

A NEW SOURCE OF LIGHT

Chemical Compound Which Will Enable Photographs to be Taken Through Solid Iron. \$2,000,000. to Produce a Pound.

A new metal has been discovered that radiates light almost as strong as the sun and makes photographs through three feet of iron. To modern scientific research it is what the alchemists of old sought for. Many have heard of the metal known as radium and such well-doubtless be- lieved to know that the price of it had been reduced from \$1,000,000 to \$200,000 per pound. The following will be of interest as showing what the new metal will do and the steps necessary to procure it:

An English chemist has made the public announcement that he is ready to sell the precious metal at the rate of 25 shillings a milligram, or at the rate of \$2,000,000 for every two and one-half pounds—in other words, \$100,000 per ounce. He has made no wholesale offer, but he has only about one hundred milligrams on hand. In the entire world there are about two pounds, and the chances are that there will not be an over- supply before spring.

Radium is a scientific starter. It is said to be the most important dis- covery in the last generation and epoch in the history of science. It is described as a powder, a combination of metals, which gives off a light almost as strong as the light of the sun. It is almost as far ahead of Roentgen rays, the scientific starter of six years ago, as those rays are ahead of twilight.

When, with the so-called X-rays, elements actually photographed the bones of living persons, laymen were amazed. This accomplishment would be the secret child's play for radium. With it a photograph can be taken through three feet of iron or a foot of lead. Its value to surgery, to medicine and physical science cannot even be approximated. To modern scientific research it is what the alchemists of old sought for.

The very bit of the almost priceless metal is a New York. It was brought here by a leading electrical engineer and scientist. This portion was obtained from the discoveries in Paris, and although lacking much of the pure, and being only as much as a few centigrams, it is worth \$60. With it, in conjunction with two lead- ing engineers, is making experiments which promise to be of inestimable value to the race.

There is Paris, Copenhagen, Ber- lin and Rome are making experiments

In Sporting Circles

It is unanimous and general was the "outing" handed out to Jim Jeffries for dodging Jim Corbett's chal- lenge that the big champion, in his opinion, was forced to send all the way to California for popular Billy Delany to join him in Cincinnati for the purpose of "stalling" off the im- pending cyclone of public disapproval that was gathering over his head, threatening to break at any moment. Mr. Delany is a politician and diplo- mat, and, besides, stands aces up with the newspaper critics; and being a necessary man who made Jeffries eligible for championship honors he was expected to conciliate the "fans" and urge them to place the fightmaker in a more favorable light before the reading public. De- lany's success as a publicity pro- moter was instantaneous. The heady crowd of champions knows ex- actly when to speak and precisely what to say, and his first words on arrival of his protégé turned aside the raging shafts of criticism and made the position towards Corbett seem satisfactory, whether it was or not.

"I don't fight Corbett, eh?" be- lieved Delany. "Well, when Jeff gets ready and ready he will give Corbett a lesson, but there is no reason on earth why he should take him on right now."

Delany is not afraid of any man on earth. He has fought three times as many men as all the other cham- pions put together, and is still ready and willing to take them on one af- ter the other, but he will not stand a low-downer like Jim Corbett to take to him."

Delany's arrival upon the scene was declared that he would not fight Corbett until he returns from Europe, whether he intends to his- torical after the termination of his tour with Fitz. Now, that the situation was very vague, for his return may be of an indefinite period, Delany seems to be flirting with the proposition, and he may have been brought up with a round turn about his head.

It is thought that he can afford to be flippant with Corbett, that it is all right, but to turn down the public is mighty dangerous business, as he will find that he carries his little joke too far. Delany is due for a bout. He has been such a brilliant per- former that he can afford to ignore the odds and events as they are. Were

preacher, too. Rather hard on the profession, don't you think?

According to reports from San Francisco, Rufe Turner, the colored lightweight who recently did things to Perry Queenan in Seattle, is feared to be a considerable degree by the general run of fighters of his class, and the result is that Turner cannot get a match. The San Francisco Chronicle has this to say of Turner: "Rufe Turner is a fighter that should be seen in the ring oftener than he is. To the Stockton lightweight idleness is obnoxious, but what can he do? He has been studiously engaged in sending broadcast challenges to the so-called cracks, and his terms have been very liberal. Now, if Turner were just an ordinary dub fighter he would have all the engagements he could attend to, notwithstanding his color is black. But the Stockton favorite is no 'mixed-ale athlete.' He has class and can beat half of the featherweights—who are really light- weights—who now figure prominently in the ring. Turner being colored, he is for the white boys to dodge. Rufe is ready to do 128 pounds at six o'clock for Abe Attel, Young Corbett, Terry McGovern or Eddie Han- lon. He would fight Jimmy Britt at any weight."

