

There is one good thing about these Arctic explorers. If they are jealous of one another they take care not to show it.

An English experimenter claims that he had successfully established and worked a wireless telephone. No one has yet made any special improvement on the "central" nuisance.

Consul-General Mason, at Berlin, states that the Bavarian government has experimented with American coal upon Bavarian railways and finds it superior to German coal, but that the price renders its general use at present hardly possible.

In postoffice matters the automobile is making a profitable record. It is said that in tests made by the government in New York City and Washington a saving of nearly 50 per cent, was made in the time of collecting mail.

It is not surprising that the cruiser Charleston was lost in Philippine waters. Lately the commander of one of Uncle Sam's ships went to the chart room and requested the navigator to plot the ship's position by the Spanish chart. In due time he received the answer, that if the Spanish chart was correct, the ship was three miles in land. For 300 years Spain held the Philippines, and yet not a correct chart of the waters or a single road inland.

It is said that the Japanese newspaper reporter has reduced the interviewing branch of his profession to a science. He wastes no time over pleasant introductory remarks when assigned to interview a foreigner arriving in Japan, but proceeds at once to catechise the victim, beginning with questions as to the latter's age, place of birth, etc., and gradually wringing from him the whole story of his life. The final question, according to a recently returned traveler, is generally something like this: "If anything of interest has ever befallen you upon your travels at home or abroad, please give me full information now."

The general rule of cities that whenever a school teacher marries her position thereby becomes vacant has just been reversed in San Francisco. The new school charter mentions only "insubordination, immoral or unprofessional conduct or evident unfitness for teaching" as grounds of dismissal. Hence when one of the teachers married and was consequently dismissed she appealed from the decision, and the appeal was sustained, the law officer of the city taking the ground that since insubordination was "disobedience of the lawful authority," and there being no item in the charter forbidding the marriage of teachers, there could be no disobedience or insubordination shown by those doing so.

Camden, N. J., which has always been popular with young couples who wanted to get married quickly and without too much ostentation, introduced a decided novelty recently in the way of a shirt-waist wedding. This was quite a formal affair, however. The bride and groom were from Camden, but they reversed the usual order of things by getting married in Philadelphia. The bridegroom wore a white silk shirt, white tie and black trousers, while in the white cambrie shirts of the ushers nestled dainty gold studs, the gift of the groom. That's where the most startling innovation comes in. The costumes of all the men who took part in the ceremony were described at length, but there wasn't a word said about what the bride wore. And it was all her idea, too.

Experiments are being conducted by the department of agriculture with a view of increasing the wheat-producing capacity of the United States, and furnishing a better grade of wheat. The problem is a difficult one. It is desired to procure a winter wheat which will be available for use in the Red River valley, a wheat which will stand exposure, and which will produce as good flour as the spring wheat now raised in this territory. The best wheat in America is the spring wheat of the Red River valley, and the great millers of the lake cities prefer it to any other, but wheat sown in the spring yields only about half the amount per acre that wheat sown in the winter yields, if the conditions are equally favorable. Therefore, it is estimated that should the department be successful in finding a winter wheat for the Red River valley which will produce as good flour as the spring wheat and will stand the exposure of the severe winter weather of that region, the problem will be solved.

A GEY AULD WIFE.
A little old woman with soundless shoon
For a heart as hard as flint;
In the light of the sun and the glint of
The moon
Her locks are as white as lint.

She moecheth youth and she flouteth love,
For a gey auld wife is she;
And the sands beneath and the stars
Above
Were new in her memory.

She toucheth the rose and it falls apart,
The stone and it crumbles away,
But never a tear to her eye will start,
This spirit of yesterday.

For this little old woman the Sphinx be-
held
When the dawn of the world was bright,
The little old woman, who came from
Eld,
Ere the Lord made day and night.

She creepeth about in her soundless shoon,
She singeth a dreary rhyme,
And the nations drowse to her eerie rune,
For the gey auld wife is Time,
Margaret E. Sangster, in Harper's Bazar.

The Course of True Love.

THE symphony was over, and the audience rose to depart. Carol Milnot lingered; she was loth to break the spell of enchantment. Her music-loving soul had been thrilled and delighted with the grand, sweet harmony she had just listened to.

