

THE MINE MULE OUSTED.

Improved Machinery Supplants the Little Animal.

Solution of a Problem That Will Minimize the Cost of Mining—Description of the New Conveyance.

Spending thousands upon thousands of dollars, and after many years unsuccessful experimenting, an air line has been perfected, and an economical method furnished of transporting coal from the interior of mines to the bottom of the slope. The new device was built by the Baldwin locomotive works, and will, it is expected, be the means of saving millions of dollars per annum to the mineral mining companies. While the locomotive has been undergoing a severe test in the near Girardville for the past few months, all have awaited the result with much anxiety, and now that it is declared a success, most of the principal mining concerns are making hurried preparations to adopt it.

The present state of affairs means a boom in the locomotive builders of the world. It also means that thousands of men and boys employed in conveying coal in the "breasts" and gangways of mines will have to seek other occupations. The leading coal companies have been endeavoring to obtain a mechanical substitute to replace the mine mule that would reduce the immense entailed in getting the coal from the underground workings to the bottom of the slope. They tried engines pulled by steam, electricity, gas, but all proved complete failures. The steam locomotive was abandoned because the vapor had a tendency to rise in the "top," or roof of the gangways, and various chambers throughout the mines. It also rattled the pine used for "legs," "collars" and "ings," and caused the top to cave in, entailing large losses. Electricity and gas were abandoned because either was liable to ignite the gas in the underground workings.

The new air locomotive was built a year ago and is the invention of Philadelphia man. With the exception of a huge air boiler or tank, the structure of the air locomotive is similar in every respect to a steam locomotive, and it is propelled in the same manner. The air tank is not unlike the boiler of an engine, and is carried on the same position, thus doing its duty with a tender. On account of its light weight it is better able to cut its way through the heavy air of a mine, and is capable of a high rate of speed. The air is supplied by an air compressor located on the surface.

The air is pumped through two five-inch pipes into the mine at a pressure of 100 pounds per square inch. One of the pipes runs to the bottom of the mine and the other to the end of the underground workings. These pipes act as a reservoir for the air. At the end of the lines and along the route of the locomotive are stations where the air tank of the engine can be refilled when exhausted. Exhaustion frequently occurs, and without the station where the engine would be useless.

The air tank on the locomotive has a capacity of 164 cubic feet, a sufficient amount of air to carry a train, including eight or ten heavily loaded mine cars. The speed is regulated according to the number of mine cars attached to the train. On a level and straight track one of these engines can carry from ten to twenty loaded mine wagons at the rate of 25 to 35 miles per hour. By the old method the mine cars were hauled from a chute which ran directly to the face of the "breast," at a pitch of from 40 to 90 degrees. From there they were conveyed through narrow gangways by teams of mules to the main gangways where bigger teams hauled them up and carried them to the bottom of the slope. Here they were dumped to the surface in a self-dumping

car. Taking all this into consideration, the air locomotive is the solution of the problem and will reduce the cost of mining to a minimum.—Philadelphia Record.

MODEL IDEAS IN GLOVES.

Maroon is the Favorite Shade for Evening Wear. The newest idea in gloves is the one two-clasp walking glove. A light tan is the favorite shade. Heavy silk is used, and, indeed, the gloves resemble those for men. The crinkled glove is still worn for evening wear. Some of the medium gloves have lace tops, while others have silk tops, which extend to the elbow. The long gloves are made of suede, but all others are of lace. Among the novelties in party gloves are those embroidered from the wrist to the shoulder, but it is not considered particularly good taste. It should be worn under any circumstances because of the girl who wears the same ones on a number of occasions. For theater pearl-gray or white stitched with green will be prominent this season.

As to gloves, very few women understand the proper care due them. Eternity is the price of dainty gloves. They should never be rolled into a ball or left lying inside out. Pull slowly, stretch each finger to its fullest length. Mend every minute with glove thread and needles, and come especially for the purpose. Wash each pair in tissue paper and keep in a long box without folding.—Chicago Times-Herald.

Satisfactory All Around.
—And you were merely flirting with me from the first?
—Yes. I hope you are not very fond of me, not at all; not at all. On the contrary, I am glad of it. I was afraid you were in earnest, and proposed to find out.—Cleveland Leader.

THE BAPTIST BEHEADED.

