feel sure that his environment has been so normal, sweet, and clear that every predisposing cause from this side has been removed; after we have eliminated all facts which could possibly act in the way of making subjective impressions of whatever intensity, which might lead the child to a misapprehension and misstatement of facts."

Miss Emma C. Sickles, who achieved considerable reputation for the courageous part she played in the Indian uprising at Pine Ridge Agency in 1890, has received a gold medal from a society in France, whose motto is "To save or to perish." Miss Sickles was a teacher in the Indian school at Pine Ridge Agency, and was well acquainted with all the Indians. When the uprising occurred in 1890 she volunteered her services as a mediator to the War Department. Secretary Proctor and General Schofield sanctioned her enterprise. She managed at great personal risk to get into the camp of the hostile Indians, and although the massacre of Wounded Knee took place, she has always maintained that by giving General Miles timely information of the intentions subsequent to that she averted a wholesale slaughter at the agency.

A Montana man who has just visited Cripple Creek says: "There are nearly 20,000 people there and it is difficult to get hotel accommodations. Mining men and people from all parts of the country are flocking there in great numbers. It's 'Cripple Creek, Cripple Creek' from one end of the State to the other. The people of Denver can talk of nothing else but Cripple Creek, and even in Omaha and the cities further east, the district is attracting genuine attention. The markets are flooded with Cripple Creek stocks. Like any other district, some of the properties are good, but most of them have really no claims. The ore, as you know, is rich, and fortunes are being taken out daily. The boom has inflated prices so that every man with a hole in the ground is holding his claim at fabulous prices. Cripple Creek is all right, but the present boom cannot last forever."

Statistics of the production and workings of the great Anaconda mines in Montana, not hitherto ascertainable, have been made public through the sale of nearly half the capital stock to Englishmen, and are given in the Engineering and Mining Journal. These copper mines are the largest in the world, the Rio Tinto in Spain ranking next, and those of the Calumet and Hecla, on Lake Superior, the third. The Anaconda mines have been sunk 1,200 feet and have more than 3,000,000 tons of copper ore in sight. They can yield 6,000 tons of fine copper per month. Besides the mines the plant includes a hotel, town properties, a railroad, sawmills, coke and electric plants, machine shops and the like; in all about \$15,500,000 in cash has been expended upon the property. Besides the copper, the Anaconda Company is the second largest producer in the world, ranking next to the Broken Hill mines, that metal being contained in the pig copper; the silver product of 1885 amounted to 5,500,000 ounces fine, with 22,000 ounces of gold. The profit on copper for the last six months has averaged 4 cents per pound. The output per year is estimated at 50,000 tons; at present prices for copper it is expected that in 1898 \$3,000,000 will be paid in dividends of 2½ per cent. on the 1,200,000 shares, leaving about \$1,000,000 of profits reserved for working capital. The report of the experts closes with these words: "The attractive features of the Anaconda are that it can now produce much more copper than any other company and at a smaller cost per ton," due to the silver and gold now recovered by improved processes. Altogether no one has before been able to learn what a really great mining property the Anaconda is.

A Terrible Scene.

Strohschneider, the famous STROKSCHNEIDER, the natives of Stockerau, near Vienna, by carrying a young bare-chested man on his back along a tight rope, eighty metres in length, fixed to the church steeple. A few days later flaming posters appeared on the walls announcing that Strohschneider would effect a balloon ascent in the company of Herr Pramper, the popular landlord of the White Rose.

Notwithstanding the fact that the police had forbidden the landlord, who has a large family, from taking part in the performance, nine had entered the enclosure at the appointed time, to the no small delight of the assembled multitude. At a given signal the balloon rose in the air, Strohschneider and the landlord sitting on the trapeze beneath. Some of the spectators declare that the latter turned as pale as a sheet during his upward flight, though he did not fail to wave his hat to the crowd. After reaching a dizzy height the two balloonists were observed to quarrel and actually come to blows.

All at once the landlord plunged headlong into space. A shout of horror arose from the spectators, who ran to the spot where they expected to find Pramper lying with broken limbs. What was their astonishment at discovering—not a corpse, but a lay figure dressed in one of the landlord's suits. The mannikin was conveyed to Stockerau in triumph.

A Tongue Twister.

Try it yourself, very slowly and carefully, until you can say it easily. Then pass it along to your friends. Here it is:

"She stood at the gate, welcoming him in."