"Do hurry, Carol!" said Elsie. "I shall miss my train."
As they passed a group of young ladies chatting gaily, Carol noticed a tall, graceful girl whose lovely, animated face attracted much attention.

"Isn't she charming?" whispered Elsie. "Jack Belmont's fiancée—just returned from Paris, where she was educated."
"Jack Belmont?" repeated Carol, sharply. "Are you sure?"

"Yes," positively. "The H— Club is to give a dinner in honor of their engagement. I was surprised," Elsie continued, "for I thought, last summer, that Mr. Belmont was quite partial to a friend of mine. And she glanced slyly at Carol, whose vivid color was controlled by the dim light.

Carol breathed a sigh of relief as Elsie hurried away.
"I will not believe this report," she said to herself, with a pained, determined look on her face. "She is very beautiful, just the kind of girl men love at first sight—but not Jack. He would not forget me so soon, even though no promise bound us. It can't be true."

The Stuart-Belmont announcement caused quite a stir in society. The prospect of a brilliant wedding, and the bridal trousseau, were minutely discussed. Carol's reticence, and apparent indifference to such gossip kept her in ignorance of everything, except the one dreadful fact which she could no longer deny; Jack Belmont had given his love to another.

She welcomed any diversion that would help her forget the past; so, when the invitation came to spend the Lenten season with a classmate who lived in New York, she gladly accepted it. By a strange coincidence, Jack Belmont arrived from London on the same day.

One morning soon after Carol went for a walk in the park. It was a glorious day, warm and spring like. As she walked rapidly along she noticed a young man approaching who seemed strangely familiar. She glanced at him again.

"Why, it's Jack!" she said. She caught her breath—her heart gave a bound. Belmont's handsome, genial face beamed with delight as he hastened toward her.

"Miss Milnot!" he exclaimed. "What an unexpected pleasure!"
Carol greeted him with the graceful, quiet dignity so characteristic of her. If he noticed a difference in her manner he did not betray it. He seemed in the best of spirits, and frankly showed his delight at seeing her again.

Carol felt perplexed and troubled; his attitude toward her was too obvious to be mistaken. Could the rumors concerning him be false? she asked herself. As he led the way to a more secluded spot a seat half hidden by a hedge of willows invited his attention.

"Shall we rest here awhile?" he asked wistfully.
Carol hesitated, but after a second thought consented.
"It seems an age since we parted," he said, as he took his place beside her.

"Glanced quickly at him. The old J look shone in his eyes. The color deepened in her cheeks.
"Shall you return to B— soon?" he asked eagerly.

"My plans are rather indefinite," she replied with a touch of dignity.
"Let me plan for you," he said, a twinkle in his eye.
Carol glanced at her watch. She had hoped to rebuke him—it was useless to try.

"Don't go!" he pleaded. "I wish to speak of our club dinner—it comes off next week. You must have heard about it."
"Yes, indeed," she answered coolly. "It is to be given in honor of your engagement to Miss Stuart. Allow me to congratulate you."
She smiled faintly. For a moment Jack looked surprised, but his keen eyes noted something that sent a thrill to his heart.

he said dryly. "Several times, of late, I've been informed of my good fortune. It seems strange," he continued, "that my cousin Jack's existence has been ignored by his friends since his sojourn abroad. He has lived in London for some time, and met Miss Stuart there last season."
He paused, and looked earnestly at Carol. Her sweet, sensitive face showed the strong feeling within. This overwhelming joy was more than she could bear, after the past weeks of nervous strain. Her eyes filled with blinding tears. As she turned her head to conceal them, she felt her hand clasped in Jack's strong one.

"Carol, my darling, I love you, and only you. How could you doubt me?" he said, his voice low and tender. "As a penalty for your naughty thoughts," he added, looking roughly at her blushing face. "I shall announce our engagement at the club."—Waverley Magazine.

