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The Granite Town Greetings

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AT D. BASSEN'S

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Rooms over Milne, Coutts & Co.'s store

The use of the Balloon

In Warfare

It was in the wars of the French Revolution, during the hard-fought battles about Fleurus or Flery in Belgium, that the French for the first time made use of the balloon in warfare. By its means they reconnoitered, recognized the comparative weakness of the enemy, and were thus enabled to take the measures resulting ultimately in their remaining in possession of the field of battle, thus achieving a victory. This occurred on the 26th day of June, 1794. The battle had lasted ten days, having been begun on June 16. The French had made many unsuccessful efforts to cross the river Sambre and gain a footing on its left shore. Finally the "Commissioners of the Convention," representing the government, and accompanying the French armies as was then the custom, "for reasons of state," made Gen. Jourdan commander-in-chief over the United French forces, amounting to some 105,000 men--thus enabling him to bring order out of chaos. He at once reorganized the forces under his command, and brought about the unity of action that culminated in the victory mentioned.

Crossing the Sambre on the 12th of June, the French general so disposed his troops about Charleroi that the allies under the Hereditary Prince of Orange, in order to relieve this fortress, began an attack upon his forces on the 16th of

June, and receiving reinforcements under Prince Frederick Josias of Coburg, they were on the point of achieving a signal victory at the end of ten days of hard fighting. But, probably too confident, "the allies neglected to properly reconnoiter, and thus were in ignorance of the possible resistance the enemy could offer, as the old chronicle has it, "while the French upon this occasion, for the first time, made use of the balloon for reconnoitering, and convinced themselves of the weakness of the allied forces opposing them," and were thus enabled to convert a threatened defeat into a victory.

Many of the men who later became Napoleon's greatest generals were present at this engagement, and took part in it; we read among the names of the commanders the names of Jourdan, Kleber, Pichegru, Montaigne, Lefebvre, Moreau, and others.

It is a matter of some surprise that in view of the success attending the use of the balloon on this occasion, its general use in warfare was not by them introduced and recommended to Napoleon, their chieftain. He surely would have been interested, could he but have known that over these self-same fields that so nearly proved fatal to the destinies of France then, there would be fought, but twenty-one short years later to the very day, the battle of nations that closed his glorious career, for it was in the middle of another month of June, from the 16th to the 18th day of the month, that there took place here, in the year 1815, the battle of Waterloo.--Stfc. Amen.

Big Guns and the Wireless Telegraph

It has been demonstrated that the wireless telegraph apparatus as used by our battleship fleet has been seriously impaired by the extreme heavy firing of the large guns during the recent battle practice of the Atlantic fleet off the Virginia coast.

Reports to the effect that some of the apparatus was of such a delicate nature that it had been put out of gear on one of the ships after five minutes of big gun work, and had not responded to the efforts of the wiremen to readjust it for several hours afterward are apt to cause many new experiments to be made to determine a relief from the conditions which now exist.

The Navy Department is working on a plan providing some method of meeting the handicap of the exposure of the antennae to the shots of the enemy, and eliminate as much as possible the exposure of the present high mast. It is planned to build a small portable wireless set, which, while good for short distances, would cut down the distance efficiency, for the high mast is most vital to the sending of long messages. It is also planned to carry a small mast for quick use in emergencies.

Under the rules of battle practice which have been conducted by the commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet, considerable trouble was experienced in view of the heavy seas that interfered with the work of the sixteen battleships, and the fact that the flagships and the vessels of the firing squadron had to be in communication by wireless all the time.

It has been planned that regular reports will be made to the department on the observations of the workings of the apparatus. It is also thought that the finding of these defects at this time under the heavy strain of the big firing as has occurred is fortunate rather than otherwise, for it places the government in possession of knowledge of the obstacles which the experts all along the line may now work to overcome, thereby, making the wireless one of the vital features of naval efficiency as reliable as possible.--Stfc. Amen.

Long Life of a Tramp Steamer

Baltimore, Md., Oct. 2.--The trial of a tramp steamer in her migrations about the world keeps up the romance of the sea, as did the white winged messengers of commerce in the days of the sailing craft, now a decaying figure in ocean transportation.

After having just ended continuous steaming to many parts of the world the British steamer Alcedon, Capt. Thomas Graham, is in port, and when she dropped her mud hook off Sea Girt last Sunday she had logged 31,495 miles since leaving Barry, Wales, December 10, 1909. She was launched at Greenock, Scotland, a short time before, almost ready for sea, and for her maiden cargo coal was loaded at Barry for Port Said, a distance of 3,125 miles.

