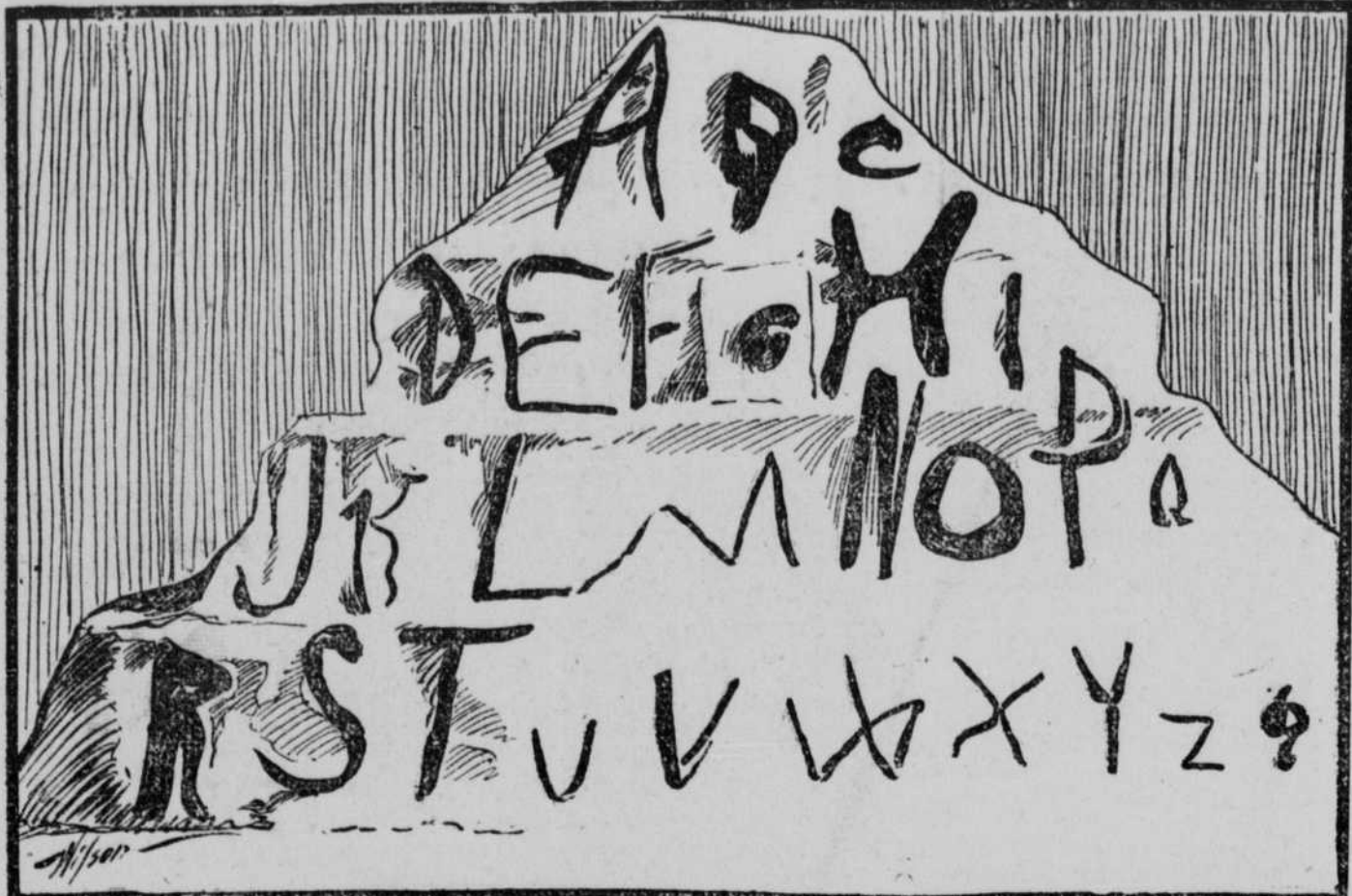


ALPHABET IN NATURAL WOODS



E. K. Lambert, a woodsman residing at Elma, Washington, possesses a most unique curiosity. For three years he has been laboring with tireless watchfulness to secure each of the letters of the English alphabet from the accidental growth shapes he could find in the woods. He has two or three such of the letters, and is able to form the first-class and almost perfect lot of twenty-six letters from his complete collection.