TWENTY-SEVEN CENTS A DAY.
Many Men Manage to Live Well on That Amount.
"Oh, yes, there are plenty of fellows in this city who live well on 27 cents a day," said a dining room owner to a Star reporter. The lunch man has been in the business for years, and knows what he is saying. "I'll tell you how they do it: They get up in the morning, and with 6 cents go to a 3-cent lunch room. There they procure a cup of coffee and a sandwich, each costing 3 cents, or something of that sort. This is sufficient for them. At lunch time they visit the 3-cent places again, and with a piece of pie and a glass of milk are contented until dinner. That is a total of 12 cents. At dinner they go to the regular lunch or dining rooms and eat themselves happy on 15 cents. At a number of regular dining rooms in the city a dinner can be bought for 15 cents, and will be a good one, too. It will consist of a soup and bread, one meat and one entree, two vegetables, a piece of pie or other dessert and a cup of tea or coffee. But where these sharpers do the lunch room proprietors is another way. They have become so expert at the business that they know when each dining room is to have a certain dish for dinner, and, therefore, they have their pick of meats and other things. I remember that I used to serve chicken on a certain day. I soon found that these fellows were getting the best of me. All of them would visit me on 'chicken day,' and with 15 cents would get a good dinner. The next day they would disappear, and would show up at the dining rooms of some other man. Of course, I couldn't stand the expense of this kind of business, and I disarranged the entire programme of the young fellows by not having any regular bill of fare for every day in the week, as most dining rooms have. I lost some of this trade, but in doing so I think I made money. These 27-cent fellows can scent ice cream for days ahead, and will be on hand. They are never suspected of their shrewd ways, because most of them dress well and hold good positions. For all I know they may do this to save money. I expect, however, that they simply save to spend in dress and in making an appearance in other ways where their style will show to advantage."—Washington Star.

The Uses of Hot Water.
Hot water has far more medical virtues than many believe or know. Because it is so easily procured, thousands think it valueless. The uses of hot water are, however, many. For example, there is nothing that so promptly cuts short congestion of the lungs, sore throat, or rheumatism as hot water when applied promptly and thoroughly. Headache almost always yields to the simultaneous application of hot water to the feet and back of the neck. A towel folded several times and dipped in hot water, and quickly wrung out and applied over the painful part in toothache or neuralgia will generally afford prompt relief. A strip of flannel or napkin folded lengthwise and dipped in hot water and wrung out and applied around the neck of a child that has the croup will sometimes bring relief in ten minutes. A goblet of hot water taken just after rising, before breakfast, has cured thousands of indigestion, and no simple remedy is more widely recommended by physicians to dyspeptics. Very hot water will stop dangerous bleeding.

Must Have That Supper.
A gentleman has a bright little boy who behaves for all the world like other children, which in a child is a virtue, not a vice. The other afternoon he played so hard that he fell asleep, and was put to bed without his supper.

The next morning Harry got up very much refreshed by his long rest, and came down to his breakfast as smiling and happy as he could be.
"You were a good boy last night, Harry," said a lady. "You went to bed without your supper."
Harry looked at her for a moment in painful surprise, and then all of a sudden his face clouded and he asked the nurse:

"Did I go to sleep without my supper last night?"
"Yes," said the nurse.
"Well," said he, between his tears. "I want my last night's supper now." And he had it.—Tit-Bits.

Couldn't Stand Sitting.
Professor Simon J. Brown, the astronomical director of the naval observatory at Washington, was standing, as usual, before his desk, when a colleague came into his office. "Is it possible," said he, "that you work in that way? I can't stand standing."
"That's odd," replied the professor. "It's different with me. I can't stand sitting."

ANIMALS AS SWIMMERS.

CAMELS, MONKEYS AND GIRAFFES NOT UP IN NATATION.

The vast majority of animals swim well on their first immersion in the water—rodents the most interesting family of swimmers.

It has often been said that among all the bipeds and quadrupeds man alone is unable to swim naturally but this, like many other sweeping statements, is not usually true. Many men have been known to swim on their first entry into deep water, while, on the other hand, there are several mammals whose natatory power is even inferior to that of man. Take, for instance, camels, monkeys, giraffes and llamas. Camels it is true, may be taught to swim with artificial aids, and now and then apes manage to scramble over narrow sheets of water without being drowned but it may be confidently asserted that neither giraffes nor llamas can ever accomplish the art.

The vast majority swim well on their first immersion in the water; and, whether as a means of passage or to escape danger, most of them take to the element with the utmost confidence, even on their first attempt.
Strange to say certain members of the seal family which eventually take their place among the best swimmers in creation are, at the onset of their career, the most helpless.

