Agricultural note by Spain: "Barb wire will not keep out Yankee pigs."

Now that the Congo railroad is completed, it is interesting to recall the words of Stanley that "the whole of the Congo is not worth two shillings without a railway."

China has moved its capital from Peking because that city is too near the Russians at Port Arthur. It is a curious fact that the most populous nation on earth is the one most helpless and badgered.

One man has died of homesickness at the front. But, strange to remark, General Shafter has not reported a single case where a chap has died through grief at being separated from "the nicest girl in the world."

Mexico has 11,512 schools; of which 5852 are supported by the states, 3212 by cities, and 2442 by individuals or societies. The actual attendance at these schools last year was 490,746, and the amount appropriated for the support of public schools was about \$5,500,000.

When it is again in order for the writers and not the fighters to speak, it will be interesting to hear Captain Mahan's revised views on the influence of naval power on history. He can secure a number of useful hints from such authorities as Dewey, Schley, Sampson, Evans, Philip, Sigsbee, Clark, Chadwick, Wainwright, Taylor, Hobson, etc.

The people of Wisconsin are to present a bronze badger to the new battleship Wisconsin, and some citizens of the town of Lone Rock say they have a live badger they will give to the ship if the officers will accept it. Wisconsin is noted for having had a live eagle in one of its regiments during the civil war they say; why should it not have a live badger on its battleship now?

Notwithstanding the large amount of its Chinese indemnity, Japan finds Itself in financial straits, and lacks capital to carry on its largely increasing volume of business. Business men in all parts of the empire are making urgent appeals to the government for relief. But with the purshase of new warships and other expenditures the imperial treasury finds the demands upon it all and more than it is at present capable of meeting, and is considering new schemes of internal taxation to make up the deficiency. Germany found itself in a financial crisis only a few years after the payment of the huge French indemnity, the lesson of both cases being that the booty of war does not always pay its cost nor provide an inexhaustible fund for the nation that gets it.

It is not so very long ago that Korea was a close corporation, and, of sourse, having no foreign trade whatever, it is interesting and surprising to know with what rapidity it has increased since 1893, when it had \$3,-000,000, and in 1897 it had grown to \$11,000,000. The Japanese troops, during the Japan-China war, spent large sums of money in the country, which furnished the Koreans with purchasing medium. Later there was a large influx of Chinese merchants, and the government, in 1897, made large expenditures for public works, causing a great increase in trade. Americans are somewhat interested in Korea, in its gold mines and in the construction of electric roads.

Those people who think that America is not as patriotic as it used to be -who think that the vast army of workingmen are not lovers of their country-should do a little investigating, comments the Chicago Times-Herald. They would find that somewhere about the home of nearly every laborer there is displayed the American flag, and in thousands of instance right by its side is the Cuban flag with its single star. They would find that in the thousands upon thousands of public schools the children from the homes of the laboring men are foremost among the enthusiastic and pa triotic children of the land. Those who think that this government is in danger of being overthrown by anarchists, socialists, or any other class of dissatisfied, restless spirits, are far wide of the mark. This government is founded in the hearts of the people, and they are intelligent enough to know that up to date a better government has never been organized. They believe in it, they love it, they will seek to make it stronger and and better, and their hands will always be raised against every effort to destroy The United States was never stronger than it is today, and it was never growing stronger feeter then it is in these times.

Lieutenant Hobson has declined the offer of \$10,000 for ten lectures. Another evidence of the man's inherent bravery.

With thermometers in firercoms registering 200 degrees, it must require more courage to stay below and keep a ship moving than to stand on deck to be shot at. Remember the firemen.

Assuming that the combined circulations of all the leading Olicago newspapers amount to 1,000,000 copies a day, the increase of one cent in the price all around costs the citizens of the Windy city no less than \$3,650, 000 a year.

In view of the assertion recently made by the Spanish newspapers to the effect that "there are no colleges in America" it is interesting to know that we have 430 universities and colleges, 8472 professors and teachers therein, and 124,684 students.

It was significant of the trend of English feeling that at the Fourth of July celebration at Constantinople the Americans resident along the Bosporus were taken to the Princes Islands, where Minister Angell was residing. in the British Embassy dispatchboat. There were present, also, a large number of English officials (all wearing American colors), and even Admiral Woods Pasha, of the Turkish navy. It was a graceful courtesy, which we may be sure the Americans appreciated.