Three years ago Mr. Lambert found his first letter A. It was very large, weighing over 100 pounds. He cut it down, but was unable to carry it out of the woods. This letter was a vine-naple growth, and so well formed that a person could not detect where the cross joined the other parts of the

letter. This letter was found three miles east of Elma, in a logging camp, where Lambert was then employed. This discovery gave Lambert the idea, and he then and there determined to find the whole alphabet. As fast as he found a letter thereafter he studied the nature of the tree, and endeavored to ascertain how it grew into fantastic shapes, and investigate also the relation of the soil to such growths.

This study has been carried so far that Lambert now considers himself able to tell by merely glancing at a tree whether it is worth while to search among its roots or branches for a letter.

In describing his mode of operation in securing letters from tree growths, Lambert says:

"If I am looking for a letter in blue huckleberry I go to the swamps where it grows on decayed logs. There the roots seek for light and moisture and form many peculiar shapes in their search for these nourishing elements. Oftentimes find fir and alder trees growing from cedar windfalls that were blown down ages ago. Here I hunt for N's, M's and W's. In the tops of fir trees I hunt for K's. I go to the vine-naple swamps for H, L, A, P, D and S. I search among the cedar boughs for O, E, F and G. In certain varieties of crab-apple trees I look for X, Z and &. My R's come from the barberry and the alders. Wherever shrubbery grows I search for letters, but in such places as I have described I am more apt to find them."

A MISSIONARY'S ROMANCE

Miss Ackerman, who is a traveling missionary for the National Woman's Christian Temperance union, and at present in Japan, has announced her engagement to a man who, she says, saved her life. In a letter just received at the national headquarters of the

union Miss Ackerman says she has been "captured heart and hand by a Russian nobleman," and that they are to be married as soon as she finishes the tour she is making. The name of the prospective husband is not given. Miss Ackerman says that some years ago, while she was making temperance lectures in Russia, she was attacked by a mob and would have been killed had it not been for the appearance of the nobleman. An attachment which soon ripened into love sprang up between the two at that time.



Lead All in Savings. An advertisement in a city newspaper recently asked for information regarding a certain depositor in a savings bank. The depositor saw the advertisement, answered it, and learned that thirty-nine years before he had placed \$250 in the bank. Then he had gone to Europe and forgotten the deposit. The sum had increased to more than \$2,000 and came to him at a time when the money was greatly needed. Recent statistics concerning the savings banks of the world show that the United States leads all other countries, having over two and a third billion dollars so invested, with an average of over \$400 to each depositor.—Youth's Companion.

Livery for Motor Drivers. The king is setting an example of smartness by having his new motor car painted exactly like the royal carriages, with the royal coat-of-arms on each door, and two liveried servants on the box seat. Other motor car owners are no longer content to have a driver dressed in dark blue with a peaked cap. Lord and Lady de Grey and Lord and Lady Gosford have put their drivers into ordinary livery, while a number of well-known people are giving their coachmen lessons in motor driving.—London Mail.

Coffin on Street Car. "I've carried some queer things on the front platform," said the motorman of the Market street night car, "but I struck the limit one night last week. You know we are not supposed to ad here so strictly to the rules after midnight, and carrying freight is apt to

be winked at. I must say, though, I don't quite relish the idea of carrying a coffin, but this fellow put up such a nice line of talk that I hadn't the heart to give him the go-by. It was a child's coffin, too—a pretty, white one. He was an undertaker's assistant, and it was a hurry case—some contagious disease, I suppose. I asked him why he didn't use a wagon, and he said he couldn't get at it. At any rate, I carried the coffin out to Sixtieth street, where the man got off."—Philadelphia Record.