Sea lions, although they do not spend so long a time in the water as the true seals, move even more gracefully and rapidly when in search of food. The latter are so much at home in the water that they will sometimes go fast asleep among the waves, and will even lie for half an hour or more at the bottom of the water without betraying any sign of uneasiness.

The rodents are perhaps the most interesting family of swimmers. All the good swimmers among the rodents are also expert divers, and are able, moreover, to raise or depress the body in the water at will. When swimming at ease and unsuspecting of danger, the water line passes across the mouth, the middle of the cheek, and the shoulder. Resealing on the surface rather more than one-third of the whole body; and though the root of the tail is seen, the tail itself is generally under the water excepting when the animal is quite stationary.

The paws of hares and rabbits in swimming are like an ill-ballasted ship, down by the head. Like the squirrels, these two animals show great timidity in the water, and naturally so, for their heads are so low and stems so high that the slightest ripple on the surface would send their noses under water and so drown them unless they at once returned to land. In perfectly still water, however, they can both swim considerable distances.

"A friend of mine, who is a constant fisherman," says Mr. Millais, "told me that he has three times seen hares try to swim the Tweed and each time, after going half way, the timid creatures had to return, doubtless owing to water getting into their nostrils. As far as I have been able to ascertain rabbits and hares are the only animals that expose the whole of the hind leg, except the foot above the water when taking a stroke; the effect of this is very curious giving them the appearance of a slow, stern-wheel paddle steamer. When once fairly started the legs are moved slowly, although the animals proceed at a fair rate of speed."

Roe, although good swimmers, move so slowly in water that a dog can outstrip them. As to the hippopotamus, all visitors to the "Zoo" are familiar with his aquatic powers, but it is not so generally known that the elephant, too, is a splendid swimmer, and will often remain in the water 30 hours at a stretch, swimming all the time.
Major-General Keatinge, V. C., some time resident at Mandalaeswhur, on the Nerubuddha, told Mr. Millais that during the rainy season wild elephants occasionally came swimming down the river past his house, the nearest jungle from which they could have come being 200 miles up stream. On these occasions the natives, though provided with huge flat-bottomed punts, and well knowing the value of the animals, could not be persuaded to go near them, fearing to be seized.

As a general rule they swim very deep in the water, only the top of the head and the trunk being visible; but occasionally—perhaps for their own satisfaction, or at the instigation of the mahout—they will swim high, even when they have a burden on their backs.
Of pigs it is commonly reported that so queerly fashioned are they that if they attempt to swim they cut their throats with their forefeet; but this is only an old wife's fable. Whether wild or tame, they are all good swimmers, though, owing to the shortness of their legs, they just touch their throats with their forefeet and beat the water very high. Many of the islands of the southern seas are now inhabited by wild pigs which are the descendants of those which have swum ashore, sometimes great distances, from wrecked vessels. Camels cannot swim. They are very buoyant, but ill-balanced and their heads go under water. They can, however be taught to swim rivers with the aid of goatskins or jars fastened under their necks. During the Beluchistan expedition of 1858 the camels were lowered into the sea from the ships and their drivers plunging overboard clambered on to the rumps of their charges, causing the animals' heads to come up and thus assisted they were successfully piloted ashore.

Several animals, such as hedgehogs and bats, who would, at first glance

be considered incapable of natation, are in reality quite respectable performers.—Peterson's Magazine.

HOLD OF THE FLAG ON THE HEART

Meaning of Stars and Stripes When Seen at Home After a Long Absence.

How many people fully realize what the flag of their country means to them? How many know the place it actually holds in their affections? It may be safely said that the number is very small. One has to be away from home to get the full meaning of it. Here, where the flag is everywhere, it is treated more or less lightly; indeed, the average man gives it no thought at all. A traveler, Morgan Williams of Chicago, recently discussed entertainingly on this subject. It was just after the relief of the legations at Peking.

"I can at least partially appreciate the thrill that the first sight of the Stars and Stripes floating over the relieving force gave the Americans who had been waiting so long for succor," he said. "Of course, I never was hemmed in for weeks by a cruel horde as they were, and the flag could not have the same significance for me, but I had been for a year without the sight of it and when my gaze first rested on it I had to gulp down something that rose in my throat. When I left home I had about the same reverence for it that the average American has, and while I was traveling I really hadn't given it much thought. I had no special longing to see it; at least no such idea had been formulated in my mind. Nor had I been especially homesick. Of course, a man who has been long away wants to get back to his native country, but I was used to traveling and took my enforced absence philosophically.