The Frankfurter Zeitung, a leading German paper, reviewing the war and the role Germany has played, regrets the attacks of the German press on the United States, and arrives at the conclusion that Germany has behaved in a "thoroughly injudicious manner." It says: "Two German vessels at Manila would have sufficed amply, and in the future we hope the foreign office will take into its own hands the settling of all incidents in connection with Germany's foreign policy, including those relating to the navy,"

A Pennsylvania commission, charged with the difficult task of devising some means whereby convict labor can be utilized without interfering with union labor, has found, after two years of inquiry, nothing better, under existing statute restrictions, than the New York plan of utilizing such labor in the making of supplies for state institutions. The members of the commission approve of the European plan of making army stores and equipments in the prisons. That plan, of course, is not applicable in this country, where ordinarily there is no such demand for war material, but Pennsylvania is supporting 30,000 insane in its various hospitals, and it is believed that the furnishing of supplies for that indigent army would keep all the prison inmates in the state busy.

The authorities of Portland, Ore., believe that they have solved the problem of economical street sprinkling, and the explanation of the way they do it is a revelation of how that far Western city is gridironed with street railways. There are at least thirty miles of track within the city, as the contract for sprinkling covers that amount of highway on which rails are laid. Each mile of the thirty is to be sprinkled once daily, Sundays excepted, the work to be done by the street railroad company with a motor sprinkling cart. The city furnishes the water and the railroad comneny distributes it for \$400 a month Not counting the cost of the water, the expense is about \$13 per mile per month. That is certainly less than it would cost the city to do the work through its street department. The cost per city lot of fifty feet frontage is about seven cents a month.

The New York Tribune says :-Amid all the talk about German interests at Manila, it is well to bear in mind that there are only four German trading-houses in that city, that there is no direct line of vessels between Germany and the Philippines, and that no cargoes are ever sent from either country to the other. The amount of German trade must therefore be small. It could not well be large. The chief products of the islands are sugar, hemp and copra. Evidently no sugar could be sent to Germany, which is a sugar-exporting country. The hemp goes to all parts of the world, but chiefly by way of Great Britain. The copra is practically all taken by Great Britain and France. The tobacco, now a minor product, goes chiefly to Spain, or did pefore Admiral Dewey interfered with the trade. It is one thing to protect existing interests. It is another and very different thing to try to establish new interests.

## A SOLDIER'S HEART.

Where is the heart of a soldier, His thought, his hope and his dream, When the rifles ring and the bullets sing And the flashing sabres gleam? Oh! not on the field of battle,

And there is the heart of a soldier— A little home on the hill, A white-faced woman, a little child, That stand by the window-sill;

A little song and a little prayer
And a wonder in the face,
And a "God save papa and bring him bac
In the goodness of Thy grace!"

Yes, there is the heart of a soldier,
Where wife and baby are.
Though his eyes and his will may follow
The light of the battle star;
Though his hand may swing the sabre,
And his bayonet charge the foe,
The soldier's heart is away, away,
In the home where they miss him so!

## ON SPECIAL DUTY.

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An Episode of the Siege of Boston. BY CYRUS H. STOWELL.

Seneral Washington in regard to special duty in Boston." To explain how I became a captain in the Continental army and the reason I was selected for special service, it will be necessary to go back several

Before the war began I was a peaceful resident of Boston. I had been well educated by my father, he having gone to England when a young man to study there. He also, forseeing that there must be war between us that there must be war between us and the mother country, taught me the use of arms, so that I became very proficient, especially with the sword. My fencing was improved from another source. At a social gathering in '74 I met a Frenchmen who had been a prominent figure in the French court and a famous and almost invincible swordsman. His last duel caused so much trouble that he left France to nuch trouble that he left France to seek a fortune in the new world. This man took a liking to me and taught me the French method of fencing, but, being unwilling to drop the Eng-lish style wholly, I combined the two and always used a French dagger in my left hand. From this time on, in all friendly contests up to the begin-ning of the war, I was never bested, but what I could do in actual conflict

On the morning of the 19th of April, 1775, I learned that an expedition had left Boston to destroy military stores at Concord and was not much surprised to hear later that there had been a fight. I saw some of the returning men the next day, and they were in a bad condition. Many of them were wounded, and all were susty and half dead with fatigue.

