

Scientific.

Light travels fully 6,000,000,000,000 miles in a year, and even the most modest guesses as to the parallax of Polaris make it thirty-five light years. Pritchard's estimate in 1887 was ninety light years, but he has since modified his figures. Hence, if one will write two hundred and ten and add twelve ciphers thereto, he will have the number of miles which the most conservative authorities believe intervene between the earth and the pole star.

Some highly interesting experiments upon the absorption of X rays and cathode rays by various kinds of matter have recently been described by Signor Guglielmo. They were undertaken, says the *Electrical Review*, with a view to deducing the dimensions, absolute weights and densities of atoms. The discussion is too long to be abstracted here, but the result reached is that the density of atoms is . . . eighty million times that of water, or that atoms weigh about twenty eight million pounds per cubic inch.

The codfish are feeding on the young lobsters to such an extent that it will not take long to exterminate them. Through the efforts of the United States Fish Commission codfish seem to have increased greatly in numbers. The fishermen around Block Island and Watch Hill say that cod are growing more plentiful every year, and they say further that when dressing codfish they frequently find young lobsters whole inside of the larger fish. Evidently young lobsters are becoming a delicate morsel for some of their companions of the sea.

As to the distance of the present pole star from the earth, it may be mentioned that its light requires about 44.6 years to reach the earth, notwithstanding the fact that light dashes along with such inconceivable speed that it will cover 185,000 miles per second. The light from Vega, the next pole star, requires eighteen years to traverse the distance between it and the earth. As a consequence, we do not see the present pole star as it is at the present time, but as it was 44.6 years ago. Indeed, if the pole star were blotted out from existence to-day, it would still continue to shine out as vividly as ever for 44.6 years. So it is with all other stars according to their distances.

The Learned Sergeant:

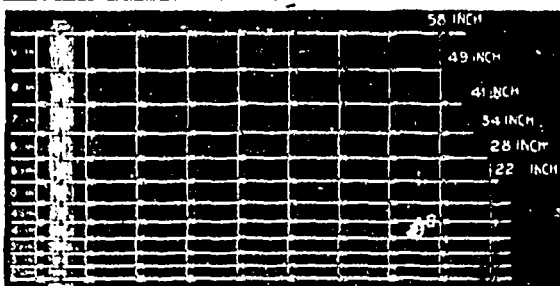
"Sergeant Skinner is a student of Dante."

"What makes you think so?"

"He tacked a card over the door of the last opium joint the police raided that bore this line: 'Abandon dope all ye that enter here.'"—*Cleveland Plain Dealer*.

A man was flogging his son on his knee when the young one bit him. The father said: "What are you biting me for?" The son replied: "Who began this war?"

American Field & Hog Fencing



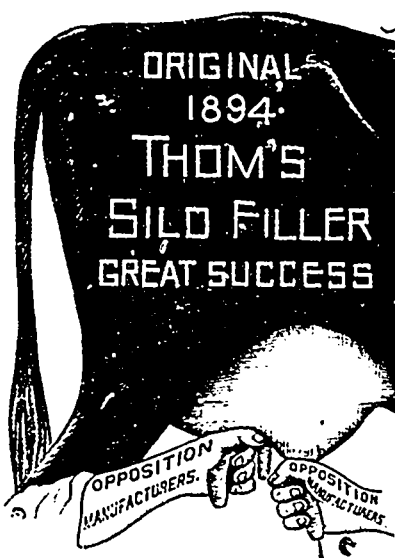
Top and bottom wires No. 9. Intermediate main wires No. 11. Up and down wires No. 12. With heaviest galvanizing this is

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