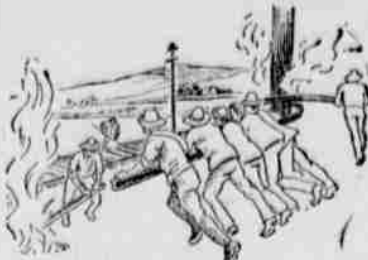


FREAK BIRDS AND BEASTS IN THE PHILIPPINES.



If Uncle Sam could collect a pair of specimens of each species of beasts, birds and reptiles which inhabit his newly acquired Philippine possessions he would have a zoological "biggest show on earth." Some of the most remarkable ones are shown in the accompanying cut. The spectre is the most grotesque of Oriental animals. Its eyes are like a great pair of spectacles and its feet and ankles are uncovered bone formations. The kaganu, or flying fox, is a bat. It lives on fruit. The mongoose is a pest which we should beware of importing. The zibeth is a variety of civet cat. The bucceros rhinoceros, who imprisons his mate in a hollow by building a plaster wall over the entrance hole, so that she cannot leave the nest during the nesting season, is the oddest of Philippine fowls. Father Hornbill feeds his wife through a small hole all the while. When the eggs are hatched he hammers down the wall and lets her out. The paradise major is one of the most gorgeous birds in the world. The buffalo is used as a beast of all work.

It has furnished an excellent means of telegraphing. By switching the current on and off the light can be broken up into dots and dashes, to form telegraphic letters. The enemy might see these signals, but as a secret code would doubtless be employed, the significance of the flashes would not be understood except by the initiated. Searchlights have been made whose rays could be discerned at a distance of fifty or seventy-five miles. At Kimberley it was known that Lord Methuen's army had come within twenty or thirty miles nearly a fortnight ago. No difficulty should have been experienced in sending messages concerning the situation in the beleaguered city, therefore, although a

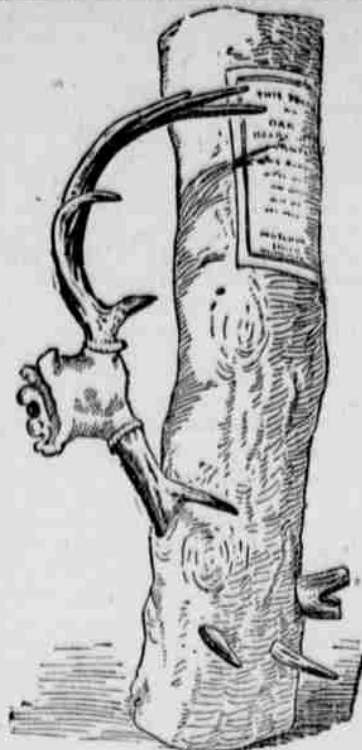


HOW BOERS DESTROY RAILWAYS.

reassuring response could not so easily be transmitted.

The Boers, too, are learning to use modern methods. A small contingent have realized the uselessness of merely tearing up a section of railway and throwing the rails into a stream—the usual Boer method of destroying a track. What they now do is to heat the centre of a section to a white heat and carry the rail by its two cool ends to the nearest tree or telegraph pole, round which they twist it in such a

Munchausen Corroborated.
A very singular zoological curiosity is now on exhibition at the New York State Museum of Natural History, at Albany. It consists of a section of the trunk of a large oak tree directly



UNIQUE ZOOLOGICAL SPECIMEN.

through which is thrust the antler of what must have been a large deer. A part of the skull remains attached, still bearing the other antler, plainly showing that the deer must have died upon the spot, being unable to pull away from the tree after once becoming fast. Of course the presumption is that the antler was not imbedded in the oak when it was full grown; evidently the deer while rubbing his horns on a young sapling, or butting against it, in some way got fast, and the tree as it grew gradually grew more and more round the imprisoned prongs. The specimen was found in the Michigan woods.

A Blind Shot.

A well-known divinity professor, a grave and learned man had five daughters, whom his students irreverently named "Genesis," "Exodus," "Numbers," "Leviticus" and "Deuteronomy."

Beginning his lecture one day, the professor said: "Gentlemen, I wish to speak to you about the age of Genesis."

Roars of laughter came from the students.

"Genesis is not so old as you suppose," continued the professor.