About two weeks after this I packed ip some of my clothing and other property and quietly slipped out of the town, armed with a letter of introde town, armed with a letter of intro-duction from my father to Colonel William Prescott. At this time I was 25 years of age and very strong and active.

To explain directly my service with General Wishington, I must come slown to that glorious day, June 17, 1775, and the fight on Breed's Hill, now called the battle of Bunker Hill. We worked hard the night before and continued throwing up defences in the morning right under fire of the man-ofwar Falcon in the stream below. When, at last, almost 4 o'clock in the When, at last, almost 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the British troops started up the hill all was finished. Colonel Prescott had appointed me a lieutenant, and I had command of a squad of men in the redoubt. As the attacking party came in shot of the works they began to fire, and we had great difficulty in preventing our men from doing the same. One or two excited Americans did fire and many more brought their guns down to take aim. Without thinking of the consequences I jumped up on the parapet and ran I jumped up on the parapet and ran along kicking up the guns and thus prevented their discharge. I forgot all about the enemy, but they were brought forcibly to my mind as I jumped dewn, for a bullet struck the silver handle of my sword. silver handle of my sword. My name was engraved on the sword-hilt, and I found that the ball had cut off the last three letters, leaving it "Nathaniel Cush-...." I paid no attention to this then, but it afterwards did me a good turn. This was the act for which Colonel Prescottsaw fit to promote me to the position of captain and later recommended me to General Washingof the army he honored me place on his staff. The rest The rest of the battle is a matter of familiar history

it. And now, having explained my position, I will go on with my story. When I presented myself at the headquarters of General Washington on the afternoon of January 3 he greeted mepleasantly and immediately stated what he desired me to do "There is some danger in the trip I wish you to take, captain," he said, "but with your usual careful and intelligent work I think you need have no trouble. Take a boat tonight, which I will have ready with sufficient work I the water's adder of Potter's men at the water's edge, off Potter's Hill, Dorchester Neck, and go across and go across to Boston. I have you go from there because no enemy will be expected from that side. Go around the South Battery, and you will find a quiet place to land just beyond. From there make your way to the house of Samuel make your way to the house of Samuel Perkins on Treamount street almost opposite the King's Chapel. He knows you, and at the door in the rear of the house will be prepared to deliver some papers relating to the condition of the town. After you have received these find out for yourself as much as possible about the condition of the people and the plans of the British. The best way to do this lat-British. The best way to do this lat-ter is to hear the conversation of the English officers. If you are captured you will be hung without delay, but I rely on you and shall expect you back safely."

On the second day of January, 1776, I was handed a communication to the affect that "Captain Nathaniel Cushing is requested to present himself at headqureters at 2 o'clock tomorrow with the property of the Battery. The night was cold headqureters at 2 o'clock tomorrow with these directions I was rowed quietly across the bay about 7 o'clock, making a wide circuit of the Battery. The night was cold and cloudy, and there was not much danger of being seen. Although midwinter there was no snow on the without the second day of January, 1776, I was handed a communication to the property of winter there was no snow on the ground. A landing was made without difficulty on the beach near Milk street, and, leaving orders for the boat street, and, leaving orders for the boat to wait, I started quickly up towards the centre of the town. I did not expect any trouble in the first part of my duty. Many people were about, the men being dressed just as I was, for, of course, I did not wear my uniform, and the streets were dark in spite of the lamps put up by the selectmen at long intervals. I was armed only with my sword and dagger, and these would cause no comment, because it was a common custom to wear ornamental rapiers, although few of them would be serviceable in combat.

able in combat. On turning into Marlborough street I came upon the old Province House the residence of General Gage, the governor. Here, almost two months later, an event happened that caused a laugh to go through the entire American army when it became known. The soldiers celebrated Feb. 22,1776, in honor of General Washington, it in honor of General Washington, it being his first birthday anniversary while with the army. The men were greatly amused to hear that the Brit-ish had unintentionally done the same. This celebration was in the form of a grand ball, the most impor-tant and last of the season in the Province House, called the Queen's ball.

