

IN THE SUMMER EVENING.

When we tended the fields of the happy old farm. The sun would travel so slow! The sun seemed to pause by some wonderful charm.

THE IDEAL HEAD.

HELLO! What's this? John Ainsworth stooped to pick up a gold cross which was lying on the sidewalk outside his office door.

The subject was settled in John's way, which was always the best way, though Elliott really wondered a little at John's fancy for the ideal head.

When John entered the pretty sitting room, he found his brother putting the finishing touches to what he was pleased to call an "ideal head."

"Hello! Jack, I've been waiting ages for you. Shall we dine at the Albemarle to-night?"

Elliott could not conceal his satisfaction at his brother's honest praise, for who was so dear to him as sober old John?

Now, John Ainsworth had reached the sober age of thirty-five and if any one had told him that a pair of hazel eyes would set his heart to beating like a steam pump or cause a crimson hue to suffuse his manly face he would have scouted at the idea.

in a moment he was overcome to discover that he had voluntarily given up the only chance of finding out who she was or where she was going, for he was suddenly aware of an intense interest in her whereabouts.

"Hold on there, Jack, old man! What's the rush? Is there a fire or are you after a croak?"

"I don't know about that. We are all liable to succumb, but don't send that head to Brown's anyway. I want it, and if I take it you can show it at the spring exhibition, and perhaps gain glory, if not wealth.

The mind of John Ainsworth was full of but one subject all that week, and street-car riding became a steady habit, his hope being to catch another glimpse of the hazel eyes.

One morning he remembered the golden cross and bethought himself that some effort should be made to find its rightful owner.

It was the sweet-faced girl who spoke first. "Thank you so much, Mr. Ainsworth, for bringing my little cross. It is an old keepsake and was given to me when I was a child. I regretted its loss exceedingly, but when I saw you had it, she smiled, mischievously, 'I knew it was safe. Let me thank you, warmly.'

Two months later at the spring exhibition of water colors three persons stood before a painting which was catalogued as an "Ideal Head."

"All right, old fellow, I'll put in the cross, you always got everything you want," the younger man said, rather spitefully, as he moved on, apparently much interested in a large painting near by, leaving the other two standing close together, seeing more beautiful pictures in each other's eyes than ever hung on any wall.

Bean Brummel's Practical Joke. Bean Brummel once met at a public dinner a pompous old French Marquis, and managed to put some finely powdered sugar into his hair powder. The weather was exceedingly hot, and the flies, of course, numerous. The Marquis relinquished his knife and fork to drive off the enemy with his handkerchief, but back the whole swarm came, more teasing than ever.

A NATION'S CHARTER

STORY OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

A Glorious Document That Has Been Neglected—Its Words Said to Have Faded Almost Beyond Recognition.

THE original Declaration of Independence, of which Bancroft, the historian, said that it had "received a renown more extended than that of any other State paper in existence," has faded away beyond the possibility of restoration.

When, in the year 1800, the National Government was transferred to Washington, the Declaration was carried there and deposited in the Department of State, where it remained for forty-one years.

During the first twenty-four years of its existence the Declaration was preserved among the archives of the Government at Philadelphia, and during all or part of that time it was undoubtedly rolled up, as it shows by the cracks in the parchment that it must have been rolled for a long period, and it is known that subsequent to that time it was hung up exposed to public gaze.

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POPULAR SCIENCE.

Dr. Young estimates the mean depth of the Atlantic at about 16,000 feet.

The water of the Dead Sea yields about two gallons of saline substances. An echinoderm that inhabits the West Indian seas has over 10,000 arms.

The pages in Congress will be summoned hereafter by electric bell, instead of hand clapping as heretofore. An employe in a German chemical works fell into a tank of sulphuric acid. Two porcelain buttons were all that was left of him.

It has been discovered that the rings of Saturn are made up of many small bodies, and that the satellites of the inner edges of the rings move more rapidly than those of the outer edge.

