

Centennial of Discovery of Pike's Peak Is Celebrated

Memory of Gallant Soldier-Explorer Who First Climbed Great Mountain Is Honored - Story of His Hardships.



Summit of the Peak and Cog Railroad.

Denver.—During the last week in September there was celebrated at Colorado Springs, Col., the discovery of Pike's Peak by Capt. Zebulon Montgomery Pike, the gallant young American soldier, the intrepid explorer. The anniversary of the discovery of the great mountain, the discovery of the great mountain, the discovery of the great mountain...

thermometer registered six degrees below zero at the minimum. The supplies of the party were at low ebb, with no game in sight. The clothing of the men was worn to shreds, most of them being without stockings and wearing moccasins that admitted snow and stones freely. Under such conditions it is but little wonder that the brave young soldier thought that the peak was beyond his prowess. At the present day this mountain, which Pike said no human being could climb is visited annually by not less than 100,000 tourists, who are conveyed to the top by railroad.

Captured by Spaniards. After noting the peak, Pike returned to the Arkansas river at a point where Pueblo now stands, continuing his journey into the mountains, and thence to New Mexico. Here he invaded the territory of the Spaniards and was captured by them in his blockhouse on the Rio Grande del Norte near the present city of Alamosa. Two of his men had to be abandoned and left to their fate in the hills. They were given a small supply of provisions, with the assurance that they would be rescued if the rest of the party found safety. Pike saw that the promise was kept and the abandoned ones were brought into Santa Fe by the Spanish soldiers. Pike was imprisoned first at Santa Fe and afterward conveyed to Chihuahua, where he was brought before the Spanish governor.

At this time his papers and records were seized; but he had been cautious enough to prepare duplicates, and these were saved by being distributed in the barrels of the guns of the party, and from them Pike afterward furnished the government with an accurate account of his expedition. He arrived at Natchitoches July 1, 1807, having been released by the Spaniards, and received the thanks of the government. He was promoted from rank to rank until, in 1813, he was given the rank of brigadier general in the United States army.

In the same year he was selected to command an expedition against York (now Toronto), Canada. After taking on a redoubt at the head of the attacking column and preparing to take another redoubt, Gen. Pike, with many of his soldiers, was killed by the explosion of the powder magazine in the fort. Thus ended the career of one of the most daring explorers and soldiers in American history.

In Colorado Springs there already has been erected a monument to the memory of Zebulon Montgomery Pike. The remains of the distinguished soldier-explorer lie at Madison barracks, New York, where they were interred with military honors nearly a century ago. A modest stone shaft marks the resting place of Pike and a number of soldiers of the war of 1812 who were killed with him in Canada. On his body were found two sentences, dedicated to his son: "Preserve your honor free from blemish," and "Be always ready to die for your country."

"Brick" Pomeroy's Tunnel. Among the things of which visitors to the Pike's Peak centennial heard was the resuscitation of the old "Brick" Pomeroy scheme for boring a tunnel through the base of the Rockies for railroad and other purposes. Pomeroy started the scheme 30 years ago, and sold stock all over the United States on the installment plan in a colossal company. When his faith and money ran out he went back to New York, abandoning the 2,500 feet of tunnel which he actually bored. Lately the scheme has been put on foot again by eastern capitalists. The plan is to drive a bore under Gray's Peak, thus shortening the overland route from 200 to 300 miles. It is expected that the promoters will strike enough gold in the course of their 25,000-foot borings to repay them the \$2,000,000 which it is estimated will be required to complete the work.

PLAYS TUNE ON A BARREL.

Massachusetts Man Has a String Instrument That is a Wonder.

Malden, Mass.—Out of a sugar barrel Frederick S. Hall, of Malden, has constructed a unique musical instrument, supposed to be a distant relative to the cello, and on the one string of the contrivance the performer plays arias and selections from famous operas.