I kept to the right, by the Old South Meeting House, and then crossed over and went up School street to Treamount. Here I found the Perkins house without trouble and, going cau-tiously to the rear, knocked on the door. It was opened by a middle-aged man, who said softly before I had time to speak: "Oh, it's you, captain, is it? Come in here. Don't make any noise." I stepped inside the porch, and he left me, but soon came back with a small paper packet. "Here with a small paper packet. "Here are the papers," he said in a whisper; "now get out of Boston as soon as you can." "But I was told to look around a little," I answered. "If you stay here after 10 you will be captured, for General Gage has issued orders for the arrest of anyone found in the streets after 10 o'clock without a pass from him," said the man, whom I now know was Samuel Perkins. "All right," I replied, "I'll get away by that time. Good night." "Good night and good luck to you," he whispered back, and then, after putting the papers in an inside pocket, I left him and want out in the street.

him and went out on the street. After thinking the matter over I had come to the conclusion that the best place to overhear conversation relating to the condition of the town would be in the riding school the British officers had established in the Old South Meeting House. So, when I reached this place, I entered boldly with the other evertators and way with the other spectators and went upstairs to the balcony. Seeing a vacant seat behind several officers, I sat down there without disturbing them. They were watching the riders below, who were then racing their lorgest around the floor and investors. below, who were then racing their horses around the floor and jumping engraved on the sword-hilt, and I id that the ball had cut off the last e letters, leaving it "Nathaniel h...." I paid no attention to then, but it afterwards did me a l turn. This was the act for which mel Prescott saw fit to promote me are position of captain and later mmended me to General Washing-When the latter took command the army he honored me with a strength of the pulpit and discussing the merits of various men. This did not interest me, but I listened more attentively when one asked, "Are you going to the performance in Faneuil hall next Monday, Frank?" "What's that?" "Why, General Burgoyne's play, "The Blockade of Boston. All the officers in the town will be there, and most of those at the works in Charlestown those at the works in Charlestown will come over." This bit of informa-tion was of use to the American cause when I made it known. General Sul-livan had planned a raid on Charles town several days before I left the camp, but the ice on the river was not hard enough to allow the men to cross on it, and so the plan was given up. Taking advantage of the thick ice and the absence of the officers in Boston on the night of the play, January 8 he sent over Major Knowlton, who commanded the rail fence on the day of the battle on Breed's Hill, and the major burned several buildings, in cluding a bakehouse, and captured number of prisoners. This raid caused a general alarm in Boston and broke up the play in Faneuil hall.

A short time before 10 the specta tors began to leave the church. A the officers in front of me arose, one of them turned around and gave a surprised start. Without looking of them turned around and gave a surprised start. Without looking straight at him, I could see that he was eyeing me sharply, and I knew at once that he must have seen me somewhere before. To give him the impression that I was an acquaintance whom he had met in the town, I looked up and bowed with a "Good evening, lieutenant." He returned my bow, lieutenant." He returned my bow, saying, "Pardon me, but will you please tell me who you are?" "I am a citizen of Bostou," I answered. The a citizen of Boston, 'I answered. The lieutenant looked at me, as if trying to remember where we had met, and then it flashed across my mind why his face seemed so familiar to me,

When the British came over the re-doubt on the third charge at Bunker Hill I had a personal encounter with an officer whom I afterwards heard was Lieutenant John Barry, who came was Lieutenant John David General over on the Cerberus with General 1775. He had a reponton in May, 1775. He had a reputation of sincerely hating everytking American, and this was the man who now stood before me. Our duel on the hill was short, but very sharp, and ended in my wounding him. As he fell and I joined the retreat he called fell and I joined the retreat he called out, "I'll kill you on sight for this if we ever meet again!" You may be sure I was not in a comfortable frame of mind at this recollection. I saw that if he remembered me something desperate would have to be done and so looked around quickly for some chance to escape. Only ten feet away was a heavy door, standing open, which led to the belfry above. I knew this had bolts on the other side and resolved to take chances in that direction.

When I told the lieutenant I was a citizen, the other officers drew around and asked my name. I was about to give a fictitious name when Barry cried out, "Seize that man! He fought against us at Bunker Hill!" I struck out with both fists to make an opening and knocked down two of the officers. In an instant I was through the door and had it locked on the inside. My

and had it locked on the inside. My purpose was to cut off the bell rope and use that to escape with while the door was being broken open, but when I went upstairs I found a coil of rope, so I took that instead.

