

CORRUPTION OF RUSSIANS.

Responsible in the Main for Overwhelming Defeat on the Sea of Japan.

The report of Admiral Rojestvensky to the czar on the battle of Tsushima, which has heretofore been suppressed, has at last leaked out...

His own squadrons, indeed, had agreed, when off Madagascar, to deliver themselves up to the Japanese...

STORY OF "PEEBLES HAM"

The Kind That Mrs. McBean Got Was Always Put in a Bottle.

Lieut. Peary was praising tea as a cold weather drink, relates the New York Tribune.

"In our dash for the pole," he said, "it will be hot tea that we will depend on rather than Peebles ham."

"Peebles ham?"

"Yes, Peebles ham," said Lieut. Peary. "Did you ever hear of Peebles ham?"

"Well, this is the story: There were two old Scotchwomen, Mrs. MacWhirter and Mrs. McBean, who met on the road one day, and Mrs. MacWhirter says:

"Losh me, woman, yer far frae hame aye day."

"Aye," says Mrs. McBean; "I was just out at Peebles. Sanders MacNabb, o' Peebles, keps rale guld ham. Oor John, ye ken, likes a bit guld ham, and is aye rammerlin' about the ham bein' over fat and over saut."

"Oor Tom," says Mrs. MacWhirter, "is the same way. There's nae pleasin' o' him wi' his ham. Faith, I'll have to gie MacNabb a trial."

"So Mrs. MacWhirter journeys into Peebles, and says to Sanders MacNabb, the grocer:

"Gie's a pund o' yer ham."

"What kind," says Sanders, "wad ye like?"

"Oh, just the kind that Mrs. McBean gets," says the lady.

"MacNabb smiled faintly.

"A rich," says he. "Whaur's yer bottle?"

THE CEMENT INDUSTRY.

Production of Various Kinds in the United States for the Year of 1904.

The United States geological survey has issued the following statement regarding the production of hydraulic cement in the United States for the calendar year 1904.

The total production of Portland, natural-rock and slag or Puzozlan cements in 1904 was 21,675,257 barrels, valued at \$26,031,920.

The production for 1903 amounted to 23,899,149 barrels of hydraulic cement, valued at \$31,931,341.

In the production for 1904 there is a gain of 1,776,117 barrels over that for 1903, but in the value of the cement produced there is a loss of \$5,899,421.

Of the total amount of cement manufactured in the United States in 1904, 26,505,881 barrels were Portland cement, valued at \$23,355,119; 4,866,331 barrels were natural-rock cement, worth \$2,450,150; and 305,045 barrels were slag or Puzozlan cement, with a value of \$236,651.

What Our Pig Iron Would Make.

The pig iron produced in the United States in one year would make a column twice the height and size of the Eiffel tower.

If made into one rail, would be 81 feet wide at the base, just as high, and a mile and a fifth long.

The coke used in blast furnaces would form a column 400 feet square and 6,500 feet high, and the limestone used would make a column 200 feet square and 5,500 feet high.—Success Magazine.

Still Diminished.

"Pete," said Meandering Mike, "did you hear about de kind lady up in Michigan dat left a fortune to feed tramps?"

"More money wanted," answered Fiddling Pete. "What ails us ain't hunger, it's thirst."—Washington Star.

REAL BUCKING BRONCHOS.

Only Thirty Found Among Fifty Thousand Horses That Were Hard Fighters.

The outlaw horse, for years past the hero of broncho-busting in the south and west, is rapidly becoming a thing of the past, and in ten years will be more scarce than the fast-dying buffalo and the old-time cowboy.

"Ten years ago the outlaw was as plentiful as jack rabbits," said Mr. Kuykendall, "but I have only been able to get about 30 real buckers that will put up a good fight out of 50,000 horses that I have looked at during the last year."

PRINCE OF WALES PAYS.

Not Upon a Universal Free List, as a Good Many People Suppose.

It is not so much fun being the Prince of Wales as one might expect, for instead of being upon a universal free list that universal person is compelled to pay more than the average mortal for such trifles as railroad travel and theater tickets.

Theatrical managers, of course, would be more than willing to have the prince as a guest nightly, but in order to keep the use of his name from being made into an open advertisement it is the invariable custom to pay for the tickets at the regular rates.