International Sunday School Lesson for March 29, 1896.
[Based Upon Peloubet's Select Notes.]
THE LESSON.—John the Baptist beheaded. Matthew 14:1-12. If used as a temperance lesson read also account of Balshazzar's Drunken Feast (Dan. 3:1-9).
GOLDEN TEXT.—Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.—Prov. 4:23.
TIME.—John was imprisoned in March or April, A. D. 30. He was beheaded a year later, in March or April, A. D. 31.
PLACE.—Jesus was in Galilee with His twelve disciples. John was imprisoned and put to death at Macherus, a strong fortress and castle on the borders of Arabia, nine miles east of the northern end of the Dead Sea. The feast held by Herod at which Herodias demanded the head of John the Baptist was probably held in this castle.
LESSON COMMENT.
Collect together all the Scripture notices of the life of John. The parallel accounts should be kept before us as we study. They are found in Mark 6:14-29; Luke 9:7-9.
Temperance can be taught incidentally but effectively, from the fact that the crime was probably committed under the influence of strong drink.
The martyrdom of John is the main subject of the lesson. His life was successful, although short, and crowned with a martyr's crown.
I. A Troubled Conscience.—Vs. 1, 2. Jesus, in chapter 10, had sent the twelve disciples on their Galilean mission, which continued all winter. About this time they returned to report to Jesus, and Jesus' own marvelous works and teachings had so penetrated and stirred the whole people that the news reached King Herod. Herod said: "This is John the Baptist, risen from the dead." He thought that John had brought back with him those larger powers, those divine gifts, which the spirit receives when it enters upon the Heavenly life, and the prophet could now exert these powers, together with his former terrible reproofs.
II. John Imprisoned for His Courage and Faithfulness.—Vs. 3-5. "For," and the account goes back to tell of Herod's having been brought face to face with his sins by a prophet of God, of the imprisonment of this prophet, and of the subsequent execution pleaded for by his partner in sin, Herodias. He imprisoned John that he might have peace in his crime unrepented, and because Herodias wanted John put out of the way. For John said (probably many times) unto him: "It is not lawful for thee to have her." It was not lawful (1) because he had put away his lawful wife. (2) He had persuaded Herodias to forsake her husband, Herod's brother Philip, for the sake of his rank and wealth. (3) He had married Herodias, his niece and sister-in-law, contrary to the law (Lev. 18:12-14). The only way to stop the reproof was to repent or to destroy the reproof. But there is nothing so cowardly as a guilty conscience, or so to be feared by evil doers as a holy man who voices the truth of God. Besides the people believed John to be a prophet, and Herod feared an uprising, so John was kept in the dungeon for a year.
III. The Birthday Banquet and Its Outcome.—Vs. 6-12. Herod's birthday was kept with a great banquet, to which the nobles and military officers were invited. Salome, the daughter of Herodias, by her former husband, danced in their midst. She had been sent by her mother to gain an opportunity for killing John. It was a shrewd scheme to take advantage of Herod's half-intoxicated condition, and the scheme succeeded. Herod was pleased and promised "to give her whatsoever she would ask." On such occasions men vie with each other in the value of their gifts to the dancer. Many a man finds himself in straitened circumstances long after taking part in a similar entertainment. A writer on the far east gives this curious fact: The dancer, Lal-Koner, gained such an ascendancy over the Mogul Emperor Ma'az ed-Din, that he made her joint-governess of the empire with himself.
"And she, being before instructed of her mother said, Give me here John the Baptist's head in a charger. And the king was sorry, nevertheless for the oath's sake, and them which sat with him at meat, he commanded it to be given her."
Herod was not penitent, but troubled and anxious. He had expected some entirely different request. There was danger and a troubled conscience in the gift. But the wily Herodias had gained her desire, which for a year had been refused by Herod. "He sent and beheaded John in the prison." John at last was silenced, but conscience and the voice of God were not silenced. The stain of blood could never be washed away, nor "all the perfumes of Arabia sweeten the guilty soul."
IV. A Contrast. Two Kinds of Success. We have here two impressive instances which will picture the two kinds of success—the worldly and the Heavenly, the false and the true. Herod seemed to succeed, but his life was a failure. John seemed to fail, but his life was a marvelous success.
Herod's success was brief as well as troubled. In A. D. 38, ten years after the death of John, Herodias stirred up her husband to go to Rome and obtain from the emperor the title of king. But being followed by complaints of the oppressed Galileans the result was that he was deposed even from his tetrarchy. Then he was banished to Lyons, in France, and afterwards to Spain, Herodias accompanying him in his exile, where they died in banishment.