Ten to one a person trying to pronounce the sentence for the first time will fumble it laughably. These tongue-twisting sentences, however, are good elocutionary exercises. They give you control of your vocal organs, so that you can enunciate properly, just as finger exercises on the piano or organ give control of the fingers.

What an immense amount of mechanical practice does it require to establish anything like a close sympathy between the brain and the physical organs.

AN UNDERGROUND SEA.

Myth About an Alleged Western Phenomenon.

"Stories about a great subterranean lake or sea beneath Nebraska, Kansas and a part of Indian Territory are going the rounds of the press," said Robert T. Hill, of the United States geological survey. "They are accompanied by details relating to the hot-tempered ponds occupying areas where patches of land have sunk and disappeared. Other reported phenomena supposed to be in the same connection are rearing wells in which water ebbs and flows.

"Such tales become current periodically. So far as the wells are concerned, they are based on fact. I myself have seen a number of wells in which the water rose and fell at intervals. This is not an uncommon phenomenon in parts of the West. It has a relation to changes of the barometer. When the barometer is high, the pressure of the atmosphere being greater, the water in such wells and springs stand at a low level. On the other hand, when the mercury in the glass is low, the diminished pressure permits the water to rise. The surface level varies from day to night, for the same reason.

"There are many phenomena connected with Western wells and springs which are calculated to excite the attention of the observer from the east. They are puzzling sometimes even to a scientific student. I have never seen a well that roared, but I know of no reason why such a thing may not happen. There are wells from which currents of air come up. Stories are told of magnetic wells, in the neighborhood of which the needle of the compass is affected. I never saw one, and no facts appear to support this peculiar yarn. Water is the most common substance in the world, and there is nothing about which so much humbug exists.

"The most remarkable well I have ever seen was on the old battlefield of Stone River, in Tennessee. A man digging for water struck an underground stream. He made the hole big enough to hold a water wheel. The stream ran the wheel and pumped water up to the owner's house. Underground streams, of course, are common enough. They are frequent in the limestone region of Texas, in the gypsum region of New Mexico, in the Appalachian region, and in the limestone region of Iowa and Missouri. The very fact that these streams are flowing shows that they are seeking a base level, and hence it is useless to try to tap them by artesian wells, because the water will not rise.

"There is no such thing in the world as an underground lake or sea. Nevertheless, such lakes have been created frequently by the imagination of hopeless settlers in the West. The truth in this matter was established years ago by the government engineers, who, under the direction of Colonel Nettleton, journeyed across the great plains of Kansas and Nebraska. They sounded every well they could find, studying the underground water. Of the fact that there was no underground sheet of water they made certain. The wells were like any other wells, the water coming from saturated rocks below the level of surface evaporation.

HIS PORTRAIT.

A New England Girl Put to Confusion.

She was a shrinking, timid blonde girl, in the first fluttering spring-time of her first engagement. She had been wooed and won by a stalwart young dry goods clerk. He, with the complacency of a man who had looked bolts of dress goods and rolls of gorgeous calicoes full in the face for years, had bent his haughty gaze on a camera one day. And the fluttering blonde girl was happy, for now she was carrying the portrait of her lover with her wherever she went.

Although riches was a small matter under the circumstances, she thought it wise to have a little pin money of her own, and she had begun to put money in the savings bank.

The other day she tripped into the particular bank she patronized, her bank book and several other little things in her hands, including the last paper-back novel, and a few patterns of velvet.

Several people were crowded around the cashier's window, but as they were all men, and she was pretty, they allowed her to get to the window first.

"How much?" asked the cashier, briskly, indeed rather too briskly for strict politeness.

"Three dollars," she answered, trying not to blush, as she saw that a red-headed man was taking a warm personal interest in her affairs.

"Three dollars? All right," said the cashier. He gathered in the three bills and the bank-note in its envelope with a flourish, sloshing around as ostentatiously as a butcher selling a "stuck steak."

As he pulled the book from the envelope there was a heartless grin on his hitherto blank face, and he rasped out to the shrinking blonde:

"I beg your pardon. This ain't the book."

The cashier was holding up, for the gaze of the red-headed man and others, the portrait of the man to whom the blonde had given her heart. She had slipped the portrait into the big envelope to keep it from the profane gaze of the world, and had handed it to that cashier by mistake.

The blonde is thinking of retiring to a convent, and the haughty young man at the dry goods store, innocent of what has abashed his fiancée, is spending all his salary on flowers and theatre tickets in the endeavor to overcome her settled melancholy.

THE JOKER'S BUDGET.