Thence she went to Suez, and then calls were made at Aden, Bombay and Calcutta. Up and down the dirty Hooley river, in India, was a part of the programme, and from Calcutta she steamed for Waterloo, South Australia, by way of Sabang. From Wallaroo, Port Pirie was visited and then Bunbury, Australia. With a voyage of 5,050 miles to steam, the Gleneden started for Port Sudan, Egypt, stopping at Colombo, in Ceylon. Ordered back to the East from Port Sudan the Gleneden brought up at Bombay, where Capt. Graham found a cargo of manganese ore waiting to be shipped to Baltimore July 1. Found the ship loaded with 7,000 tons of cargo and steaming for this port, stopping on the way at Suez, Port Said and Algeria. Between Bombay and Baltimore she steamed 8,418 miles.

The Gleneden is one of the most complete types of the ocean tramp. She is lighted throughout by electricity, and the master's, officers' and crew's apartments are models for comfort, light and ventilation. She is 400 feet long, 53 feet beam and 20 feet 7 inches deep. She has nine steam winches and eleven derricks booms to handle cargo.

Japan Decides to Teach the Women

University is Started There and is Based on the Western Ideas.

Some years ago two little Japanese scholars made a quiet tour through America to find out, as they admitted, what was most significant about the woman's educational system of the West says Robert Haven Schaeffer in Success Magazine.

They returned and started a university, the aim of which, in the words of its founder, is "to impart higher education to the daughters of Japan, with the object of enabling them satisfactorily to discharge their duties as women, wives and mothers, fully equipped with ideas and knowledge, in touch with the progress of the nation and the world."

That university to-day is the largest woman's college in the world, if one includes the model schools. "In all the courses"--a quote from an article by Dr. Theodore Smith, of Clark University--"psychology, child duty, ethics, hygiene, education and nursing of children, and history of the fine arts are required. There is a dormitory system and the students share in the household work. Students in advanced classes hold in turn the position of head women (Shufu) and then learn the management of a home under the supervision of a matron appointed by the university.

Then the Japanese learned of us. Now we have to learn of them. And we have to remember that that nation which first consistently works out the eugenic ideal, as this university is working it out, is destined to rule the world." As Dr. Saleeby well says, "The history of nations is determined not on the battle-field but in the nursery, and the battalions which gave lasting victory are battalions of babies. The politics of the future will be domestic."

Forest Giants not as Old as Thought

The California big trees only antedate the Christian era about five or six hundred years, according to the statement of Professor Willis L. Jepson of the botany department of the University. Professor Jepson declares that the admiring contemplation of the forest giants by poets and writers has unduly lengthened the age of the big trees. He continues:

"When one considers that the oldest trees were seedlings five hundred years before the Christian era, it would seem that such a lengthened period of life were sufficient to afford food for the reflective mind. But those popular writings, and likewise the poets, whose figures are based solely upon an admiring contemplation of the bulk and staleness of these forest giants, are not satisfied with attributing to them ages less than five thousand to six thousand years."

The university botanist declared that the sequoias were the only survivors of a large family of trees, fossils alone of which remain. Centuries ago, he declared, their species were growing on the mountain sides of Alaska and Asia, and only the California species of the family is alive to-day.

The despised Digger Indian of the northern part of California is given credit by Professor Jepson for the development of some of the finest groves of the state. He declared that these people, few of whom are now alive of many thousands, had a forestry system of their own, which accounts for the remarkable growth of some kinds of trees in California.

According to the little French clock on the mantel, midnight was only twenty minutes away.

"What, queried the young man who was holding down a rocker in the parlor scene, "is the longest day you ever experienced?"

The fair maid on the sofa tried to suppress a yawn, but failed.

"Why--er this one, I think," she replied.

Resources of Province in Natural History Museum.

A complete collection of the natural resources and products of the Province of New Brunswick, the mineral, fishery, forestry, horticultural and agricultural resources, with the various by-products of these productions, with the history of each and every one of these resources, with photographs of typical scenes, showing persons engaged in the various industries, made possible by such resources, and of other commercial activities which centre in these industries, with complete statistics as to exportation and home consumption, and other interesting facts in connection with the natural resources and products of the province--this, in brief, is the display, for which Mr. Wm. McIntosh, curator of the Natural History Society, is now collecting, and which promises to be an intensely interesting and possibly the preeminent feature of the Natural History Society in the near future.