On this occasion I had been in Africa, not in the wilds, you understand, but still far enough away from the usual course of travel so that my eyes had at no time lighted on the flag that previously had been most familiar to me. It so happened that I did not see it until I reached Paris on my way home. I saw other flags, but not the Stars and Stripes, and, as I said before, I was not looking for it and was not conscious of any anxiety to see it. I knew that I wanted to get back to the United States. Then suddenly one day the old flag met my gaze. There was some sort of American celebration in Paris, and the Red White and Blue was waving from a window. I stood stock still for a minute, while a lump rose in my throat; then I jumped into the street threw my hat up in the air and gave a wild, Western yell that must have made the natives think I was crazy. It was only a piece of bunting, of course, but I never saw anything before or since that so thrilled me. I simply couldn't help yelling, and it was immaterial to me how big a fool I seemed to make of myself so long as I gave that flag one good rousing cheer.

"That's why I say that the man who has never been away from the flag is unable to appreciate what it means to him or the affection that he really feels for it. One must see it in a foreign land to gain any conception of the hold it has on his heart. And if the mere sight of it so affected me under these circumstances what must a glimpse of it at the head of a relief column have meant to the Americans in Peking? It was more than the mere assurance of relief, and I venture to say that the best of them never will be able to put their feelings into words. There are some emotions that are beyond description, and principal among them are those inspired in the breast of a true patriot by the first glimpse of the flag of his country after he has been a long time without seeing it or when it comes as a banner of hope in time of danger and privation."—New York Sun.

A Trip to the Moon.

World's fair now vie with one another more in their side-show or "Midway" attractions than in their true objects, and each succeeding one has to out-reach its predecessors in strange and startling sensations. One of the shocks that is to be given at the Buffalo Pan-American Exposition next year is a spectacular "trip to the moon." You go aboard the airship Luna; when all is ready the cables are thrown off and you rise into the upper regions, (for so it appears to the passenger). It is night and the stars shine brightly above, while below you see the retreating lights of Rochester, Albany and other subliminary cities. You see the moon, too, at first far away but gradually nearer; and at length you land on it. Here the Man in the Moon welcomes you and details guides to show you the wonders of his domain. When you have exhausted the sights of the satellite you return to the earth as you came. All the effects will be produced by moving scenery and ingenious mechanical contrivances.

A Benefaction.

A New Orleans paper tells the story of a generous-hearted suburban woman whose charity is practical and agreeable. Being possessed of more cream than she can use in her family, she has it made into ice cream with fruit juices. With freezer in the wagon, drawn by a reliable horse, she starts on an invalid of the village. Where there is an invalid, or an over-tired house mother, a group of happy children or some one feeble with age, she gives of her grateful store of cream, served in saucers and with spoons that her foresight has provided. And so she goes till her stock is exhausted, when she returns home in two or three days to repeat this beneficent work.

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED

PENSIONS GRANTED.

Young Man Asks His Wife to Get a Divorce. Injured While Hunting—Murderers Respired.

Pensions have been granted the following persons: Joseph Rober, Lewistown, \$12; Samuel Montgomery, Waynesburg, \$8; William F. Collier, Clarion, \$10; John C. Stewart, Rural Valley, \$8; Jesse Sturtz, Cooks Mills, \$10; William White, Tarentum, \$10; Robert Hudson, Philipsburg, \$12; Chauncey R. Dever, Washington, \$8; James Craven, Monongahela, \$10; Elizabeth C. Hurst, Mt. Pleasant, \$8; minors of George Lundy, New Castle, \$16; Nicholas Walsh, Natrona, \$6; Henry Kelly, Rochester, \$5; Cumberland G. Creel, Point Marion, \$8; Lucinda Calhoun, Everett, \$12.

