

The historical works relating to the American Civil War already exceed 6000 volumes.

Efforts are being made in the courts to have electricity considered as a manufactured article.

The cattle industry of the United States represents the immense capital of \$1,200,000,000.

A shoemaker named John Ryan, of Joliet, Ill., has won the international prize of \$500 offered by a boot and shoe journal of Boston for the best essay on boot and shoemaking in all its branches. Every State in the Union contested for the prize, also Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia.

An official inspection of Russian prisons has revealed a sad state of overcrowding. In one prison in the Caucasus designed to accommodate eighty prisoners no less than 300 are huddled. It is said that the chief cause of the annual increase of convictions is the widespread drunkenness which now obtains in the village communes, and is demoralizing and impoverishing the peasantry.

The noted Philadelphia street-car syndicate, which now owns many street car lines in Chicago and other cities, has just purchased the Citizens' and People's lines of Baltimore, and has its agents out through the country looking for fresh investments in the same line. The Philadelphia syndicate is composed for the most part of retired politicians. The Traction Company, as it is known, controls 150 miles of street railway in Philadelphia alone.

Electric lighting has had a marvellous growth in this country. President Duncan's address to the recent National Electric Light Association contained the statement that one year ago there were 4000 plants in the United States; these now number nearly 6000. One year ago there were 175,000 arc lamps in use; there are now 219,924. One year ago there were 1,750,000 incandescent lamps in use; at the present time there are over 2,500,000—forty-nine per cent. increase.

Says the Atlanta Constitution: "There are many queer devices for inducing sleep. Many believe that we should always lie down with our heads pointing due north. Some use a hop pillow. Another way is for a man to breathe through his nostrils, and imagine that he sees every breath. This is very like hypnotism. The sensible way is to have regular temperate habits and not excite the brain. Great soldiers like Napoleon, and Wellington put themselves to sleep merely by exercising their will power. They could sleep at all times and under all circumstances, and wake up when they pleased."

The New York Sun says: A new era in the South's iron and steel history is marked by the organization of English companies, composed of the leading iron and steel makers of Great Britain, to build extensive steel and iron works, including four furnaces, a steel rail-mill, rolling mill, etc., at a new town at Cumberland Gap, on the dividing line between Tennessee and Kentucky. The name of the town is to be Middlesboro, Ky., and for over a year the work of buying mineral lands, preparing railroad connections, etc., has been vigorously pushed by the American Association (limited), which is the name of the parent company. Over \$4,000,000 in cash have already been paid out, and upward of 60,000 acres of mineral lands purchased and over \$7,000,000 more have been pledged for new enterprises.

The interesting fact appears to be now well established that petroleum-producing strata do not always belong to the same geological period. Thus, in Kentucky and Tennessee, the petroleum is furnished by the lower silurian stratum, that is, by the most ancient stratified rocks; in Upper Canada it is found in the lower Devonian, and in Pennsylvania in the upper Devonian. The springs of western Virginia flow from the upper carboniferous strata; in Connecticut and North Carolina coal oil is found in the trias; in Colorado and Utah in the lignites of the cretaceous formation, while the oil-producing regions of California belong to the tertiary period. It is stated as a remarkable fact that most of the deposits of the ancient world exist in comparatively recent tertiary formations, as, for instance, those of the oil-impregnated sands of Alsace, of the south of France, and of Abruzzo and Emilia, in Italy. There are numerous deposits in Galicia and the Danubian provinces similarly placed, while the strata that contain those of the Crimea, the Caucasus, and the island of Taman are of nearly the same geological epoch. Another fact stated is that the oils coming from the greatest depth prove to be of the best quality, those produced from nearer the surface of the earth seeming to have lost some of their volatile elements.

TRAINING ANIMALS.

THE ART OF TEACHING DUMB BRUTES FOR THE ARENA.

The Zebra Hardest to Train—Hogs are Highly Intelligent—Animals Vary in Disposition as Well as Men.