More roars—so long continued, indeed, that the worthy man had time to think before he made the next remark. He said timidly—and he managed to hit the mark this time:

"I may not be thinking of the same Genesis as you are!"—Collier's Weekly.

Odd Companions.

A Maine man has a fox and a hound that are boon companions. When both animals were in the pup stage, they were placed together and have now enjoyed a year of each other's society in peace and harmony. They sleep together and play with each other much after the manner of two frolicsome pups. The fox has perfect freedom of action, coming and going at will, but he always returns at night to share the dog's bed.—Kennebec (Me.) Journal.

A Famous Western Capitalist.

Among the progressive element for which the middle West is famous, Mr. John C. Hubinger, of Keokuk, Iowa, is without a peer. As a manufacturer, an enterprising capitalist and as a philanthropist his fame has spread over many States. Although but forty-seven years of age, he can look back upon scores of commercial victories, each one of which has benefited mankind, for his liberality is as bountiful as his business sagacity is marvelous. Mr. Hubinger was born in New Orleans, La., his parents being of French and German origin. Almost before reaching man's estate he secured patents on a number of valuable mechanical inventions, thereby laying the foundation of his present fortune.

His attention was early directed to the manufacture of starch by improved processes, and in the course of time he became the head of a concern having an annual business of millions of dollars.



JOHN C. HUBINGER.

While Mr. Hubinger is devoting his best energies to the manufacture of his new and wonderful product, this will not interfere with the exercise of the splendid hospitality which he, his wife and his four children dispense at their palatial Keokuk home.

An apparatus has been devised for automatically photographing people as they enter shops and other places.

NEW YORK FASHIONS.
Designs For Costumes That Have Become Popular in the Metropolis.

New York City (Special).—Very long trained skirts are demanded for house wear. Tea gowns, and all gowns to be worn for formal occasions and

yet ribbon, an entirely new conception, and one which lends itself excellently to the copyist. In a cotton waist it would be made entirely of tucks, or tucks alternated with insertions.

The back shows an unbroken line of tucks from the neck to the waist. At the front the line is broken at the bust, from which point the bands extend around the body to the side seams.

In the silk waist black velvet stock and cuffs are pictured; in the cotton waist the linen collar would be worn and the sleeves finished to the wrist.

The Latest in Veils.

One has heard on all sides that veils are out of date; certainly they were hardly worn during the summer. In fact, no smart woman wore them last season, but now the winter winds are with us again people are glad of the protection of a veil to keep stray locks of hair in that perfect neatness which is necessary. The very clearest veils are now worn; they are of Russian net, with a very wide mesh, the spots being far apart. At a distance these veils are hardly noticed.

Stiff Silks Used in Millinery.

Stiff silks, such as glaces, have been relegated to millinery, being employed for hats and sometimes for the back of a cloth gown, satin occasionally being substituted. It is usually of a lighter or darker shade than the rest of the gown, and also forms the lower part of the skirt, the cloth falling over it like a tunic. A favorite style for tea gowns is draped with chiffon in the front having satin or brocade at the sides.

Old Bodice Like New.

A bodice that has been worn for



DRESSY TEA GOWN.

strictly for the house are always more graceful when they are made long. The present idea of the dressmakers seems to be to make these skirts—and the same idea is carried out in some of the street gowns—with a silk drop skirt that only just touches, but is finished with two or three accordion-pleated ruffles. The unlined skirt itself has a facing sewed in with the finest of stitches, that must not be allowed to show; the facing is deep



DRAPED COTTON WAIST.

MODEL IN BANDED SILK.

enough to make the skirt hang well. The idea is that when the long skirt is lifted there is only to be seen the silk under skirt, with all its frills and ruffles. For a light gown the ruffle should be edged with lace; the effect is very dainty and attractive.

One beautiful tea gown is in the form of a sweeping coat of soft, creamy cloth; from the shoulders to the waist is an inset of coarse lace, embroidered in gold, and through this one can see the shoulder waist encircled with blue, while soft yellow chiffon falls in front. Another tea gown has an underdress of white satin, with a lace coat, cut to follow the lines of the figure and embroidered with brilliantly colored roses and having scarf ends of pink chiffon floating in front. A blue tea gown—although white, rose and yellow seem to be the favorites this season—is singularly pretty. It has a trailing coat of silver mail, with a black and white sash, the ends of which are delicately flowered.