JESTS AND YARNS BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Properly Classified--Not Informed--Childish Ingenuity--Conditions of Happiness--Etc., Etc.

PROPERLY CLASSIFIED.

Old Dr. Grimshaw (to medical student)—And now remember that to a physician humanity is divided into two classes. Student—And what are they, doctor? Old Dr. Grimshaw—The poor whom his cures, and the rich, whom he doctors.

NOT INFORMED.

"Is your overcoat comfortable, Mac?" "I don't know. I haven't been from it since I hung it up."

CHILDISH INGENUITY.

Your youngest is struggling into his stockings. "See what you are doing," says his mamma. "You are putting your stocking on the wrong way." "I do it on purpose, mamma. I've got a hole on the other side."

CONDITIONS OF HAPPINESS.

Willey—I tell you, it's better in the end to be honest. Did you ever know a rogue who wasn't unhappy?

Shalley—No; but, then, one would hardly expect a rogue to be happy when he is known. It's rogues who are not known that are happy.

THE BEILING FASHION.

"Just think, Fraulein Rosalind, I was dreaming about you last night."

"Indeed! What dress did I have on?"

HAD WAITED ALSO.

Indignant Customer—Look here, I've been waiting here for the last half hour. Waiter—That's nothing. I've been waiting here for the last two years, and I ain't kicking about it, either.

ANOTHER MAN.

Benedict—Why don't she marry you? Is there another man in the case? Singleton—Yes; her father.

MUTUALLY SURPRISED.

She (looking at the clock)—Dear me! He (tenderly)—Are you surprised to find it so late?

She (yawning)—No. I am surprised to find that it is so early.

WILLIE SURPRISED.

Nurse—Willie, in your prayers you forgot to pray for grandmother's safety. Willie—Has she got a bicycle, too?

NOT QUITE AN EXPERT.

Johnson—How are you getting along with your bicycle riding? Jackson—First-class; I can do everything except chew gum.

POSSIBLE EXPLANATION.

"The worst tyrant possible is a liberated slave." "Er—yes. I guess that's the reason so many devoted lovers make such horrid husbands."

THE COUNTRY NEEDS IT.

Bobby—Popper, what do they have to have a man to pray for Congress for? Mr. Ferry—They don't. He takes a look at Congress and then prays for the country.

BETTER TO BUY BLACKING WITH.

"Remember that politeness always pays, my boy," said the benevolent old gentleman to the bookbinder.

"Mebbe," replied the practical boy, "but I'd rather have a nickel than a 'thank ye' for blacking shoes."

CLEARLY EXPLAINED.

Diner (excitedly)—Here, waiter, there's not a single oyster in this entire tureen of oyster soup.

Waiter (politely)—Yes, m'sieu, but m'sieu must remember that he only ordered a half portion. The oysters are in the other half.

KNEW THE ANSWER.

Teacher—When the wise men came to the king, what did they say?

Boy—They said, "Oh, king, live forever!"

Teacher—Quite right; and what then?

Boy—And immediately the king lived forever.

WHY HE OBJECTED.

"What were you arguing so violently about with Smithers, Professor?"

"I called me a blooming jackass."

"You ought to have knocked him down."

"Oh, I didn't mind it personally. It was the unscientific nature of his statement that annoyed me."

EXIT FOR BUSINESS.

He—I adore you. I love you madly. I cannot live without—

She—Pardon me, Mr. Arden; I'll put your name on the waiting list, if you wish, and will consider your proposal in due order unless it is withdrawn before it is reached.

FEMINE TASTE.

Old Graybeard—It's a pity to keep such a pretty bird in a cage.

Mrs. De Style—Isn't it a shame! How perfectly exquisitely lovely it would look on a hat.

Drill Day at Life-Saving Stations.

On Tuesdays there is boat practice; this consists in hauling the boat scurrying to the beach, unloading, lashing her, and pulling out through the surf—backing, turning or doing just what the keeper commands, he steering the boat. After practice, the boat is put on the carriage, hauled back to the boat-house, cleaned and left in perfect order. Wednesday is signal-drill day. There is an international code of signals, composed of flags representing the different letters of the alphabet. Each surfman has a set of miniature flags, and he signals to the keeper, who answers them with his flags—so any man at the station can read a message from a wrecked ship. All the principal maritime nations have adopted this code, and as vessels are provided with flags, and books containing the key to different signals, printed in many languages, communication between vessels and stations can be easily carried on, whatever the ship's nationality.