Smoking Good for Soldiers. An interesting experiment was tried during the recent Swiss military maneuvers to discover whether smoking was beneficial or injurious to troops on the march. The trial resulted completely in favor of smoking. Instead of destroying discipline, it preserved it, and it was discovered that the troops who had been permitted to smoke en route proved less sensible to fatigue and were fresher and less tired at the finish than their more abstemious comrades.

To Tunnel Carinthian Alps. The next great tunnel that will be built is to be the direct route from Up-

per Austria to Trieste, and it will pierce the Carinthian Alps, in which is the famous Gron Glockner. Though the whole length of the line is only to be 192 miles, the money voted for it is no less than \$35,000,000. There will be two big tunnels, one about five and a third and the other about five miles long. As water-power is everywhere plentiful, it was at first intended to run the trains by electricity; but the decision was finally given in favor of steam. The maximum gradient will be one in forty, which is the highest for this class of railway.

Boy Frightened to Death. Recently at Lewisham, England, an inquest was held on the body of Sidney Harry Smith, aged 12 years. He was playing with a roller towel and placed his head through it. In some way he must have got the towel twisted, for when the servant found him five minutes afterward he was dead. A physician said death was due not to strangulation, but to the fright caused by the lad finding he could not get his head loose.

Cruel Treatment. It may not be generally known that there is cruelty in the keeping of gold fish. Half of such captives die from sheer want of rest. As fish have eyes so formed that they cannot endure the light, in a glass vessel they are in an entirely wrong place, as is evident from the way in which they dash about and go round and round until fairly worn out.

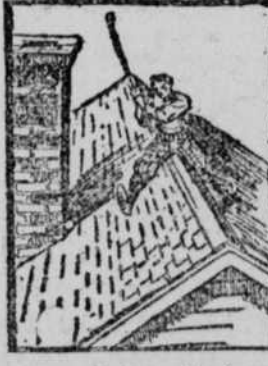
Americans as Frog-Eaters. It is estimated that the people of the United States eat 2,000,000 frogs yearly. These frogs are sought for in all parts of the country, furnishing a paying industry not only for the hunters of them in their natural haunts, but for scores of persons who have frog farms.

French Labor Legislation. A special commission has been appointed in France to codify the laws concerning working class legislation.

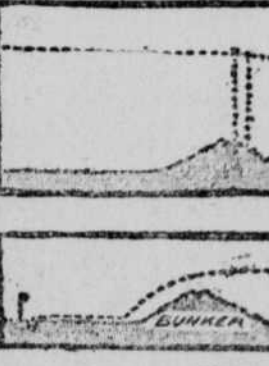
REMARKABLE STROKES IN GOLF

To the achieving of remarkable feats in golf there is no end. The other day a modest-looking Scotsman—for some Scotsmen can look modest even when they are playing golf—stepped up with a driver and made a fine drive over a bunker on a golf course near London, the ball going straight into the hole.

A correspondent sends us, says the London Express, an account of what is perhaps the strangest golfing feat on record. On a northern links a player lately made a drive, and owing to miscalculation the ball struck a bowler and bounded onto the roof of a cottage situated on the links, finally



Remarkable Stroke from a Housetop. The other day a sparrow happened to be in full flight across a golf course in the Midlands just as a player had sent his ball on a long drive. The bird and the ball came in contact in mid-air; and it is difficult to determine which was the harder hit, since both fell to the ground together.



Killing a Bird in Mid-Air. Fine Drive into the Hole at One Stroke. Lodging behind the chimney. The player, being of the pertinacious sort, climbed onto the roof, and, sitting astride it, took careful aim, driving the ball from its hiding place, and thereby finishing a long hole in six strokes. [American golf enthusiasts will find it hard to beat this story.]

THE MATTER OF IRRIGATION.