Hall got the idea for the barrel cello one day when he heard the hollow sound made by some small boys pounding on a large hoghead. He believed that the hollow cavity of a good, stout oaken barrel would produce a good sounding-board for a vibrating string.

Friends of the musician have been calling at his studio by the score for the past few days to hear the new musical instrument. Hall has received a large offer for the instrument from a circus performer, but he refused to part with it.

Hall is well known in local musical circles. He is the composer of several tuneful songs and marches.

BANKER BUYS WAITER A RANCH.

David M. Moffat Will Install Old Friend in Home Near Him.

Denver, Col.—David H. Moffat, millionaire banker and railroad builder of Colorado, who boasts as his friend Thomas Gay, head waiter of the Fifth Avenue hotel, New York, desires his friend to live near him, and as the first step in that direction has purchased a ranch of 158 acres in Routt county, near Steamboat Springs, which he is having put in shape before presenting it to Gay. Mr. Moffat bought the ranch for \$1,500. He will spend a goodly portion of his time on the ranch with his old friend. The friendship of the two men has interfered with Moffat's business several times, but when a man objected to the waiter the banker wanted nothing to do with him. Once a Denver man took an eastern applicant to Mr. Moffat's room in the hotel to talk over a business deal involving \$250,000. They found Moffat playing poker with the waiter. They were introduced to him as they would have been to any other guest and the deal fell through on account of the attitude of the eastern man when a waiter was introduced to him as a social equal.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS GROW.

Foreign Trade on Sound Basis and Collections Are Large.

City of Mexico.—During the fiscal year ended June 30 the total exports of the country amounted to \$271,138,809, against \$268,520,451 in the preceding fiscal year, a gain of \$2,618,357. Imports amounted to \$250,651,974, against \$178,204,962, an increase of \$72,446,112. Nearly \$50,000,000 in coined silver was exported and some \$28,178,000 new gold was imported in the readjustment of the currency. Exports of merchandise in the fiscal year increased by \$2,741,919. The foreign trade of the country is on a sound basis and the customs collections large.

During the fiscal year the United States took of Mexican exports \$185,010,052; Great Britain, \$17,273,873; Germany, \$20,523,156; France, \$8,010,278. Mexico imported from the United States to the amount of \$115,600,312; from Germany, \$20,814,527; from Great Britain, \$20,344,547; from France, \$16,282,255. All sums are in Mexican standard currency, the unit being one-half of the American dollar gold.

STAYED IN JAIL BY CHOICE.

"Eddie" Mullin Declined to Accept Freedom and Died in Prison.

Cleveland, O.—"Eddie" Mullin, who for 29 years refused to leave the Cuyahoga county jail, died at the city hospital. He was about 65 years of age. Mullin was a familiar figure about the county prison. He was picked up by a policeman one day in the fall of 1877 wandering aimlessly about. He was talking to himself about ships and Egypt. He was taken to the county jail to await an investigation as to his sanity. He was not violent and the probate court did not investigate his case. Hugh Buckley, member of the board of public safety, was then sheriff, and he ordered the release of Mullin. The prison doors swung open and Mullin was told that he was free.

"I don't want to be free. Please let me stay here. This is the best place I have found since I left the ship—the good ship Alice," wailed Mullin with tears in his eyes. Mullin's manner touched the sheriff, and he said he could stay around the jail until he found a place to work. Mullin liked the jail so well that he did not try to get a job.

Paris Widows Remarry Soon.

Paris.—Statistics published here show that the widows of Paris marry again more readily than the widowers. In three years, 2,270 men who became widowers 148 married again within 12 months. Six hundred and twenty-eight more consorted themselves after 13 months, and at the end of the three years 3,233 had remarried, leaving only 37 single. The widows of the last three years made even shorter work of their widowhood, for out of 1,907 of them, 1,904 had married within 18 months.

STRAIGHT FLUSH IN PAWN.

Collateral Loan, Banker Advances Money on a Strong Poker Hand.