In the same way, the prince pays for his special trains when he travels and then distributes large tips to all concerned, while so small an item as postage stamps mounts into four figures in the course of a year.

The "social business" envelopes are used only when strict interpretation decides that the mystic "O. H. M. S." is proper; the rest are all stamped as though sent out by a private individual.

Even more than the commoner does he suffer from the demand upon his purse for wedding presents, and his position forces an expenditure of \$60,000 or \$70,000 for uniforms of the regiments of which he is honorary member.

All told, it is only through economy that the prince is enabled to get aside anything from his income, since he is compelled to maintain an establishment of far greater magnitude than would be supported by a private individual of the same financial standing.

Savings of the People.

The deposits of all the savings banks in the world amount to \$10,500,000,000 contributed by 82,640,000 depositors.

Of these the United States shows aggregate deposits of \$2,969,173,000, credited to 7,305,000 depositors.

These figures indicate that the United States, with less than nine and a half per cent. of the total population considered, contributes over 25 per cent. of the total savings deposits recorded.

It has been estimated that more than \$1,000,000,000 of bonds are annually purchased by the investing public in the United States.

The savings banks and the insurance companies are the heaviest purchasers of bonds, but there are estimated to be nearly 1,000,000 persons in the United States who have an annual surplus to invest.

Wanted an Older One.

"Yes," said the old man to his young visitor, "I am proud of my girls and would like to see them come fairly married, and as I have made a little money they will not go penniless to their husbands."

There is Mary, 25 years old, and a really good girl, I shall give her \$5,000 when she marries. Then comes Est, who won't see 25 again, and I shall give her \$15,000.

And the man who takes Eliza, who is 40, will have \$25,000 with her."

The young man reflected a moment and then inquired:

"You haven't one about 60, have you?"—Modern Society.

Turkish "Flum."

The plum of the Turkish government office in the admiralty, which is worth \$16,800 a year, and the present holder is stated to have amassed a fortune of \$2,400,000.

The minister of foreign affairs has \$3,800, and finance comes next with \$1,000 lower.

The lowest salary is that of the minister of mines, though it is rather higher than that of the premier of England. The sum is \$5,500.

IRON ORE SUPPLY FAILING.

World's Entire Store May Not Suffice for the Demands Made Upon It.

The amount of iron ores still available is very great, doubtless many times, perhaps twenty-fold, as great as has been won to use.

The best-placed field for the production of iron in North America, or save that in northern China, is in the world, is in the central section of the Mississippi valley, mainly between the great river and the Appalachian system of mountains and northward beyond the great lakes to the headwaters of the streams flowing into Hudson's bay.

SAVINGS BANKS OF WORLD

Depositors of Germany Exceed in Number and Deposits Any Other Nation.

According to the department of commerce and labor, statistics of the savings banks of the world show a grand total of depositors of 82,639,841, who have to their credit \$10,569,388,102.

The United States has a less number of depositors than France, Germany, Italy, Japan or the United Kingdom, or even Prussia, but has a larger amount of deposits than any other nation, the total being \$3,069,173,611, except Germany, which has more than three times the number of depositors the United States reports, and \$3,758,000,000 on deposit.

The average deposit is \$418 in this country and \$162.50 in Germany.

France, with 11,293,474 depositors, has total deposits of \$674,224,910, an average deposit of \$75.01, which is an indication of less wealth in France, but of the fact that savings banks are not so generally used as in other countries.

The United Kingdom has a few less depositors than France, but \$966,854,252 deposits and average deposits of \$37.15.

The average amount of savings banks deposits per inhabitant is greatest in Denmark, \$96.41. In this country it is \$77.38; in Germany it is \$41.50; in France \$21.25; Switzerland \$62.28; in the United Kingdom \$22.62; and in India but 15 cents.

LONDON'S SWELL MOBSEMS

Finely-Apparled Pickpockets Who Attend Important Public Gatherings.

"Standing on the steps leading into a theater, faultlessly attired in evening dress and quietly puffing a cigarette—who would suspect that he is a pickpocket—a swell mobsems? Yet his kind is to be seen every night in a score of places in London," says a detective officer of repute.