Charley White, the veteran animal trainer, entered the lion's cage at the tender age of fifteen and handled the king of beasts as he would a tame kitten. For forty-five years, says David Wechsler in the Brooklyn Citizen, he has done nothing else but train animals for the arena. His right shoulder is shrunk on account of an attempt by a big African lion to make an early breakfast off him. He has a theory that any animal can be trained if more or less time is expended in the work. "Some animals are ruled by fear and others by affection.

"I once trained a laughing hyena, but it was a dangerous undertaking. The repertoire of these beasts is necessarily limited and the result is not worth the trouble it gives. But of all contrary and thick headed animals, the zebra takes the provender.

"The mule is wise and docile compared to the zebra. I can teach a mule and obtain a perfect mastery over it, but the zebra has an indomitable spirit that is in open revolt all the time. It would require the assistance of a strong derrick to get one of these black striped quadrupeds to do one half the tricks of a horse. Beside it is lazier than the mule, and capricious as the wind. They are not intelligent enough to be taught many tricks, and their stubborn fits makes them too uncertain for every-day performances. A mule has a very good memory, but a zebra is incapable of remembering anything. The horse is the most intelligent of all animals of the equine breed, yet it takes from six to eight months to teach one thoroughly in what we call the high school of Spanish trotters. Some horses are naturally more intelligent than others, and on that their progress depends more or less. It is often difficult to train a horse to perform with an animal of a different species. A little pony and a baby elephant are often taught to perform together, but no one has ever seen a grown horse and a large elephant trained to do tricks together. I have been training a horse and elephant together for many months and intend to bring them out next season. One of the most difficult things for me to get the horse to do is to lie down and let the elephant walk over him. The elephant does not mind it, but the horse is frightened and has no confidence in the mastodon. It will take months of constant practice to make the horse feel secure whenever the elephant walks over him.

"Nearly every species of the animal creation has been tried by experienced trainers and educated as much as possible in the art of doing tricks. In Germany especially, there are men who devote their lives to teaching and experimenting with animals. The big gorilla monkey, supposed to be Darwin's missing link, although ferocious and uncertain in temper, has been taught to perform. There are some animals, and amphibians, that are never taught, such as the giraffe, the hippopotamus and others that are too ungainly and awkward in their movements. The antelope and chamois have been captured and put through a curriculum of study that would educate a dozen horses or elephants without having any effect upon them whatever. It is the absence of intelligence and not stubbornness that makes it almost impossible to train them. There are few training schools for animals in America, the very place where they ought to be taught."

"Is there any secret in the art of training animals?"

"None whatever. Every trainer has his method and a natural aptitude for handling animals. Perseverance and patience can accomplish more in training dumb creatures than anything else. Hogs are very intelligent compared to other animals, but dear me! it requires patience to train them. There are certain cues by which they are taught. These cues are a series of motions on the part of the trainer which can be understood. I remember that when I first saw a hog pick out cards, and work sums in arithmetic by selecting the answer on a card, I was astonished. Very soon I saw that the hog was guided in everything it did by its master's movements. Now the hog has become an acrobat, jumps hurdles, rides and tumbles in the most approved style. The steer is not so easy to teach. I have two Devons now that are highly educated, but it took me months to do it. Their memories are defective. Once I taught a fine steer to go over a ladder one way and come back another. For two hours one day I tried to get him to do the ladder act, but it was impossible. I did everything. I got pulleys and hoisted him over, but it did no good; the bovine's mind could not grasp the situation, and I failed. Then I gave it up, sat down on the ring curbstone and gazed in despair upon the stupid steer. All at

once, like a flash, he mounted the stairs, went over and came back. At present I am waiting daily in the ring with a bear and a performing goat. The bear is a nervous animal and cannot be tampered with too much. They have intelligence to know their master and to remember the tricks they have to do. Bruin is not to be trusted, though, any more than a monkey, and for that reason I have to keep a chain about his neck while he is performing. The cerebral action of a monkey is as quick as that of a man, and a bear, I think, comes next."

"Do you think any animal can be trained if properly handled?"