IN REVIEW.
1. What was the sin in the life of Herod and Herodias for which John reproved them? 2. How did Herod attempt to quiet this voice of conscience? 3. Why was not John beheaded immediately he was apprehended? 4. What gave Herodias the opportunity of accomplishing what Herod was too cowardly to do of his own wish? 5. What was her scheme and how did she carry it out? 6. What was the probable end result of the party Herodias planned at this tragic banquet? 7. Did the beheading of John the Baptist quiet the voice of conscience? 8. What was the ultimate fate of Herod and Herodias?
Love is the apex, humility the foundation of the Christ-like life.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

—There are 110 mountains in Colorado whose peaks are over 12,000 feet above the ocean level.
—Harbor, the great authority on fish, says that every square mile of the sea is inhabited by 120,000,000 fish.
—It is estimated that over 50 tons of diamonds have been unearthed in the South African fields during the last 15 years. These represent a total value of \$280,000,000.
—About 4,000,000 false teeth are manufactured annually in the United States, while one ton of gold and three tons of silver and platinum, to the value of \$100,000, are used in filling teeth.
—One million and a half of men work in the coal mines of the world. Of these Great Britain has 535,000, United States 300,000, Germany 285,000, Belgium 100,000, Russia 44,000. The world's miners of metal number 4,000,000.
—The peculiarity of a cork leg is that apart from the name there isn't a vestige of cork about it. The origin of the term comes, it is said, from the fact that nearly all the great manufacturers of such articles used to live in Cork street, Piccadilly.
—The tunnels of the world are estimated to number about 1,142, with a total length of 514 miles. There are about 1,000 railroad tunnels, 12 subaqueous tunnels, 90 canal tunnels and 40 conduit tunnels, with aggregate lengths of about 350 miles.
—The surface of the sea is estimated at 150,000,000 square miles, taking the whole surface of the globe at 197,000,000, and its greatest depth supposedly equals the height of the highest mountain, or four miles. The Pacific ocean covers 78,000,000 square miles, the Atlantic 25,000,000, the Mediterranean 1,000,000.

CURLING IN AMERICA.

A Scotch Game Zealously Cultivated by Scotchmen.
The game of curling has secured a firm place among the winter sports in all parts of the country where there is heavy ice and where there are Scotchmen to teach the game to their American neighbors. There are about 50 curling clubs in the United States, and the Grand National Curling club of America has a membership of many hundreds in all parts of the north and northwest; but still the game is spoken of as "Scotland's ain game."
The game is always played on ice-covered lakes or rivers, except in England, where it is frequently played under glass roofs by men whose white waistcoats, straw hats, floral decorations and general lack of Scotch style cause the real curlers to regard them with scorn.
The curlers who are members of the New York clubs have their contests on Van Cortlandt lake, and there is probably no class of sportsmen who go about a game so seriously as they.
The object of the game is to plant the curling stone, which has a tea-kettle shape and weighs from 32 to 44 pounds, near the "tee," or center of a circle at a distance of 40 yards, and to guard it there.
Next to the stone, the broom plays the most important part in the game of curling, because, in the hands of a sweeper who is anxious to see the stone advance to the circle where it will count, it is wielded dexterously, so that every particle of snow or ice may be removed from the stone's course. The "skips," or captains, of the opposing sides have charge of the sweeping departments, and the sweepers have the right to use their brooms after the stone has got beyond the line which marks the middle of the rink. The sweeping is always to a side or across the rink and not forward or backward, where the sweepings might obstruct the passage of a running stone.
Match games, called a bonspiel, are played by opposing teams of four each, and when it is at home curling is essentially democratic. It has been said that the lord of the manor, the clergyman and the village blacksmith may be seen on the same rink with the smith as "skip," shouting to the clergyman to "soop, soop!" when he thinks a "soop," or sweep, in front of the moving stone will help it along.
The enthusiastic curler sees and hears nothing but the speeding stones and the applause, the shouts of "Weel curled, mon!" and the boyish shouts which rise on the wintry air show that a youthful spirit may live in a mature body, particularly if it be that of a Scotch curler.—N. Y. Tribune.