"The happy hunting ground of the swell mobsems is the opening of some exhibition, some grand civic ceremony, and the like. There he moves among the well-dressed crowd, and follows his calling. These swell mobsems are generally known to the plain-clothes officers, who lie in wait for them. The pickpocket is stopped at the door. An onlooker would not think that here are a detective and a thief together."

"The latter makes no attempt to escape, but quietly walks into a room set apart for those of his fraternity. He is kept till the ceremony is over, when he is allowed to depart. Usually he makes a bolt, because he is very anxious that his face should not be seen by the constables near at hand. They might recognize him on future occasions."

Behind on Wheels.

Attention has been called by technical writers to the fact that the wheels of vehicles intended for driving roads have not kept pace in development with the other parts of carriage mechanism.

Experiments with heavy vehicles indicate that wheels should be made both higher and broader. In England it has been recommended that with a maximum axle load of eight tons the width of tire should be about ten and a half inches.

Increase of the diameter of the wheel is said to be more effective in preventing damage to roadbeds than width of tire.

Wasteful.

Mrs. Chatters—"You don't seem to consider my opinions valuable.

Mr. Chatters—"My dear, I consider them so valuable that it shocks me to see you giving them out so promiscuously."—Philadelphia Press.

His Forte.

"Spinks says this talk about trusts is all foolishness."

"Is he an authority on trusts?"

"Maybe not; but he's an authority on foolishness."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

WHERE THE CIGARS GROW.

Pennsylvania, the Banner State, Easily Takes the Palm from Florida.

For many years the competition between imported Havana cigars and hand-made Key West cigars has been going on, with a general belief, probably, that Key West was an important source of supply of cigars.

Uncle Sam, who is a lynx-eyed collector of revenue from cigar factories, takes account in a year of 7,000,000,000 cigars, that being the number of domestic cigars smoked in a year. The number imported from Cuba, the Philippines and other places of supply is relatively insignificant.

Of the total number of Key West cigars—including with Key West the whole state of Florida, of which Key West, through its proximity to Havana and its large number of Cuban cigar makers, is the chief producing point—is 250,000,000. In other words, one-twenty-eighth of the total number of cigars made in the United States and smoked here are Key West or Florida made, and that number only.

The great cigar making state of the country, notwithstanding the ignoble repute in many quarters of Pittsburg stogies, is Pennsylvania, which manufactures in a year nearly 2,000,000,000 cigars. New York makes 1,000,000,000 in a year, and Ohio, never far behind in profitable and productive enterprises, 750,000,000.

The other states of the country are practically trailers to these, with the exception of Virginia, which manufactures in a year 500,000,000 cigars and is, in fact, the only one of the big tobacco-producing states which makes cigars in large numbers. About one-half of the product of Virginia factories is in the form of cheroots.

CREATES COTTON DEMAND

Growth of the Staple Is Encouraged by England in Her Colonies.

United States Consul Halsted at Birmingham, England, has reported to the department of commerce and labor that there is an apparently well-organized movement started by the cotton manufacturers of Great Britain to encourage the growth of cotton in the British possessions and countries other than the United States.

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SHE DIDN'T CUDDLE TO HIM

Young Woman of Grit Gave Smart College Boy a Needed Tackling Down.

"A nuisance as dangerous as the man who rocks the boat is the one who takes you sailing and forges the lee rail under to show his daring," said a young woman to a group of yachtsmen.

"I don't mind it when there is a gale blowing and the catboat gives to it until the scuppers are awash, especially if my escort keeps a hand on the sheet and the other on the tiller, to ease up the boat in the puffs, but the fates preserve me from another such voyage as I had with—well, I won't say whom."

"He was only a kid, anyway, and the name doesn't matter. What he persisted in doing was to keep the catboat so close hauled that every little flaw of wind knocked her down flat. Besides, to my horror, he had a fast double hitch on the main sheet."

"It was terrible. The boat couldn't forge ahead and just keeled over until the water poured in a torrent along the lee deck. That kid sat in the weather corner with an idiotic grin on his face. I fancy he thought presently a lady frightened woman would be cuddling up to him and screaming for protection."

"But it wasn't the time for that, for I took command of the cat, and now there is a wisser boy cruising about somewhere—I hope alone."