Broad Belts Now.

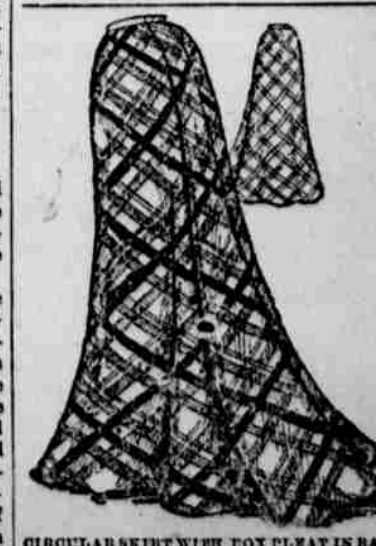
Broad belts of Liberty satin or velvet are seen on some of the new costumes, in sharp contrast to the narrow belts that are so much in fashion. It must be confessed that a broad belt, when worn under an Eton jacket, looks very smart, just the edge showing at the back, but these belts must always be of satin or velvet, cut on the bias. A broad ribbon belt is quite out of style.

Two Late Waist Models.

A draped waist model is pictured in the large engraving which can be easily copied in cotton. The foundation is silk and indicates an entire bodice closely tucked.

The round yoke is of mousseline de soie, and the draped scarf which outlines the yoke is also of the same material, edged with silk ribbon. This idea would serve excellently for the waist made of Persian lawn, and the draped portion could follow the model shown, made of lawn, tucked and edged with a narrow ruffling of Valenciennes lace. It could also be cut in deep points, sort of handkerchief points, made of strips of insertion edged with lace, or of lawn more simply finished. In a design of this kind ruffles would be omitted.

The second model in this group is of silk banded with narrow black vel-



CIRCULAR SKIRT WITH FOX PLEAT IN BACK.

To make this skirt for a woman of medium size will require three and three-quarters yards of material fifty-four inches wide.

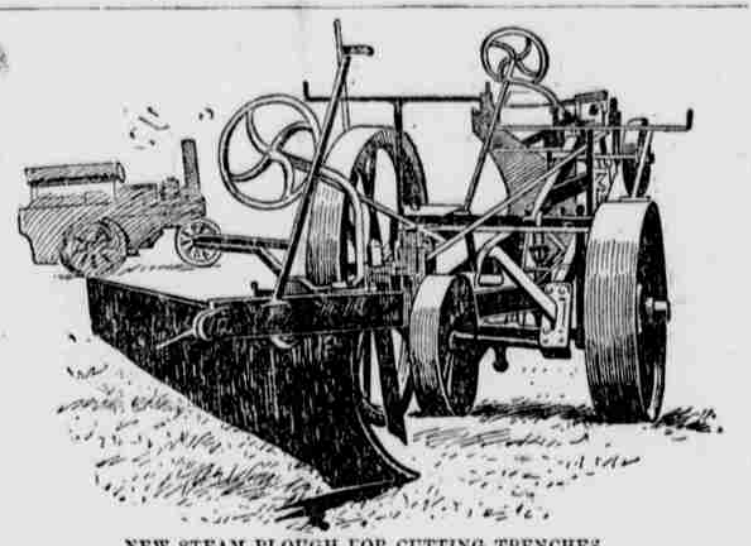
Modern War Mechanism.

Searchlights, Steam Ploughs and Heliographs in South Africa.

As might be expected, the English are using in the South African war the most modern military appliances that can be had. They are thoroughly up to date in the matter of guns and ammunition, and even the surgeons are using new means of developing X rays. The War Office has negotiated with Marconi's business representatives for wireless telegraphic outfits, and by this time the apparatus ought to be in service. Moreover, a number of other appliances that are not necessarily instruments of war have been put to use in the contest with the Boers.

One of the most striking instances of this kind is the employment of a steam plough for digging trenches. The ploughshare and pruning hook are particularly typical of the arts and spirit of peace, but now, for the first time in history, the former implement has become a military weapon. The steam plough is not in itself any novelty. It has been used for years on a large scale in the western parts of the United States, where the great wheat and corn crops of the country are raised. It is also well known in other parts of the world where agricul-

out in front, carries only a small part of the load, and is used mainly for steering purposes. There is nothing especially new in the resort to telephony. The American Signal Service has long had ample equipments of this kind for field work, particularly in the dissemination of orders from headquarters and the re-



NEW STEAM PLOUGH FOR CUTTING TRENCHES. (Used for the first time in the South African War.)

ceipt of reports from subordinates during an action. It is not at all likely that the English are ahead of the United States in this respect. However, some interesting features are presented by one of the instances of telephony in South Africa just described in the dispatches.