"No. There are some dogs and horses that can never be taught anything. Some men can learn easily, while others are utterly stupid, and so it is with animals. I have had fine looking lions and tigers that could not be taught a single trick. They could not learn, for it was not in them. Then I have selected a scrawny, watery-eyed, fierce-looking lion and taught him without any trouble. I have long held that no species of animal is harder to teach than another.

"Now the goat is obstreperous and seemingly hard to train, but constant practice will make him a fine performer. Goats have excellent ideas of how to do a thing when once taught. Often they attempt to shirk their tricks by pretending to forget, and I dare say they do frequently forget. But where the trick is performed with the trainer a well educated goat will seldom forget his part. For instance, the moment I stoop over, as if I were getting ready for some one to jump leap frog fashion over me the goat knows that he has to jump on my back, and he does not hesitate. Then when I begin to stand up the animal knows that he is required to climb upon my head, and in a twinkling his four feet are planted securely on the top of my cranium. When I begin to lower my head that is a signal for him to leap to the floor. You might say that all training is objective, that is, not so much a process of reasoning on the part of the animal, but merely a mechanical obedience guided by the intelligence of sight."

New Jersey's Prehistoric Freaks.

The annual pilgrimage of George H. Cook, of New Brunswick, N. J., State Geologist of New Jersey, through the rocky regions of that State, has resulted this year in the discovery of many valuable fossil specimens in large deposits of sandstone. Footprints of an extinct species of beast and bird have been discovered embedded in the stone, which Geologist Cook says was once as soft as clay. The red sandstone area has been found to extend over a vast section of the State and the stone is very valuable.

After boring in several places the geologist estimated the sandstone deposit to be fully 13,500 feet thick. He bored 2135 feet without passing through the stone. The clear and distinct traces of animal life were found in the deposit. Impressions of leaves and perfect fishes were very plentiful, and limbs of small trees had become a part of the deposit. A rare find was the small branch of a tree with three perfect sprouts and one whole leaf.

Near a quarry at Belleville two skeletons of an animal greatly resembling the horned toad were found. Slate deposits run nearer the surface and above the sandstone west of Morristown, and from its appearance there must have been an oily vegetation in its vicinity in past ages, as the slate cuts like half baked clay and leaves an oily stain upon the hand.

Fine specimens of flagging have been taken from the sandstone near Milford. One specimen, distinctly outlined, are the footprints of a reptile. The stone is reddish brown and as hard as blue curbstone.

Along the Washington Valley and near the banks of the Rockaway River, at Boonton, petrified fishes have been found. These rare fossil specimens will soon be added to the valuable collections at Geological Hall, New Brunswick, where there is a stone, found near Freehold, on which is the impress of prehistoric man's foot.—New York Herald.

A Quivering Tree.

In front of Macedonia Church, in Columbia County, Ga., is a quivering tree. Years ago, the negroes of the neighborhood say, a murder was done under its branches. Two men had accompanied a woman to church, and after she had entered the edifice they quarreled about her, and one cut the other to death. The murderer escaped, and ever since every limb, large and small, on the tree trembles as if in fear, or as a suffering animal would quiver. This occurs when not a breath of air is stirring. No negro in Columbia County can be induced to pass the so-called haunted spot alone at night. Prominent gentlemen say they have noticed the phenomenon, but no explanation of it has ever been volunteered.—Chicago Herald.

Thirteen railroads concentrate at Chattanooga, Tenn. It has over 200 manufacturing establishments.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

Electric lighting on man-of-war ships is so great a success that it is now considered no such ship is complete without it.

The first submarine cable manufactory was started in Italy two years ago; now it has an output of 10,000 metres per day.

An increase in phosphorus in iron has been found to decrease its conductivity, and the same peculiarity has been noticed with manganese.

The shortest time occupied by the tornado cloud in passing a given point varies from "an instant" to about twenty minutes, the average being seventy-four seconds.

During the last ten years an oculist of Cronstadt is said to have treated thirty cases of photo-electric ophthalmia, a new disease due to the action of the electric light on the eyes.