"Many queer things have been offered to me as pledges for loans," said the head man in Simpson's, "and the stories behind them would fill a book. There was one man, for instance, who put up a \$10 gold piece for a loan of \$5. The coin was a keepsake and he wouldn't part with it. But the oddest loan I ever made was on a poker hand, says the New York Press. Of course, I took a chance, but the risk was good and the profit considerably above the usual rates of interest. It happened not so long ago, either."

"It was late one afternoon when three men came in. They were all more or less excited and asked to see me privately. The spokesman was a city employe, a member of Tim Sullivan's Hesper club, and I knew him slightly. He explained that he had been sitting in a pretty stiff game—I guess you know where it is—and there came a big jackpot in which, after a lot of play, the betting had narrowed down to him and a prominent politician. No, it wasn't Big Tim or Little Tim, either, but you're warm. My visitor was all in. The game was table stakes, but the politician offered to waive the rules and wanted to bet \$500 on his hand.

"My visitor asked for and received 15 minutes' time to raise the money. In the presence of the other players the remainder of the deck of cards had been wrapped and sealed. Each player had then shown his hand to a committee to guarantee against substitution or any crooked play, and the search for the necessary \$500 began.

"My visitor had gone after one or two friends, but they were not to be found. As a last resort he came to me. If I would advance the money on the strength of the hand he would pay any interest within reason. With that he drew his five cards from his inside pocket. He held a straight flush of hearts, king high. There was only one other hand that could beat it, and that was an ace high flush. The first question I asked was: 'Who dealt the cards?' My visitor had. I considered the proposition for half a minute and decided to run the risk. There wasn't one chance in a thousand that the other fellow had a straight flush also, so, putting \$500 in my pocket, I went around to the place where the game was being played. I found matters just as my visitor had described. The politician wanted to raise the bet then to \$1,000, but I declined to go that far. The cards were then shown. The politician held the four aces. He was game, though, and never batted an eyelid as my man gathered in the stakes. My \$500 was handed over to me with the rate of interest agreed upon."

"How much was it?" asked a listener.

"That's a professional secret," said the pawnbroker, with a chuckle.

NO TWENTY-THREE FOR HIM.

The New York Judge Couldn't See the Point.

Among some 100 jurors summoned to the court of general sessions of the peace of the county of New York was one whose face expressed a sense of suppressed merriment. He was a well dressed, up-to-date Manhattan case, and confided to his neighbor the fact that he could not be held for service because his name had been misspelled in the subpoena. Several names were called and then the name of Dole, to which no one responded.

"It's 23 for me," he chuckled to his neighbor, showing him a blue slip of paper. The judge then made the usual announcement relative to filing those who had not responded to their names. The man of mirth went to ask whether Mr. Dole was to be fined. The matter was referred to the clerk.

"Here's where I get out!" he chuckled once more to his neighbor. "Dole, how do you spell your name?" interrogated the clerk.

"Not Dole at all, but Dool," replied the man, gayly.

"What's the number of your subpoena, Mr. Dool?"

Pulling the blue slip from his pocket, he replied: "Twenty-three!"

The courtroom roared. The judge frowned.

"You can serve on this jury," said he; "23 doesn't go in this court."

Compass Discovered Long Ago.

Did Columbus discover the compass? Prof. G. Hellman has pointed out that, independently of Columbus' finding, the magnetic declination must have been known on the continent from the construction of many pocket sundials provided with magnetic needles for adjusting the instruments to the astronomical meridian and showing the declination by a line on the floor of the compass box. Three such sundials have been discovered antedating Christopher Columbus, one having been constructed in 1451. Their magnetic variation must have been known, apparently, before the dawn of the fifteenth century, but by whom and where it was discovered still remain a mystery.

Starch in the Language.

Mrs. Knicker—Cleanliness is next to Godliness.

Mrs. Bocker—Is it? You just ought to hear what Henry says when his collars come home from the laundry.—N. Y. Sun.

To East-Indian Here.