Communication of Senator Dietrich Regarding Experiment Stations. LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 17.—The officials of the department of labor and industrial statistics are gratified at the work of the real estate dealers in their convention at Fremont, but express regret that wider publicity was not given a communication from Senator Dietrich, who recommended the organization of an experiment station in connection with the state university for the purpose of investigating and promoting irrigation. It was the intention of the department to have this proposition submitted not only to the convention, but also to the people of the state as well, the hope being to have public interest aroused in such a way as might influence favorable legislation.

CHARTER DAY AT UNIVERSITY.

Degrees Are Conferred and Alumni Organ is Presented. LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 17.—The thirty-third annual charter day was celebrated at the University of Nebraska.

The presentation of the alumni organ took place in the chapel. During the afternoon the various departments were opened to visitors and in the armory there was an exhibition drill by the Pershing Rifles. A concert by the cadet band and an athletic contest indoors closed the afternoon program.

At the conclusion of the commencement ceremonies degrees were conferred upon twenty-seven students who had completed the required work for graduation. They represented nearly all departments, the largest number being from the college of literature, science and arts. The commencement address was by General John C. Black of Chicago, who spoke on the life of Abraham Lincoln.

Barely Escapes Cremation.

FAIRBURY, Neb., Feb. 17.—A bad fire occurred here about 11 o'clock at night in the residence of William P. McPhail, a merchant of the city. During the brief absence of Mr. McPhail from the house a soft coal stove exploded, scattering fire all over the room. Mrs. McPhail, who has been a helpless invalid for many years, was the only occupant of the house at the time, and she was unconscious at the time she was rescued and carried to the home of a neighbor. Her condition at last reports was very critical and it is feared she will not recover. Her injuries, however, are more the result of the nervous shock than directly of the fire.

Young Adams Causes Trouble.

MINDEN, Neb., Feb. 17.—Because the board of education refused to endorse the action of Principal Thomsen, in expelling absolutely David Adams, a pupil of the High school, for a violation of the rules, the teachers all handed in their resignations, and there were no classes Wednesday. Under pressure of public opinion the board held a special meeting and expelled the young man.

Against Levelling of Fences.

ALLIANCE, Neb., Feb. 17.—The Nebraska Stock Growers' association will hold a meeting to adopt resolutions against the proposed leveling of fences on public lands. It is declared that this would ruin the range country. Time will be asked in which to settle the range question by the proposed leasing laws now in congress.

Gets First Sample of Gold.

SUPERIOR, Neb., Feb. 17.—Captain C. E. Adams has received the first gold from the Plateau mine at Apex, Colo., in which he is interested. The ore assayed a little less than 28 cents to the pound.

Held on Murder Charge.

SPRINGVIEW, Neb., Feb. 17.—Joseph Bomber, the half-breed Indian, who shot and killed William Bellisle December 28, was given a preliminary hearing and held to answer to the charge of murder.

Bad Man Receives Beating.

MULLEN, Neb., Feb. 17.—Barney Myers came to town and proceeded to enliven things at the Red Palace saloon. He ordered the men in the place to set up the drinks and when they declined he drew a revolver. The bartender ordered him to turn over the gun and upon his refusal assaulted him with a heavy steel poker and beat him into unconsciousness. Myers was then taken to a doctor's office to have his head sewed up.

THE STATE FAIR FOR 1902.

Officers Elected and Class Superintendents Chosen. LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 15.—Officers were elected and class superintendents chosen by the State Board of Agriculture to supervise the work of the coming state fair. The premium list was also revised. It was practically decided to hold evening entertainments at the fair grounds next fall.

The following officers were elected: General superintendent, William Fester, Saltville; superintendent of gates, E. M. Searle jr., Ogallala; superintendent of agricultural hall, J. R. Cantlin, Blair; superintendent of art hall, W. A. Poynter, Lincoln; superintendent of transportation, O. M. Druse, Lincoln; superintendent of forage, Charles Mann, Chadron; superintendent of booths, George C. Furnas, Lincoln; superintendent of amphitheater, A. L. Stillson, York; chief of police, George W. Overmeier, Kearney.