Proper Revenge.
A Washington young man took revenge on two other young men whose only offense was that they were too attentive to the young woman on whom the revengeful young man had set his heart. They were always at her house when he went to call. In fact, by their ill-concealed grins of triumph he knew that they were playing a game with him, and were there merely to make him unhappy. They adopted all sorts of devices to find out when he meant to be calling on the young woman and they never permitted him to outwit them. One balmy spring evening he entered the drawing-room of her home—it is on Seventeenth street, by the way—and found, as usual, his two grinning rivals comfortably seated. His eye gleamed.
"Big fire downtown," he said, carelessly.
"Where?" asked the young lady.
"Well, you know Rosenbaumstein's pawnshop," began the young man.
His two rivals sprang to their feet and made a dash for their hats. Their agitation was unmistakable.
"The fire's a block from that," concluded the revengeful young man. "He has the parlor and the girl to himself nowadays."—Washington Post.
Cheerful and Content.
The Father—You ask my consent. What expectations have you?
The Son—I expect to get your consent.—Puck.

THE SINGER'S FORTUNE.

When Death Separates the Great Patti from Her Money.
The death of Nicolini, coming as it has before that of Adelina Patti, probably means that a large share of her fortune will fall to American heirs. Mme. Patti has few living relatives. Her nearest kinsman is believed to be Alfredo Barilli, a popular musician of Atlanta, Ga. Mr. Barilli is the son of the prima donna's half-brother, who in his day was also a musician. The half-brother was almost grown at the time of the diva's birth, and it was by him that the voice which was to make her fame and fortune was discovered and given its first development. Many tales are told in the Barilli family of the strict measures resorted to by the elder Barilli to force his young charge and pupil to diligent study, and of the oft-repeated but harmless punishments which resulted when in the exuberance of youth she slighted her tasks and failed to live up to the possibilities of her wonderful voice.
Although in the brief annals of Patti's life little or no credit has been given to Sig. Barilli for his part in her musical education, the singer herself has acknowledged her indebtedness to him on the back of a large photograph of herself sent to him before his death and just after Patti's first great European triumphs. On the back of this photograph, beneath his name and hers, she has written: "To my first and only teacher." This souvenir, furnishing as it does almost the only proof of the elder Barilli's intimate connection with her career, is naturally greatly prized by the family of his son, who still have it in their possession.
Alfredo Barilli, an artist and a man of taste and culture, has always been a favorite with his aunt, and has spent several summers with her at Craigynos. Two years ago his wife and children were invited to accompany him to her castle in the Welsh highlands. Every preparation was made to accept, but sickness prevented them from going as a family, although Mr. Barilli himself paid his respects and expressed his wife's regrets. During Patti's last American tour, when she sang in Atlanta, the Barilli family were invited to dine with the singer at her hotel, and were the recipients of affectionate favors at her hands.
The death of Nicolini, therefore, places the Barillis in the direct line of inheritance, as the indications are that the great singer holds them in high regard. They have an attractive and artistic home just outside of Atlanta, in a suburb known as College Park, although Mr. Barilli's musical studio is in the city. There they live a quiet and unpretentious life. They have never flaunted their relationship with the great prima donna, nor by word or deed encouraged the belief that they had any expectations from her. Her photographs, however, are enshrined in state in their home, and every detail of her life is followed by them with the greatest interest.—N. Y. Times.

Springtime is Sick Time

It is impossible for the system to withstand the demands made upon it just at this season, without the assistance of a good purifying and strengthening tonic. The changes which Nature decrees shall take place each spring are so severe that a breakdown is almost sure to come. It is wise that all possible assistance be given during this period, as upon this purifying process depends the health for the entire summer. Everybody just now should take a thorough course of Swift's Specific

S.S.S. For The Blood

which thoroughly cleanses the blood of all the accumulated impurities, tones up and strengthens the entire system, and aids Nature in renovating and renewing the body so as to render it healthy and strong. Those who purify their blood with S. S. S. at this season are well fortified against the many forms of disease so prevalent during the dreaded heated term, for it has been demonstrated that the system that is thoroughly purified in the spring is well prepared to resist disease all summer.