Frank Donahue, who is coaching the Yale baseball team, has found a star pitcher in Bowman, of the Sheffield Scientific School. He was full back on the Yale team last fall.

Harvard has just discovered a new shot-putter who has already beaten the best performances of Crimmon athletes. Frank P. Schoenhaus, a junior, recently pushed the shot a distance of 44 feet 8 inches, which tops the record of Robinson, the present holder, by 9 inches. — Seattle Times.

Will Dam It

Sydney, N. S., March 21.—The fire in the Dominion colliery at Glace Bay is increasing and fifty bricklay- ers have been sent from here and are now working with brick and mortar trying to dam the fire within an area of about 200 square yards. When this is finished that area will be flooded, and if the dam holds and no explosion follows the mine will be saved. The loss to date is very serious and under the most favorable circumstances the mine is lost for a month or more. The coal in this area is seven feet high, with a few narrow passages through it propped up with wood, and is one solid mass of fire. All the attendant dangers of gases still exist and a single spark of fire. He goes to his wife's house, and, though the family property is held in common by hus- band and wife, she is recognized as the actual owner. She holds the deciding voice as to their disposal.

In the dry season the men often make long trading trips into the sur- rounding country. If, on his return

Customer—I want a ton of coal.
Dealer—Yes, sir. What size?
Customer—Well, if it isn't asking too much, I'd like to have a 2000- pound ton. — Chicago Daily News.

Amazing Privileges of Asia's New Woman

To the American mind, the salient feature of Oriental civilization is the subjugation of women. It is safe to say that the tearful tales of India's child-widows and the drowning of China's girl babies have done more to finance American missions in the far east than all other influences put to- gether.

Yet be it known to all women who hold up club-going-America as the country where the most progressive femininity is in evidence, that there exists in the heart of Asia a race of 5,000,000 souls among whom the women are not only equal, but superior, to the men.

From the cradle to the grave they have the best of it. The girl weds the man of her choice, and then pro- ceeds to rule him as never an Amer- ican man endured in his happiest days of courtship. She owns the house, she holds the purse, and she divorces her husband at pleasure. There is no ha- ram for her, and she enjoys whatever educational facilities are offered her race.

These people are the Laos, and their extremely ancient origin is the reason of their feminine supremacy. It is a survival of the primitive matri- archate, once universal. The Laos live in a remote region cut off from the rest of the world, have simply retained their primitive ideas.

The Laos were in China before the Chinese came. The invaders drove them south, where the remnant of the race still live in the northern part of Siam.

Laos is a little world by itself, shut in by towering mountains, and reached only by the river, on which the traveler must resign himself to live six weeks while his boat is poled up- stream from Bangkok. No white peo- ple live there except the missionaries of the American Presbyterian church. Rev. W. Clifton Dodd, who has been at the head of this work for many years, is now in America, and bring- ing interesting news of this quaint peo- ple.

Since there are no fortunes to be made, and a good bamboo house can be secured for 15 cents, nothing pre- vents early marriages, which occur at about 16.

Upon marriage the man relinquish- es every claim to his father's prop- erty. He cannot inherit a single fruit tree or rice field. He goes to his wife's house, and, though the family property is held in common by hus- band and wife, she is recognized as the actual owner. She holds the

deciding voice as to their disposal. In the dry season the men often make long trading trips into the sur- rounding country. If, on his return

heart as he leaves her house after his evening call. The verses for this song he has composed himself, perhaps writing them on a palm leaf with a stylus.

The Laos are not an illiterate peo- ple, and though they know naught of printing, they have an ancient litera- ture. Rolled palm-leaf books may be found in old Buddhist monasteries and in many private houses, and treasures of folklore probably await the explorer.