A statue of Gen. Nicholson, the mutiny hero, was recently unveiled at Delhi by Lord Minto, the viceroy of India.

LIGHT ON A TRAGEDY

SAILORS MAY HAVE STARVED IN NATURAL PRISON.

Boat and Raft of Lost Steamer Valencia and Eight Skeletons Found in Cave on Pacific Coast—Rock Barred Egress.

Victoria, B. C.—A dispatch from Carmanah respecting the finding of a lifeboat and a pontoon from the steamer Valencia in caves with eight skeletons has been supplemented by a later message from the lifeboat keeper at Carmanah, which throws further light on the find. He does not indicate where the cave is located or who has made the find, but his description of the situation indicates that there is a possibility that the skeletons are those of a band less fortunate even than those who remained on the Valencia and went down to certain death. His information gives rise to the possibility that the eight persons represented by the skeletons now discovered were caught in a trap, surrounded by high stone walls, and there starved to death.

The cave in which the boat and the skeletons were found is described as barred at the entrance by a large rock. The passage on either side of this rock is far too narrow to permit of the boat being taken out that way. Apparently the boat got in by being washed over the top of the obstructive rock on the crest of a great wave. Once behind the rock access to the open sea was cut off, even when the water subsided, as it was impossible to get the boat just the barrier. The prisoners were also walled in from freedom on the land side and must there have perished for lack of food.

The boat is not damaged except for a small hole in the forward air chamber near the gunwale. To take it out of its place will require a strong force of men. The light keeper says: "I am too short-headed here to do anything."

The cave is apparently a gathering place of debris, as the lifeboat keeper says that in order to make an attempt at identifying the skeletons it would be necessary to remove several tons of rubbish which had since accumulated, and with that accomplished something might be found within the cave which would give a clue as to the identity of the unfortunate refugees who perished in the prison.

The Indians, it is reported, know of the presence of the boat and bodies for several months, but kept it secret. In the absence of knowledge of the source of the information it is presumed that it came from the Indians.

Capt. Gaudin's personal opinion is that the story will prove a false one. He inclines to the belief that it has originated with the Indians, but will have the matter fully investigated. Capt. Gaudin points out that it is unreasonable to suppose that a boat would be dashed over a rock such as is described as barring the entrance of the cave, and sustain practically no injury. This feature of the story, Capt. Gaudin thinks, throws a very strong suspicion on its reliability. He further thinks it unlikely that in the patrol of the coast which took place immediately after the wreck occurred, such a spot as described should escape notice.

May Upset President's Reform.

Washington.—The New York Times has been made by a Washington lawyer, it is said, that the action of President Roosevelt in putting into effect the simplified spelling may be in violation of a law that was passed by congress some years ago. It is said that about 25 years ago congress passed a joint resolution, which was approved by the president, making Webster's Unabridged dictionary the standard for government spelling, and that the law has never been repealed. It is also stated that there is on record a decision of the United States supreme court affirming the resolution.

Cats Mourn: Turn Black.

Stoughtonville, O.—Two cats owned by Hiram Jennings went into mourning following the death of their master the other day. Jennings was found dead in an oat field after eating a hearty meal; and by his side were the pet cats, both white. They followed his body to the grave, and upon their return to the house it was noticed that they were rapidly changing to a deep black. Within three days the felines were in deep mourning. They have refused to eat, and spend the night wailing most pathetically in the back yard.

Life Created by Frenchman?

Paris.—Prof. Leduc, of a medical school at Nantes, claims to have created vegetable life. He has been experimenting for ten years and he eventually discovered that with what he described as "osmotic pressure," which animates inorganic matter when dissolved to a liquid, it is possible to produce a substance identical with living tissues. He gradually created artificial cells, which lived and reproduced. From these he claims he produced growing plants three and four inches long.

Krupp Girls Are Frugal.

Berlin.—Frau Krupp, widow of the gunmaker of Essen, and her daughters, Bertha and Barbara, have just been here, the object of their visit being to buy the daughters' trousseaux. Notwithstanding their immense wealth not more than \$250 was spent for each outfit.