No other remedy on the market is equal to Swift's Specific as a spring medicine, because it is the only purely vegetable blood remedy and is guaranteed absolutely free from potash, mercury and all other minerals. It cleanses, purifies, builds up and strengthens. Insist on S. S. S., for there is nothing half as good.

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THE WORD REINIKABOO.

Washington is Its Birthplace, News perdition Its Stronghold.
"Reinikaboo" is entitled to a place in the next revision of the dictionaries. It has grown into the degree of usage which warrants formal recognition in the language. Reinikaboo is a noun. The derivation may be a matter of some doubt. The definition is clear. A reinikaboo is a newspaper publication of a certain character that can best be illustrated by something that gained currency recently. The statement was sent out that Secretary Gage had tendered his resignation. It was not true, and yet it could not be classed as a fake publication and simple. The fake is a publication of what purports to be news, but which is wholly fiction. The reinikaboo is not a fake.
A few days ago the secretary of the treasury, when some one of the pronounced bimetalists of the republican party were criticising his financial views as not being in accord with the administration, said to the president he hoped he would not let his position embarrass him. If the president had been offended with the secretary's course and had been looking for an opportunity to tell him that his resignation was desired, the secretary's remark would have opened the way. But he wasn't and he promptly told the secretary that he was not embarrassed in the slightest degree.
On this trifling incident was built the dispatch that the secretary had tendered his resignation. It was a reinikaboo—a statement of news out of all proportion, and almost out of relation to the facts, and yet having a certain origin and shadowy foundation. No other word than reinikaboo quite describes the kind of publication. Just why reinikaboo does so would be difficult to tell. As a word, reinikaboo exists, and applies by common usage. In the classification of the Washington newspaper man there are fakes, reinikabos and real news. The paper which indulges too often becomes a reinikaboo newspaper.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Practical Experience.
Landlady—That new boarder is either married or a widower.
Daughter—Why, ma, he says he's a bachelor.
"Don't you believe he is. When he opens his pocketbook to pay his board he always turns his back to me."—Chicago Evening News.

Preparing Butter for Market.
There is one point to which I want to call your attention in regard to working and putting up the butter. Adopt a trademark. Then, when your butter goes to market it will make no difference in what part of the country you find it you will be able to swear to it. Make it uniform and make it look attractive. If it only catches the eye of one here and there it makes a market for your butter. Print all prints alike. I advocate print butter for the farmers because they are able to do it better and it helps the trade. Turn out a good quality of butter, make it look nice and send it to market and you farmers will have no reason to complain of low prices because people will find you are selling a good article that looks nice when it comes onto the table.—Farmers' Review.

Fast Milking the Right Thing.
The rapid milker not only does more work in a given time than the slower one, but he gets more butter fat from the same cow. Experiment, having for its sponsor so good an authority as Dr. Babcock, is to the effect that the difference in favor of rapid milking is, at certain periods during lactation, as high as 11 per cent. Everyone should therefore make an effort to learn to do fast work and keep the milk pail frothing. A kindly touch is of course important, too, and the milker should not be rough in handling the teats, but anyone fit to be around cows at all knows the value of gentleness, while all are not so well informed regarding the importance of rapid work.—Dakota Field and Farm.

Klondike

Alaska! Why not get your share of the great fortune already made and to be made in the New Klondike—Alaska—Eldorado? THE WASHINGTON GOLD FIELDS EXPLORATION COMPANY under its charter is authorized to prospect for and acquire Mining Claims and Properties in the wonderful gold fields of Klondike and Alaska. Immense fortunes have already been realized and millions more will be made there. Will you allow this golden opportunity to pass you by? A few dollars invested in this undertaking may be the foundation to your fortune. The risk to the wonderland necessitates immediate action. The first in the field the first in fortune. No such opportunity has ever been presented to the people of the present generation as is offered in the Klondike—Alaska Gold Fields. All shareholders get their full proportion of all profits. No dividends are made on stock remaining unsold. Send your orders enclosing One Dollar for each share of fully paid-up and non-assessable stock desired to the WASHINGTON GOLD FIELDS EXPLORATION COMPANY, Tacoma, Washington.

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