Some of the resources, such as the various woods, and minerals, are now the property of the museum, though the collections are not quite complete. But what gives promise of being an important factor in the above mentioned display--important from the fact that McIntosh a horticulturist with many years' experience, predicts that in twenty years New Brunswick will be one of the greatest fruit-growing countries in the world--is the collection of horticultural resources, which has lately been made, and will be on exhibition for the first time about the latter part of next week. This collection, besides the fruit products, will consist of a series of photographs showing the various phases of apple culture, suitable situations for orchards, trees in bearing, and coming into bearing and others in blossom; also the packing and exporting of these fruit products, and in addition photographs of the recent apple show. All this, which by the way, is the gift of the provincial Government, is very interesting as the real products, and the early history and present growth of these. This display includes apples--five specimens--of the Wealthy, Baxter, McIntosh, Red, Dudley Winter, Alexander, Golden Russet, Fameuse, Bethel, St. Lawrence, Ontario, Bishop Pippin, Ben Davis, Pewaukee, and Duchess of Oldenburg varieties. These are principally export fruits.

Then there are plums of fourteen varieties; goose berries of five varieties; English gooseberries, currants of seven varieties; raspberries of four varieties; strawberries of fifteen varieties; cherries and blackberries, also native or wild fruits, such as blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, cranberries and high bush cranberries. It might be noted that the English gooseberry is remarkable for its proclivity about St. John, owing to a similarity of climate conditions, particularly the cold, with those of England, the home of this fruit. It is therefore a very profitable product to grow in this vicinity.

The labels on the receptacles containing these products, will give the history of the fruit from the first knowledge, which in some instances can be traced to ancient Greek and Roman history.

The display of natural resources when completed, will occupy considerable space, and will show at a glance the great products and resources of New Brunswick.--St. J. Globe.

Certificate of Character

(Brooklyn Life.)

The superintendent of streets in a western city recently summoned one of his subordinates, saying:

"Mike, there is a dead dog reported in the alley between Illinois and Blank streets. I want you to look after its disposition."

It was about an hour later that this came over the 'phone:

"I have inquired about the dog, and find that he had a very savage disposition."

Springless Electric Clock

The students of the St. Louis watch-making school have completed a new type of clock that is driven by electricity. Different from the usual form, the pendulum of this clock swings from a point above. It is made from an ordinary clock, but the pendulum is impelled by an electro magnetically operated armature of the oscillating type.

The armature in its approach toward the emerging coil closes the circuit by which the coil is energized. Under the attractive influence of the coil the armature is impelled against the pendulum, driving it forward, after which the circuit is broken, leaving the armature free to be returned to its original position under the momentum of the pendulum in its returning swing. The swinging pendulum also operates the escapement lever by which the clock mechanism is advanced, so no weights or springs are necessary.

London the Greatest Of World's Cities

London, Oct. 29.--Some striking figures of London's life are brought out in the 1909-10 volume of London statistics, and below are given some of the most interesting.

The estimated population of Greater London is now 7,537,196 (an increase of 107,456 over 1906, and that of the administrative county 4,272,710).

There are 611,796 houses in the county (of which 15,974 are recorded as empty). In Greater London the total is 591,383.

Only 4 per cent. of the deaths were set down as from old age.

Over 3,000 tons of foodstuffs were either seized or surrendered as being unsound.

There are fifty-one theatres in London, with a total accommodation for 69,900 persons. The estimated total value of the houses when full is 12,297.

The music halls total forty-eight with accommodations for 70,000.

Licenses have now been granted for 194 cinematograph theatres.

London has nearly 9,000 public houses, 437 houses have been extinguished under the 1904 Act.

It takes a force of over 18,000 men to "police" the County of London; 109,787 persons were apprehended in twelve months.

There are now over a million books in London's free libraries. The total issues during the year under review were 7,628,659, of which 5,634,234 were works of fiction.

London gas bill (apart from charges for stoves and meters) was 5,486,594. The expenditure on electricity supply totalled 1,946,639.

Among the most interesting tables are those relating to marriage. Of 33,409 London marriages recorded in 1908, 24,000 were those of persons between the ages of 20 and 25. There were many marriages of spinsters under age, as young as 15 years.

Whaling in the South Atlantic

Seven whaling companies now occupy sites in the island of South Georgia, where the whole carcass of the whales is converted into oil and fertilizer, says the British colonial report from Stanley, the capital of the Falklands. Six companies fish in the waters of the south Shetlands, pursuing the whale through Pelgica strait to the icy shores of Graham Land. The 1909 season in the dependent clee was a good one, but was not so remunerative around the Falklands. A station at New island, fitted with the latest machinery and lighted by electricity, was completed during the year. There were exported from the Falklands last year 4,006 tons of whale oil, worth \$221,425, against 2,929 tons, worth \$275,930, in 1908 and 2,400 tons, worth \$910,000, in 1907, which shows a wide variation in market values.

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