DESPERATE FIGHT FOR MONEY.

Farmer Resists Robbers Until Beaten Into Unconsciousness.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., Feb. 15.—Thomas R. Varah, a prominent farmer residing five miles southeast of Doniphan, was assaulted and robbed of \$65 in his own home, between 9 and 10 o'clock at night. He was alone in the house with his children, the other members of the family, including his son-in-law, having gone to a dance a quarter of a mile distant.

Varah was awakened by a handkerchief over his mouth. He threatened to call his son-in-law, but was informed by the robbers that his son-in-law was at the dance, showing that the robbers had been posted.

They ordered him to get out of bed and go down stairs. Varah had been at Hastings the day before and in a business transaction had secured \$250 in cash. On the way down stairs he took the larger of the rolls of bills and tucked it under his drawers, leaving only \$65 in his trousers' pocket. All but this amount was therefore saved.

Farmer Killed by a Bull.

NORT BEND, Neb., Feb. 15.—A farmer named Fred Ladehoff was killed by a bull in his feed yard near this place. His small son saw the animal rolling him along the ground on his horns and ran to tell his mother. When the two arrived at the yard they succeeded in driving the animal away, but Mr. Ladehoff was dead. It had been scarcely half an hour since he left his house. The man's left side was crushed and all the ribs broken on that side. His head and face were bruised and his arms broken.

In Interest of Old Veterans.

HUMBOLDT, Neb., Feb. 15.—Captain J. P. Grinstead of this city, who served two years in the Philippines with the Twenty-second regiment of United States volunteers and who was mustered out last spring and returned home, has gone to Washington to work with a number of his brother officers to secure desired changes in the army bill, which they believe discriminated against a few by reason of the age limit, preventing their getting proper credit and advancement.

Raising Angora Goats.

CALLAWAY, Neb., Feb. 15.—Morrison Bros., ranchmen, have just entered into a new industry for this portion of the country, having received seventy head of fine Angora goats, which they have placed on their ranch near their place. As the increase of these animals will more than double in a year's time, it is thought they are a paying investment. It is said they are more healthful than either cattle or sheep.

Root Returns to Work.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—Although still suffering with a severe cold, Secretary Root today resumed his duties at the war department.

Arrests for Theft of Swine.

BROKEN BOW, Neb., Feb. 15.—Chris Burhof of Roten Valley, in the southwest part of Custer county, was arrested and lodged in jail by Deputy Sheriff Richardson on the charge of stealing thirteen hogs of James Byler about Christmas. Elisha Furgerson, who is charged with being an associate in the theft, was arrested at Kiowa, Wash., and is to be brought here. The hogs were sold at Cozad the morning after they were stolen.

THE LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Latest Quotations from South Omaha and Kansas City.

CATTLE—Cattle receipts continued heavy, which makes the supply for four days this week considerably heavier than for the same days of last week, as will be seen from the table of receipts given above. There were not so very many beef steers on sale, the bulk of the receipts consisting of butcher stock. Buyers were out fairly early and made the rounds, bidding just about steady prices. In some cases sellers thought bids were a little stronger on the better grades. As a result the cattle began moving toward the scales in good season and the bulk of the offerings was soon disposed of. The better grades of cows and heifers were in good demand, but the market could not be quoted any more than steady. Packers seemed to want what was on sale, but they did not want to pay any more than they have for the last several days. There have been a good many of the medium grades and canners on sale all the week, so that packers are not particularly anxious for supplies of that kind. Bulls were in good demand where the quality was satisfactory, but the common kinds were neglected. The same was true of veal calves and stags. There were not many fat calves and feeders on sale, but the demand was sufficient to take what was offered at steady prices, where the cattle showed weight and quality. In some places cattle answering to that description sold a little stronger.