In July J. W. Carson, married Alma Stauffer, daughter of Jacob S. Stauffer, proprietor of the Parkway hotel at Beaver. Carson was a member of the Fourteenth regiment, National Guard of Pennsylvania, and in August went with it to Mt. Gretna. There he became enamored with a young woman from Harrisburg. About three weeks ago Carson left home. Since then his wife has received letters from New York, asking her to get a divorce so he can marry the Harrisburg woman, to whom he declares he is under obligations. He also wants his wife to pack his clothing carefully with moth balls so that it will keep all right until he returns in three years.

The following postmasters for Pennsylvania have been appointed: James Rucroft, Dunberry, Washington county; vice T. C. Cowell, resigned; J. W. Glenn, Raymlton, Venango county; vice F. N. Raymond, resigned; F. M. Rankin, Van Meter, Westmoreland county; vice N. E. Rhoades, resigned. The postoffice at McMurray, Washington county, has been discontinued, to be supplied by rural free delivery; mail to Canonsburg.

The Winfield railroad, running from a point near Butler junction, on the West Penn, to West Winfield, a distance of 12 miles, is to be extended through a rich coal and limestone country to Denny's mills. The Winfield branch has hitherto been used as a coal road, but after November to passenger trains are to be run over it. The extension of the road is to be built in the spring.

One of the largest and most modern rod mill plants in the country will be constructed on the South side, Pittsburgh, at once by Jones & Laughlins at a cost of \$300,000, and the big Pittsburgh steel concern will become another powerful rival of the American Steel & Wire Company. It is officially stated that the firm will be producing rods at the first of the new year.

R. A. Harrison, of Darlington, who recently eloped with Miss Lillie D. Cook and left his wife, has been held for court on two charges preferred by Thomas Cook, the girl's father. He was unable to give bail and was remanded to jail. Miss Cook and the minister who married Harrison and Miss Mary McChesney at New Galilee two years ago were among the witnesses.

The Pittsburgh Company that is testing for oil and gas in Oliver township, Jefferson county, struck a good showing of oil on the Gaston farm at a depth of 2,300 feet. It is hard to tell what the results of this hole will be, as the tools were lost shortly after oil was found. The drillers tried to recover them but lost the fishing tools, too, in the attempt.

The apparatus of oil well No. 1, on the Stewart farm, in Economy township, Beaver county, belonging to Duff Bros., of Beaver, was destroyed by fire. Escaping gas ignited from a teamster's lantern and everything about the well, including three small oil tanks was burned. The loss is between \$2,500 and \$3,000.

One of the largest oil tanks in the Washington field was destroyed by fire Wednesday night. It was owned by the Donnan Bros. Oil Company and was nearly full of oil. The tank was located on the side of a hill, down which the burning oil ran in a stream. The derrick and some other buildings were ignited, but hard work saved them.

J. W. Ryers, superintendent of the Frick Coke Company farms, while hunting in the mountains near Connellsville, was severely injured in a peculiar manner. He stepped on a stone which rolled, throwing his down and breaking his leg near the ankle. He was alone and it was several hours before he was found.

The Donohue Coke Company has completed 120 of the new ovens of the 300 which are to be erected at Crabtree, Fayette county. The works have a producing capacity of 1,000 tons a day, and the monthly pay roll will amount to \$15,000. Houses for the accommodation of 100 families have been completed, and more are building.

Terror has seized the people of Bolivar. There are over 200 cases of typhoid fever in the locality, and despite the efforts of a score of physicians, the disease continues to spread. Deaths are becoming of almost daily occurrence. Many of those now ill with the disease are in a precarious condition.

Gov. Stone ordered these condemned murderers to be respited: Mark Thomas Hayes, Fayette, from October 23 to November 20; William Simms, Fayette, from October 25 to November 22. The cases of the men are before the board of pardons, which will not meet until November 9.

With his throat cut from ear to ear and both wrists mutilated with a razor, Philip Myers, aged 78 years, threw himself from an attic window of the almshouse at York, and landing on the brick sidewalk 35 feet below, had his brains dashed out and he died instantly.

John Hughes, postmaster at Cambria, near Wilkesbarre, shot and killed a burglar who broke into the office. There were two burglars, and when Hughes fired they ran. Later one of them was found dead by the roadside.

A number of farmers in Washington county have been swindled by a photographer who induced them to pay for photographs in advance and then disappeared.

While hunting in the woods near Shickshinny the trigger of Fred Carey gun caught in the stump of a tree and was discharged. The load entered his side and he will probably die.