Two traveling platforms of ten tons capacity moved by electricity and mounted on girders are used to carry visitors around the machinery hall of the Paris Exposition.

An English club man wagered \$25 that he could stand for thirty minutes without moving a muscle outside of those required for respiration. At the end of twenty-two minutes he fell over in a fit.

The boring for oil in the United States is not always successful—for instance, a boring at Southbury, Conn., has lately been abandoned after 200 feet had been explored and \$10,000 lost in the undertaking.

A fragment of a meteor which recently fell in Chicago, was analyzed and found to contain 73 per cent. of iron, 21 of nickel, 2 of manganese and small quantities of aluminium, cobalt, tin, copper, arsenic, etc.

Coal dust triturated into dust as fine as flour has just been tested as a fuel for iron-making at the Morehead Mill, Sharpsburg, and found to accomplish as much in one hour as the gas furnace does in an hour and a quarter. Being mine refuse it costs nothing.

Dr. Imlach, of Liverpool, has come to the conclusion that consumption can be transmitted from cows to human beings through milk. His experiments prove that guinea-pigs, rabbits and monkeys, fed on the milk of tuberculous cows develop tubercular disease.

An official report gives the number of British boiler explosions for the year ending with last June as sixty-one, with a loss of thirty-one lives. More than half of the explosions were due to the use of worn out boilers, seventeen to defective designs and fittings or undue working pressure, seven to ignorance or neglect of attendants, and six to miscellaneous causes.

Mushrooms are but tender toad-stools grown where the soil is very much of vegetable substance. All such objects are but the cells of plants in the soil given a discharge from the ground by a force of electricity which the earth discharges wherever plants or corals are grown. A form is given the object by a part of the substance being spilled over the top of a stalk and contracted by the dryer condition of the atmosphere. The seams in the top are but a consequence of the shrinking of the substance.

A Pound of Lead Outweighs a Pound of Feathers.

A scientific paper recently offered a reward for the most correct answers to certain scientific problems. Among others was the old scientific "conundrum": Which weighs the most, a pound of feathers or a pound of lead? Of course, a pound is a pound, no matter of what substance, and when the simple or thoughtless person answers that a pound of lead is the heaviest, everybody laughs. Charles Pitt, in answering this question, claims that the pound of lead would weigh the heaviest because the feathers would be buoyed up by a weight equal to the amount of air which they displace—just as cork is buoyed up in water. In future, therefore, we must refrain from laughing at the fool's answer, as practically it is correct. Of course, if weighed in a vacuum a pound of any two substance would weigh alike.

A Walking-Cane of Rhinoceros Skin.

One of the most curious among all the curious presents which the Emperor of Germany has recently received as products of his African possessions is a transparent walking-stick made of rhinoceros skin. It appears that "Reichscommissar Hauptmann Wissman" sent a large piece of skin over to a friend at Hamburg, who gave it into the hands of a clever turner to be made into walking-sticks. By means of some novel process the turner has rendered the skin transparent and is a beautiful amber color, which has been done before, but never without changing color in a very short time, while in the present case the yellow is steady and unchanging.—New York Tribune.

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100 Doses One Dollar

\$75 TO \$250 A MONTH can be made working for me. Agents preferred who can furnish horses and give their whole time to the business. Spare moments may be profitably employed also. A few vacancies in towns and cities. R. JOHNSON & CO., 109 Main St., Richmond, Va., N. B.—Please state age and business experience. Never mind about sending stamp for reply. R. J. J. & Co.

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A Colossal Flower.

In the farthest southeastern island of the Philippine group, Mindinao, upon one of its mountains, Pang, in the neighborhood of the highest peak on the island, the volcano, Apo, a party of botanical and geographical explorers found recently at the height of 2500 feet above the sea level, a colossal flower.