After arriving on the field of battle at Elandslaagte, General French saw the necessity of prompt reinforcements. In his army were several telegraphers, who were provided with portable telephones, batteries and incidental apparatus. A regular telegraph line passes in the vicinity of Elandslaagte. General French's men tapped one of the wires of this line. The first step was to establish an electric connection with the overhead wire. This was done by suspending thereon, by a metallic hook or clip at the top of a light, portable stick, one end of another wire. The latter extended downward to a box containing a telegraph key and sounder, two or three cells of battery, and a convenient combination of telephone transmitter and receiver. To make the apparatus work, it was further necessary to run the lower end of the hanging wire into the ground. Thus a regular "circuit" was formed, the earth affording a return route for the current. Either a telegraph key or a telephone could be used, according to the convenience of the operator.

A convenient substitute for Marconi's apparatus has been found at Kimberley in the powerful electric searchlight there. It is a mistake to suppose that such a device is serviceable only at sea. Although the uses

way that it is absolutely impossible to use it again for railway purposes. When the usual plan is adopted, the British troops merely search for the missing sections and replace them.

A valuable method of communicating, which the British are using in South Africa, is the heliograph, such as our army has long employed on the Western plains.

General Buller, while at Frere station, communicated daily with General White, at Ladysmith, about twenty miles away, with the heliograph. Sun rays flashed back and forth told the besieged army to be of good cheer and assured the relief column that the garrison, though hard pressed, was cheerful.

Mormons' Curious Alphabet.

An alphabet intended for exclusive use in Mormon literature was designed by Orson Pratt and W. Phelps, both contemporaries of the great apostle of the Latter Day Saints,



SECRET SPELLING SYSTEM.

Brigham Young. The Mormon abecedar consists of forty letters based on a sort of phonetic system. It has never come into very general use, but is employed when secret intelligence is transmitted from one head of the church to a distant apostle.

A South Sea Island Bride.

The bridal procession was approaching. In front, walking abreast, came the wedded pair—tall, handsome, and of an excellent tawny hue. The bride, a beautiful young girl, exhibited a ludicrously absurd appearance. Her shapely legs and feet were naked. She wore a low bodice of scarlet satin, bedecked with shoulder-knots of brilliant blue. Round her body so many robes, some of the paper-like barkcloth, others woven of the native grass, were wrapped, that her aspect, instead of impressing us, as it doubtless did the natives, with respect for her wealth, merely made comic suggestion that the poor child was parading inside a barrel! Her pretty head, running over with close rings of tan-tipped hair, was uncovered; and her neck and limbs glistened with oil.—Blackwood.

Health the Main-spring of Success.
The chief essential of success for a young man is what the vast majority of young men think about the least—that is, good health and a sound constitution. That is the first thing; nothing precedes it. In the battle for success, that should be a young man's first thought; not his abilities, nor his work, but his health. That is the basis; the cornerstones of all. Abilities cannot bring health, but health may, and generally does, develop ability.—Ladies' Home Journal.



KIMBERLEY SEARCHLIGHT. (A powerful electric light is installed on the shaft head at the De Beers mine. By this light signals were exchanged between Kimberley and the force under Lord Methuen.)

ture is conducted on the wholesale plan. The particular plough used in South Africa was designed by Colonel Temple, of the Royal Engineers, and differs only in trifling details from that with which the American wheat grower breaks up the surface of the fertile prairie. The superiority of this means of digging trenches is so manifest that one wonders why it has never thought of before. A three wheeled "traction engine," such as is



BRITISH SIGNALING LADY SMITH BY HELIOGRAPH.

employed in hauling heavy wagons from town to town or in operating itinerant threshing machines, drags the steam plough of Colonel Temple through the soil. Two of the wheels are large and broad, and the third,

which it has in the navy are somewhat different from those thus far found for it on land, it certainly has its value on terra firma. At Kimberley it has performed a double office. It has assisted in the watch for an enemy, and