"I jumped for the tiller with both hands out—the way the girl darts for the flying trapeze at the circus—and jammed it into the boat came up into the wind, and while she stuck there with the sails flapping I said things to the college kid."

"Therafter he sailed the catboat carefully, but there wasn't any small talk or any persiflage between us after my sermon."

HOODOO FAILS TO CONQUER

Business Pluck and Persistence Win After a Long Struggle Against It.

Superstitious folk and unimpassioned ones, too, are interested just now in the dingy London building, No. 13 Friday street.

It would seem, of course, that there could be no address more fatal than this to business success, and up to a comparatively short time ago No. 13 Friday street realized all its possibilities as a "hoodoo."

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WHEN EGGS WERE COSTLY

In Early Days in San Francisco Were Worth Their Weight in Gold.

"Hens' eggs were worth their weight in gold," writes Thomas E. Farish in one of his stories of the very early days in San Francisco, says the Chicago Daily News.

"I don't mind it when there is a gale blowing and the catboat gives to it until the scuppers are awash, especially if my escort keeps a hand on the sheet and the other on the tiller, to ease up the boat in the puffs, but the fates preserve me from another such voyage as I had with—well, I won't say whom."

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INTERESTING STATISTICS.

Chances of Matrimony for Women Ranging in Years from Twenty to Sixty.

"At present your chance of marrying," said the statistician to the young girl, "is five in six. It would be easier, in fact, for you to marry than to remain single."

She looked pleased, relates the Philadelphia Bulletin.

"Thank you," she said. "Do you speak with authority?"

"With the greatest authority," he answered. "For I have collected marriage statistics for seven years. My researches show that, from 20 to 27, a girl of ordinary good looks can marry almost anyone. Five bachelors out of six are ready to propose to her."

"The matrimonial chances of a maiden lady of 50 are only two in 10,000. Those of a maiden lady of 40 are two in 1,000. Those of a maiden lady of 30 are two in 100."

"Maiden ladies, up to the age of 60, incline to think that men desire to marry them. At 60, as a matter of fact, a maiden lady has no chance of marriage at all unless she is enormously rich—not one chance in a million, in a billion, in a trillion."

The Underground Ocean.

The Brazilian government, convinced of the existence of immense supplies of underground water within its territories, proposes to organize a division of hydrology similar to that of the United States geological survey.

Drilling outfits have already been purchased in this country. The colonial office of Bermuda has sought American expert advice in regard to obtaining a supply of water from underground sources in those islands, and there is a similar movement in Peru, where it is thought that water drawn from beneath the deserts may serve to irrigate the nearly rainless area along the coast. It is also pointed out that Arabia may be irrigated in this manner, as investigation has shown the existence of great underground water-beds there, one of which is said to extend 800 miles across the peninsula from the Hedjaz north-easterly toward the Euphrates.—Youth's Companion.

Gas-Driven Ships.

A German engineer holds out the prospect that in the future we shall travel by gas-ships, vessels which will have coal-gas producers on board and will utilize the gas in a special type of marine motor.

The Engineer reprints a paper recently read by the inventor, E. Capitaine, at Frankfurt. He has followed out a new line in this latest development, starting from the original free flight piston—Otto Langen—engine, and substituting for the ordinary atmospheric pressure that of air compressed to three atmospheres as the agent for effecting the return stroke of the piston, which at the same time is made to do the duty of compressing the gas and air mixture up to the igniting point.—London Telegraph.

Ten Pearls in an Oyster.

When serving a customer with oysters Mrs. Althrop, wife of a Kettering fishmonger, had the good fortune to open one containing no fewer than ten pearls. Her attention was called to the remarkable contents of the oyster, which was one of a consignment from Liverpool, by a pearl falling out, and she consequently laid the bivalve aside, and served others to the customer. An examination then revealed nine other pearls. The find was submitted to two local jewelers, who pronounced them to be pearls of excellent quality. They vary in size from a large pea to a little larger than a pin's head.—London Tit-Bits.

Sarcastic Customer.

Rough Barber—Do you often knead the skin of your face?

Mangled Customer—O, occasionally, but you seem to need it so much worse than I do that you might as well take the rest of it while you're about it.—Baltimore American.