I opened a belfry window and, after fastening the rope, slid gown on the roof below. Here I cut off the rope with my dagger as high as I could reach and left the end hanging, running along the roof to the rear with reach and left the end hanging, run-ning along the roof to the rear with the rest. I fastened the rope to a pro-jection and, crawling over the edge, slid to the ground without the least trouble. Running up towards the front of the church I dropped one of my gloves, which I had worn up to this, time, in Milk street and the other around the corner on Marlborough street. I did this to give pursuers the idea that I had gone towards the second idea that I had gone towards the com-mon, as that was the most likely place for a man to try to escape to the op-posite shore. This ruse, as I subse-quently learned from a deserter, worked perfectly. The gloves were of an un-usual color and having been noticed by the officers in the church were recognized when found. Lieutenant Barry was so anxious to capture me himself that he neglected to have the guards warned to be on the watch, and this was another thing in my favor. After dropping my gloves I ran

through a lane below the church to Water street. I intended to work my way down to the boat from there, but, after eluding several guards, I found myself in King street by the Town House, c. II d the State House after the war. Here I was startled by a cry of "Halt! Who goes there?" I was just getting ready to run when an answer came from in front of the building, "Citizen, with a pass." "Come here and show it," ordered the guard. As you may know, the Town House is set right in the middle of King street with an open space all around it. I went around in this space to a position where I could see the two men without being seen by them. The guard looked at the pass, said "all right" and then, giving it back, went up Queen street out of sight. I watched the citizen while he stood still, with a bundle on the ground stood still, with a bundle on the ground at his feet, carefully folding the paper up, and the idea came into my head that I could use that pass. He was facing me, so I ran around the building to the other side. The man was just putting the pass in his pocket as I came in sight again. I never liked to hit a man from behind, but this was a case of pecessity and so I struck him. case of necessity, and so I struck him hard, just behind the right ear, with my fist. He fell with hardly a sound, and I quickly tied his feet with his belt and his hands behind him with the rope from the bundle he had been ng. In the bundle I found a of cloth, among other things, and tied this over the man's month to keep him from making any noise when he recovered. Then I secured the he recovered. Then I secured the pass and placed him and his bundle in the deep doorway of the Town House. I decided to go at once to the boat,

using the pass to get by any guards I should meet. At the h street I stopped to read the pass. It ran as follows: Head Quarters, Boston, 3rd Jan., 1776.

The bearer, Nath'l Cushman, citizen, has His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's permission to go about inside the advanced lines at any time between the hours of 10 and 12 JA: URQUHART, Town Major. tonight.

To all concerned.

To all concerned.

I smiled as I thought how near Nathaniel Cushman was to my name and after putting the paper away started on. At Water street I was challenged by a guard and showed him the pass, which he took under a light to read. "Are you Nathaniel Cushman?" he asked. I answered "Yes." He didn't seem to be satisfied, but said, "How do I know you are? Can you prove it?" I had a habit of standing with the weight of my body on my right foot and my left mable of standing with the weight of my body on my right foot and my left hand on the hilt of my sword. As I stood trying to think of some plan of action I assumed this position and one finger came in contact with the dent made by the bullet at Bunker Hill. "Yes," I replied, "here is my name engraved here, and I drew my sword, "except that part of it has been rubbed out by a rebel bullet." He read the words on the handle, "Nathan--" and then thought a mo iel Cush——"and then thought a mo-meut, while I stood with the rapier in my right hand. Then he said, "I auppose you're all right. Go along." He never knew it, but these words saved his life, for I was all ready to

run him through if he decided to arrest me or call for help. I proceeded on my way, while the guard went up Water street, and soon came near where my boat was. I was congratuwhere my boat was. I was congratulating myself on my escape, when I heard the sound of a man running along the street behind me. I supposed that the guard had changed his mind and was pursuing me, so I started to run. Up to this time the sky had been cloudy, but now, as I was running by a field, the moon came out brightly. I looked back and was astonished to see that my pursuer was none other than Lieutenant Barry. I thought our little affair might as well be settled now as any time and so be settled now as any time and so turned into the field. I drew my turned into the field. I drew my sword and stood on guard waiting for

sword and stood on guard waiting for my enemy. He came up panting and seemed to be delighted to find me ready to fight.