It has frequently been noticed that meat becomes luminous under certain conditions, as do also dry wood and other substances. The microscopic vegetables (bacteria) which cause this phosphorescence have been cultivated successfully on gelatin, and in an article on such bacteria C. A. Mitchell recalls the fact that Foerster succeeded in photographing a colony of them in a dark room by their own light.

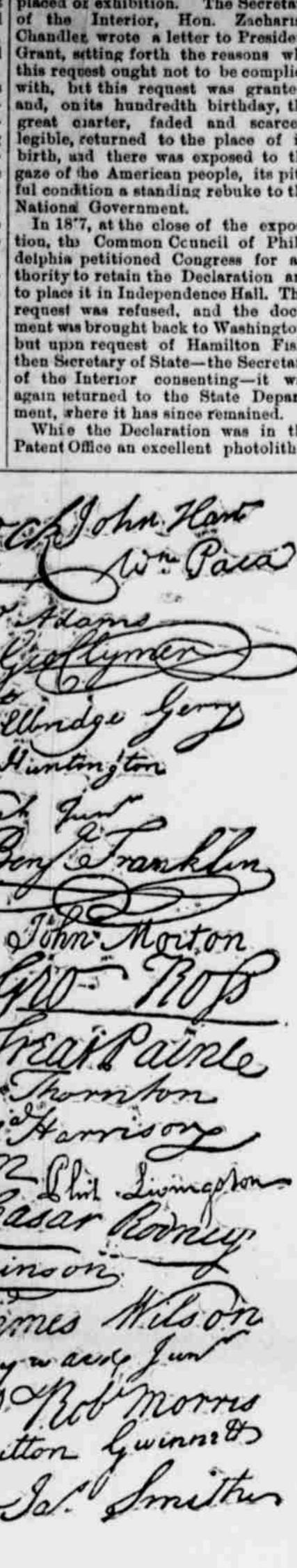
The astonishing and inhuman possibility of building up living animals from parts of several animals has been demonstrated by Dr. C. Born, a German physiologist. The experiments were made with tadpoles and other larvae of amphibians. Each of these was cut in two, and different parts were placed together in different ways, when some of them united, the under more readily than the fore parts.

The system of sending messages through pneumatic tubes into Paris from outlying districts, and also from one station to another within the city, has been in successful operation since 1865.

The people of the British Empire own more than half the ocean vessels of the world, and fifty per cent. of the annual savings of the Nation are expended in building new ships and railroads.

Turning next to the railway carrying trade, we find that there are in operation 410,000 miles. This is sufficient to girdle the earth's equator about sixteen times.

FAC SIMILES OF THE SIGNATURES TO THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.



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archive has become hardly more than a blank and wrinkled sheet of paper, solicitude for its preservation has begun to be felt, and at last it is cared for as it should have been cared for years ago.

It was my privilege some time since—a privilege then accorded to few, and now, under the strictest prohibition accorded to none—to see and touch this precious document, says a writer in the Detroit Free Press. It is kept locked up in a steel safe in the library of the Department of State.

The document is a single sheet of parchment, thirty-six inches long and thirty-two inches wide, and bears no scrolls or decorations such as are seen upon many of the copies that are common. The body of the writing having been evenly and clearly written when the instrument was engrossed, it can hardly be made out, but the signatures, which were written perhaps with a different ink and another pen, are faded and beyond recognition.

WORLD'S CARRYING TRADE.

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The navigable waterways of the world are estimated to be worth \$100,000,000,000. The net profit of the canal in 1892 amounted to 60 per cent. of the cost of its construction.

Widow Mary Jean Braddock, of the great measure, and the one who led the debate in its support was John Adams, of Massachusetts, and when the Declaration was adopted he wrote to his wife: "This will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America; celebrated by descending generations as the great anniversary festival, commemorated by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty, solemnized with pomp, shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forward, forever."

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