

The "curfew" idea is said to be getting very popular in Kansas towns, and, where tried, to have been effective of good results in the control of the young.

The German emperor wrongs Americans by imagining they doubt his expressions of friendship. But they are justified in a suspicion that he may see fit to take them back.

United States Consul Smith at Moscow, Russia, reports that the Russian government has already expended \$188,014,938 on the construction of the Trans-Siberian railway.

Angusti, the Spanish governor of the Philippines, offered a reward of \$25,000 for the head of Aguinaldo, the insurgent leader. The latter captured the governor's wife and children, whom he treated as tenderly as if they were his own. Perhaps this is an exhibition of the Philippine savagery that Madrid talks so much about.

The export trade of the Congo state is growing splendidly. In 1886 it was \$354,000. In 1889 it was \$859,000. In 1884 it was \$1,752,000, and in 1897 it was \$3,029,000. More than half the export trade is in rubber, which has increased in amount more than fifty-fold since 1886. And that increase is chiefly due to the enormous extension of wheeling. Thus does civilization get swiftly forward upon a bicycle.

The population of Cuba increased from 715,000 in 1825, to 1,631,400 in 1894. The population is much less now than it was then, owing mainly to starvation. About sixty-five per cent. of the population is descended from the aristocracy and peasantry of Castile, Andalusia, Catalonia, and other provinces of Spain. Most of the remainder of the population is mainly of African descent. Havana is about as populous as Washington, and until the war began was a very gay city.

It is hardly possible that the widow of the great English commoner who all through life declined ennoblement at the hands of the Queen will now fall to the bait, muses the St. Louis Star. She is the relict of Mr. Gladstone, and a space is reserved beside his body at Westminster Abbey for her remains. Mrs. Gladstone would read much more eloquently on the tablet than the Countess of Liverpool. Oh no, Gladstone lived and died as plain Mr. His widow, if she reveres his memory, will live the balance of her life and go down to the tomb as Mrs. Gladstone.

The poverty and low state of social life and civilization of the Spaniards is indeed quite accurately by their wage rates, states Gunton's Magazine. For instance, the average weekly pay of a bricklayer in Spain (Malaga) is \$3.80; in the United States \$21.18; of a mason \$3.30 in Spain, \$21 in the United States; of a carpenter \$3.90 in Spain, \$14.35 in the United States; of printers \$4.50 in Spain, \$16.42 in the United States; of laborers, porters, etc., \$2.75 in Spain, \$8.88 in the United States. While rents, and possibly prices of a few native products are lower in Spain than in the United States, the difference comes nowhere near equaling the wide disparity of wages. Moreover, in a comparison of this sort the quality of the living must be considered as well as the nominal cost. Thus lower rents nearly always imply inferior accommodations, and, to the average Spaniard, most of the comforts and conveniences in ordinary use here are unattainable luxuries.

The president and the secretary of war had a delicate task in selecting 195 men out of 7000 applicants for appointment as second lieutenants in the regular army under an act of Congress providing for changes in the form of battalion organization. The selections indicate that the task was performed with rare discrimination.

Eighty-nine of the men designated are college graduates, representing

sixty-seven different institutions in which military instruction is a part of the curriculum; thirteen are enlisted men in the United States army, and the others are serving in various capacities in the volunteer service. The appointment of college graduates who have had a military training to serve as junior officers in the regular army can hardly be called an experiment, says the Chicago-Times Herald, for the methods employed by military instructors in colleges are much the same as those at West Point. The government is thus assured of a high degree of efficiency on the part of the new junior officers, who have the additional qualifications of learning and youthful enthusiasm.

A NAVY'S ELECTRICITY.

THE APPARATUS USED ON A MODERN BATTLESHIP VERY COMPLEX.

The Cruiser Brooklyn Is Steered by Electricity—On Most of Our Ships the Guns Are Fired by the Mysterious Current—The Range Finder a Novel Device.

It is in the electrical apparatus that the modern battleship is especially complex. For a vessel like the Massachusetts there are three "generating units," with multipolar dynamos, each having a capacity of 300 amperes at 80 volts. These dynamos are run by engines which make 400 revolutions a minute. This electric plant is used for the operation of nearly 500 incandescent lights, four search lights, one set of signaling apparatus, two stationary and four portable ventilating fans, four motors for the 8-inch ammunition hoists, and other apparatus peculiar to warships, such as range finders, engine telegraphs, telephones and the like.

The introduction of electricity on warships has been a constant fight and struggle against steam. Inch by inch the ground has been fought over, and inch by inch electricity has been winning its way, end the end is not known.

Very few of our warships are steered by electricity. The cruiser Brooklyn, however, has such an apparatus and it is said to work satisfactorily. On most of the large ships the guns are fired by electricity. Another is to secure some means of communication between the various ships of a squadron without wires and by means of induction. Neither of these systems has been successful yet, but both serve to indicate the trend of events in electrical engineering, so far as it applies to warships. Hence it is that the use of electricity on such vessels would probably grow, and it must be a very positive and learned man who can indicate the limit of its future use.