The discoverer, Dr. Alexander Schadenberg, could scarcely believe his eyes when he saw, amid the low growing bushes, the immense buds of this flower, like gigantic brown cabbage heads. But he was still more astonished when he found a specimen in full bloom, a five-petaled flower nearly a yard in diameter—as large as a carriage wheel, in fact. The enormous blossom was borne on a sort of vine creeping on the ground. It was known by the natives who accompanied Dr. Schadenberg, who called it bo-o. The party had no scale by which the weight of the flower could be ascertained, but they improvised a swinging scale using their boxes and specimens as weights. Weighing these when opportunity served, it was found that a single flower weighed over twenty-two pounds.

It was impossible to transport the fresh flower, so the travelers photographed it and dried a number of its leaves by the heat of a fire. Dr. Schadenberg then sent the photographs and dried specimens to the Royal Botanical Gardens at Breslau, where the learned director immediately recognized it as a specimen of the Raflesia, a plant formerly discovered in Sumatra, and named after the English Governor, Sir Stafford Raffles. The new flower was accordingly named Raflesia Schadenbergia. The five petals of this immense flower are oval and creamy-white, and grow around a center filled with countless violet-hued stamens, thicker and longer in the female, or fertile flower, than in the infertile.

The Raflesia are stemless plants, the flowers springing immediately from the surface of the branches, and are immersed among the scales which represent leaves. Even this mass is a parasitical plant.—Prairie Farmer.

Long Life With a Broken Neck.

The unfortunate Mr. Hill in this city, is not the first man who has lived with a broken neck. In a certain North Carolina district before the war it was the practice to send to Congress the man who could lift the heaviest weight. When the champion got the seat he held it until he was literally lifted out of it by a more muscular man. One gentleman won it by lifting two barrels of turpentine, but after holding it several terms he was challenged to contest it with an opponent, who undertook to lift three barrels of turpentine at once. He did it, lifting one barrel with each hand and a third on his head, but the effort broke his neck, or rather crushed the cervical vertebrae. The accident did not kill him, and he was elected to Congress and served many terms, using an artificial support for his head. Of course the spinal cord was not injured or he would have been paralyzed.—San Francisco Alta.

Maine is now a greater spruce than pine tree State with regard to the production and sale of lumber.

Climate for Consumptives.

The several climates of Florida, Colorado and California have each been prescribed for sufferers from lung disease, yet thousands of the natives in those States die of this fatal malady. A far more reliable remedy is to be had in every drug store in the land, and one can be used at home, a remedy which is sold by druggists, under the manufacturer's positive guarantee that, if taken in time and given a fair trial, it will effect a cure, or money paid for it will be promptly returned. The Medical Discovery. It is the only remedy for this terrible disease possessed of such superior curative properties as to warrant its manufacturer in selling it under a guarantee.

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The different manufacturing establishments of Ohio produced \$348,519,450 last year from a capital of \$322,000,000.

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Over 60 people were forced to leave their homes yesterday to call for a free trial package of Lane's Family Medicine. If your blood is bad, your liver and kidneys out of order, if you are constipated and have headache and an unsightly complexion, don't fail to call on any druggist to-day for a free sample of this grand remedy. The ladies praise it. Everyone likes it. Large-size package 50 cents.

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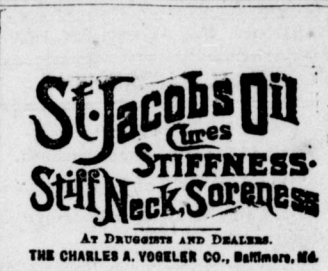
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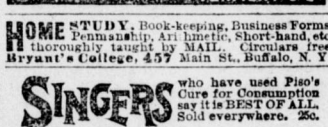
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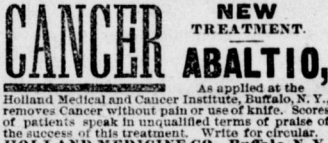
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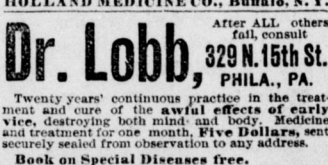
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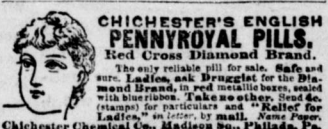
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