HOGS—The heavy receipts of hogs continued. Packers, of course, tried to pound the market, and they succeeded to quite an extent. The best heavy weight hogs in most cases were not over 5c lower, but all others were fully a dime lower and very low sale at the decline. In fact, packers would not look at anything but the better weight hogs on the opening market, and as a result the market was very slow. The better weights sold largely from \$6.10 to \$6.25, and as high as \$6.30 was paid for prime hogs. The medium weights sold mostly from \$5.90 to \$6.10, and the lighter loads went from \$5.90 down.

SHEEP—There were about as many sheep and lambs on sale as arrived yesterday, and the demand continued active, and as a result the offerings changed hands about as fast as they came in. The prices paid were not materially changed, and the market could best be described by calling it active and steady on all desirable grades. The quality of the offerings today was fairly good on the average, so that sellers had no trouble in disposing of what they had on hand. There were not enough feeders on sale to test the market, but as there was a liberal inquiry for good stuff it is safe to call the market fully steady.

KANSAS CITY.

Cattle—Best grades, strong to 10 higher; common, steady; choice export and dressed beef steers, \$5.85@6.45; fair to good, \$4.85@5.45; stockers and feeders, \$3.50@5.00; western fed steers, \$4.75@5.75; Texas and Indian steers, \$4.00@5.40; Texas cows, \$2.75@4.50; native cows, \$3.00@4.50; heifers, \$3.75@5.25; canners, \$2.00@2.90; bulls, \$3.00@4.50; calves, \$4.00@6.75.

HOGS—Market opened steady to 5c lower; closed strong; top, \$6.50; bulk of sales, \$5.75@6.40; heavy, \$5.35@6.50; mixed packers, \$5.00@6.40; light, \$5.30@6.10; pigs, \$4.75@5.25.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—Market active, shade higher; native lambs, \$6.00@6.25; western lambs, \$5.60@6.25; native wethers, \$4.50@5.10; western wethers, \$4.50@5.00; yearlings, \$3.25@5.80; ewes, \$3.00@4.00; culs and feeders, \$2.00@4.50.

LIBERTY TORCH TO DIE OUT.

Congress Fails to Make Appropriation for the Light. NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Liberty's torch is to be put out. The lofty light in the hand of the bronze goddess, standing on Bedloe's island, in the upper New York bay, that has been allowed to grow steadily dimmer since Bartholdi gave the magnificent statue to the United States, is to be permanently extinguished. Sentiment, it is said, which has kept the beacon burning all these years, can no longer keep it alight and now the government will snuff it for all time.

News of the contemplated extinguishment of the torch has been received in the form of a notice to mariners, sent out by the lighthouse board of the treasury department at Washington. It states that on March 1, 1902, the light will be discontinued. Installed on the island to furnish current for the torch there is a powerful electric plant, but it is unused. A few lamps of smaller power furnish barely enough illumination so that the beacon can be made out by passing mariners. Lack of a congressional appropriation is said to be the cause for discontinuing the light.

Seven Men Killed.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 15.—Seven men were killed and at least fourteen were seriously injured by a huge boulder weighing fifteen tons crashing into the caboose of a work train on the Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf railroad, twenty miles west of Little Rock, at 1 o'clock this morning.

Nebraska Fruit Wins Medal.

CRETE, Neb., Feb. 15.—E. F. Stephens of this place has received a bronze medal for the exhibit of Nebraska apples at the Parish exposition. On one side is the inscription, "Exposition Universelle, Interventionale, 1900. E. F. Stephens." On the other side, "Republique, Francaise."

Shifts Blame on Ambassador.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The Associated Press understands that the under secretary for foreign affairs, Lord Cranborne, will inform the house of commons that Lord Pauncefoot, the British ambassador at Washington, acted merely as dean of the diplomatic corps in summoning the meeting of April 14, 1898; that he did so at the instigation of other diplomatists and that he acted in those proceedings entirely on his own initiative.