He came at me savagely, and as soon as our swords met, with a feint and a quick, strong turn of the wrist the Frenchman had taught me, I sent his weapon flying through the air, saying at the same time, "I noticed you were out of breath, lieutenant. We will go on when you are in better condition." He glared at me and went slowly to pick up his sword. We came together again, but this time he was mere careful. We fought for some time and finding he was equal to me in English feucing I tried a little French. I had a dagger in my left hand, but had not used it up to this time. Now I lowered a dagger in my left hand, but had not used it up to this time. Now I lowered my sword, leaving my guard wide open. He thrust straight at my heart, as I expected he would, and I turned his weapon out with my dagger. I meant to kill him then, but my action was so unexpected that he lost his balance and fell, his sword leaving his hand and falling some distance away. I could see by the expression on his face that he expected to die then, but face that he expected to die then, but I waited for him to rise. When he did so he made no attempt to regain his rapier, but asked, bluntly, "What's did so he made no accountly, "What's his rapier, but asked, bluntly, "What's Captain Nathaniel his rapier, but asked, bluntly, "What's your name?" "Captain Nathaniel Cushing," I replied, "aide-de-camp to General George Washington, commander-in-chief of the Continental army." "Well, captain, you're a gentlemen, and I'd like to shake hands with you," and he did so. "Now," he continued, "I can't fight with a man who has spared my life twice, so man who has spared my life twice, so I'll not bother you any more if you are willing to let matters drop." I gladly agreed to this, and the lieuten-ant went back the way he had come, while I went to the boat. I never saw Barry again, but heard from a prisin the battle at Brooklyn, Long Island,

on Aug. 27 of the same year.

The information furnished by the papers of Samuel Perkins was valupapers of Samuel Ferkins was valuable. In the packet was a map copied from the plan made by Lieutenant Page, an engineer of the British army, in 1775. This included the town of Boston and all the intrenchments and fortifications of the English army. It showed General Washington so much that he planned an assault on the town to be made by crossing over on the ice from Roxbury and Cambridge in the latter part of February. This the latter part of February. This plan was disapproved by the field offi-cers in council of war, and so the general reluctantly abandoned it. In its place he began to make preparations to fortify Dorchester Heights and Noddle's island and successfully carried his plans out, as is well known to everybody now.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS. A white tar has been invented. In Lapland, it is said, dress fashions

ave not changed for 1000 years. A boxful of earth from the Garden of Gethsemane was sprinkled over Mr. Gladstone's coffin.

A chasm thirty miles in length has been excavated by the waters of the Grand Falls of Labrador.

In Persia a bonfire plays an important part in the marriage ceremony, the ceremony being read over in front A Brighton (England) young man

has killed himself because his made fun of him for kissing the servant girl. Seymour Keyse, postmaster at Man-

heim, N. Y., has an apple tree which was brought from Holland in the seventeenth century. It still bears fruit. The dragon-fly can outstrip the swallow. It can fly backwards and

sidelong, to right and left, as well as forward, and can alter its course on the instant without turning.

A strange custom is followed by Mexican farmers. They use oxen of one color in the morning and another color in the afternoon. They do not know why, but they know that it must be the right thing to do because their forefathers did it.

At the sunset hour, in Seoul, Korea, town bell proclaims the fact when the sun has vanished beneath the No man is allowed in the street after that hour, under penalty of a flogging; but, strange to say, the women are permitted to go around as usual, visiting their friends, or strolling for pleasure.

Removed the Leg of a Runaway Groom When Bramwell was arrested, after a brief honeymoon, he was in Pratt county, near the west line of the state, where he had gone on some business, without the thought that his bride without the thought that his bride would discover his crime. The sheriff did not wish to humiliate the old man by putting handcuffs on him, so he removed the prisoner's wooden leg and hid it away under a car seat, thus rendering him incapable of a run.— Kansas City Journal.

Yeast—Did you say your wife could talk 250 words a minute? Crimsonbeak—No, what I said was that she does.—Yonkers Statesman.