Saluting in the Army.

One thing which the volunteers find it hard to do—a thing which perhaps they will never do in anything like the form in which the regulars do—is to salute officers. Take a volunteer who is bronzed and big like a regular, and put him in a regular's clothes and send him out on the street, and he would certainly betray himself as a volunteer at his first meeting with an officer. The regular, walking on the street, salutes every officer he meets by raising the straightened fingers of his right hand to the brim of his hat, just over his right eye, and keeping them there until the officer has passed. The volunteer cannot be made to hold his hand there in any such way.

If he salutes a strange officer of low rank at all, he salutes him with the quick dash which is the regular officer's salute to the private. If the regular soldier is seated when an officer approaches, in camp, on the street or anywhere else, he rises, faces the officer, stands very erect, and makes this salute. No one ever sees a volunteer private do this. Recently a regular cavalryman was trying to get his horse across a bridge while an electric car was crossing it from the other direction. The horse was plunging and leaping wildly, and the soldier had to work hard to control him. At this moment a young second lieutenant of Ohio volunteers came along the footway. In the midst of the horse's gyrations the mounted regular managed to salute the pedestrian officer in proper form. The smile of admiration and satisfaction on that young officer's face was worth going a long way to see.—Boston Transcript.

A Mysterious Spring.

"There isn't much to say about the little village of Joy, up in Wayne county," said a citizen of that quiet hamlet in the peppermint belt, "except that just outside of it is a spring which is undoubtedly unlike any other spring in the world. That spring hasn't any visible outlet, but it has two very visible inlets, thus reversing the natural order of springs. Springs are usually the sources of streams. This one is just the opposite. One of the inlets of the spring is a rivulet which flows from the south. The other comes from the north. The waters that come from the north are clear as crystal. The waters of the stream that discharge from the south are almost as black as ink. The southern inlet never freezes, while the northern one is the first water in all that region to freeze.

"Another singular thing about this spring is that although no water flows from it water is constantly boiling up through the white sand that forms its bed. The spring is only two feet wide and three feet deep, but a force pump worked steadily and rapidly in it for hours has failed to decrease its water supply in the slightest degree. The mystery is, what becomes of the water of the spring? Fed by two streams, and from an underground source, and with no outlet, this spring has been a thing impossible to explain from the time the original settlers squatted in that part of the state and found it there until now."—New York Sun.

The Natives of the Philippines.

The Filipinos are a very cleanly race, forever washing themselves, and they, the women especially, take great pride in their hair, which is often allowed to hang loose in a great, black, wavy mass, sometimes reaching to their heels. When "done up," it is combed straight back from the forehead into a big knot at the back of the neck and surmounted by a huge comb of horn or tortoise shell or silver. Not native of either sex can be seen with the least sign of baldness, and gray heads are very rare.—Youth's Companion.

In battle formation it is very necessary for ships to keep at exact distances from each other so as to maneuver properly. An electrical

device is now in use on some of our warships whereby the vessels are enabled to fix the desired distances accurately. The helm indicator, another electrical device in use, simply tells the man at the wheel at what angle the captain wishes the helm set to make a turn. A registering device on the bridge, operated by electricity, notifies the captain whether his orders have been carried out. A mistake in obeying the orders of the captain in time of battle in this respect might result in a collision, and how serious that might be the fate of the Victoria when the Camperdown sank her in the Mediterranean several years ago would seem to indicate.

The range finder on ships consists of two sighting apparatus, usually situated well up on the superstructure of the warship, with an operator for each station. The exact distance between the stations is known, and this forms the base of a triangle. The operators simply focus their instruments upon the target. An automatic device registers the angles involved and this at once indicates the exact distance of the target from the ship. This distance is telegraphed to the various guns and the man who has charge of the elevation of a gun knows the exact range.

There are other electrical devices which are being used or perfected for use on warships. One of them is a sounding apparatus to take the depth of water when the ship is going at full speed and to give warning of danger. Another is to secure some means of communication between the various ships of a squadron without wires and by means of induction. Neither of these systems has been successful yet, but both serve to indicate the trend of events in electrical engineering, so far as it applies to warships. Hence it is that the use of electricity on such vessels would probably grow, and it must be a very positive and learned man who can indicate the limit of its future use.

The Church of God is divided into a great number of denominations. There would fail me to tell of the Calvinists, and the Arminians, and the Sabatarians, and the Baxterians, and the Dunkers, and the Shakers, and the Quakers, and the Methodists, and the Baptists, and the Episcopalians, and the Lutherans, and the Congregationalists, and the Presbyterians, and the Spiritualists, and a score of other denominations of religious men. Those who would fail me to tell of the Calvinists, and the Arminians, and the Sabatarians, and the Baxterians, and the Dunkers, and the Shakers, and the Quakers, and the Methodists, and the Baptists, and the Episcopalians, and the Lutherans, and the Congregationalists, and the Presbyterians, and the Spiritualists, and a score of other denominations of religious men. 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