SIMPLE GREENBACK SALAD.

Buying \$300,000 Apartment House Small Matter to Hotel Chef.

Catering to the gastronomic fancies of New York city is certainly a profitable employment. If the records of the real estate exchange are to be believed, says the New York Herald, according to them, Gustave Becker, chef of the Holland house, purchased recently from the Germania Life Insurance company two elevator apartment houses at 306 and 308 West Ninety-fourth street. Mr. Becker paid \$300,000 for the property.

When asked to talk about himself and tell how he accumulated so much money while devising dishes with which to tickle the palates of patrons of the hotel, Mr. Becker took refuge behind a modest reserve which could not be broken down.

"It is such a small matter, this buying of a house or two," he said. "Why should I speak of it? It is not as if I had never before bought property. Part of this hotel is mine, and then I own the house in which I live."

"So many can make money, that it is no great credit for a cook to do the same. Other chefs have accumulated fortunes and there has not been so much talk about it. It is enough that I have been fortunate and can purchase a bit of land and houses when I see a bargain."

It was learned that Mr. Becker for some time has had a considerable interest in the hotel where he is employed. The chef's ability to find bargains in real estate is not unknown to dealers, and it is said he knows as much about profitable location as he does about the last delectable sauce piquant.

Mr. Becker admitted with a show of nonchalance that he owns the fine apartment house at 201 West Ninety-fourth street, where he has lived for a long time. He seemed surprised that it should be considered unusual for a chef to own a home in a fine residential district.

MANNA FALLS FROM SKY.

The Miracles of Old Reenacted in Turkey.

More than 20 tons of real manna have just fallen from the skies in Turkestan, to the superstitious awe of the natives.

The manna fell in a district almost bare of trees, and was eagerly collected by the poverty-stricken villagers, who ground it into flour and made cakes of it.

In ignorant of its natural origin, they regarded it as a gift from heaven.

As a matter of fact, manna is the result of the burrowing of a certain worm in trees. It is a regular article of commerce in the east, the manna ash tree being cultivated in Sicily.

But the manna which has just created so profound an impression in Turkestan is not quite the same.

A high authority on Biblical natural history states that it is the work of a worm that only produces this substance under certain climatic conditions, which obtain only about once in every 15 years or so.

These worm casts, when dry, are very light, and in the present case they were probably caught up by a whirlwind and carried away to a great distance.

The falling of a dense shower of these white casts would naturally be regarded by the natives as a wonder. It is possible that the Israelites experienced this while wandering in the desert, and although the cause was perfectly natural, to them it was an effect a direct interposition of providence in their behalf.

The word "manna" means in Hebrew "I know not." In Turkestan the word has a similar meaning.

In Australia manna is obtained from a scrubby tree. It was formerly used medicinally in children's ailments.

Green Ray Is Seen at Sunset.

The "Green-ray" is to be seen for an instant just at the time of disappearance of the setting sun below a clear horizon. Prof. Rambout finds that the phenomenon can be entirely accounted for by the generally received view of the chromatic dispersion of the atmosphere combined with selective absorption. It is not necessary to make elaborate experiments or to go on a sea voyage in order to observe the green ray. By fixing a screen and covering the focal plate of a telescope, or better still, a diaphragm with a narrow diametral slit, a green or blue flash can be seen at the top of the sun's disk and a red fringe at the bottom any time that the sun is near the horizon and the observation can be repeated as often as desired.

A Silent Hint.

She—What in your opinion is the flower that should be typical of woman?

He—The morning glory.

She—That's a queer selection. Why the morning glory?

He—Because it knows when to shut up.—Baltimore American.

French Postal Economy.

On the ground of expense, the French post office has decided to abandon the scheme of delivering letters by motor car in outlying country districts.

College Brod.

"Yes, she is college brod." "What do you mean by 'college brod'?" "She knows how to make fudge."—Washington Post.