But with all her freedom and her few cares a strange pall of supersti- tion darkens the life of the Laos wo- man. If all the ghost stories ever told in America were implicitly be- lieved, some idea could be got of the thralldom of these women to supersti- tion.

All sickness, death and misfortune are credited to the spirits, and life is burdened with efforts to propitiate them. The Laos mother makes regu- lar offerings before the little spirit house, which stands on every veran- da. She keeps a lighted lantern on her housetop at night so that wan- dering spirits may see their way past and not stop. She teaches her child- ren to send off tiny, lighted boats from the river banks to please the water spirits. She hangs charms over his cradle and around his neck. And when the child falls sick the spirit doctor draws a tiger's tooth over the little body, till it brings the blood.

Whole companies of wretches are continually being accused of witch- craft and driven into the wilderness. Sometimes these outcasts gather to- gether and form a village which is shunned by all. It is only when a missionary stops in such a village and escapes unharmed, or when he exorcises an evil spirit by a dose of quinine—that the people first admit that the "Jesus God" may be strong- er than the ancient gods of Laos.

The Holy Ghosts

The Holy-Ghost-and-U Church has planted its mission temporarily in the lost city of Hartford, for the sake of rescuing the few that can be saved from the howling wilderness of sin in which the Capital City is lo- cated. The only means of communi- cation which our fellow citizens have with the Kingdom of Heaven is through the stage of Germania hall, whence the Holy-Ghost-and-U-ites dispense sanctity and dispense sin in large and audible quantities.

This religious clan hails from the Rocky Mountains and it is as rough on the world as its habitat is. The last stopping place of the troupe was Springfield, a godless town whose chief of police makes endless trouble for the U-ites by forcibly restraining them from enjoying cataleptic fits on the streets and from imitating Gab- riel's trumpet and the shrieks of the lost, after closing hours. These dis- ciples of the old time Christianity have been holding forth in Germania hall since Tuesday, disseminating un- adulterated orthodoxy amid groan-

ings of the spirit. This orthodoxy in- cludes, among other things, very de- cided views regarding the degenerate state of mankind; there is not a sin- gle church in the world today, these doctors of the faith declare, to which a man can belong and still remain a follower of God; all Protestant de- nominations, Roman and Greek, Catholic, Jewish, Mohammedan, Brahman, Buddhist and other faiths fall equally under this charge; the church, is, a greater enemy of God than the saloon, the Holy-Ghost-and-U-ites maintain, for the former in- stitution does not confer a baptism of fire upon its adherents, whereas the saloon gives to its patrons an im- mersion of fire water. Social corrup- tion, Mammonism, and political de- cay have killed all true religion save the little that survives in the U-ites, so that the end of the world is at hand and the great everlasting burn- ing draws near.

The troupe shows its distrust of ordinary citizens, by embracing only such persons as will have nothing to do with church religion, or are apo- plectic, hypochondriac, or monomani- ac. To the general public, however, the bank of reformers is willing to speak. Today is scheduled as, pos- sibly, the last appearance in Germa- nia hall, after which the city will be left to its doom. The services this afternoon and evening will con- sist principally of acrobatic dogmat- ics, interspersed with impersonations of the tortures of the damned. All seats are strictly free. — Hartford Courant.

Crushed Between Cars

Seattle, March 23.—A Swedish name unknown, was killed by a Nor- western Pacific train on Railroad ave- nue yesterday afternoon.

The accident occurred directly in front of the Wayside Mission hospi- tal.—The Indian attempt'd to cross the track between two cars. An en- gine was making up a train and sud- denly bumped the cars together. The man's body was caught between the bumpers and his chest was crushed. Several persons witnessed the acci- dent. They ran to the injured man, and at the orders of Patrolman Cam- eron, carried him into the hospital. He died on a cot a few moments af- terward. The body was taken to Butterworth & Sons' morgue and will be held a day or so awaiting identification.

Witnesses say the Indian stopped just as he got in the center of the track. The engine pushed the cars together and he was caught between the bumpers. The wheels did not touch the body.

It is thought the Indian was drunk. His breath smelled strongly of whis- ky and in one of his pockets was found a half filled flask. Coroner Hove investigated the accident.

"How is that new word," many- where," taking with the writing pub- lic, professor?"

"Well, it isn't used much here." — Chicago Tribune.

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