

Campfire Tales

ON THE OLD TRAIL.

(Bret Harte, May 5, 1902.)
 Long and long we rode behind you,
 Comrade, on the old trail;
 By the stars, by the mesa,
 Hear the hoofs caught up your trail.
 When the golden poppies flicker
 On the foothills' slope to-day,
 Where the burnt breath of the sage bush
 Lingers faintly by the way.
 How the hurrying hoof-beats clattered
 In those keener hours of old;
 Frolic death and grimest living
 Playing out their game for gold,
 Card and pistol lie together,
 Lightly dropped as life to dust;

Lonely by the ravished river
 Sinks the pick to idle rust,
 Quenched the lights of camp and village
 And the hearts that quickened there,
 When men laughed and starved together
 With a gambler's jest for prayer,
 All has passed, and you must follow
 From the far Sierra line,
 From the Redwoods' builded shadow,
 Wanderer of the "Forty-nine."
 Since none turns or slackens bridle
 On the trail where you are bound;
 Rest be yours and comrades' welcome
 At the last, long camping ground!
 —Dora Greenwell McChesney in Spectator.

Honors of Gettysburg

Three Regiments Claim to Have
 Fired First Shot of Battle

THE honor of firing the first shot at the battle of Gettysburg has been claimed by three regiments, the Second Wisconsin (of Iron Brigade), the Eighty-fourth New York (Cutler's brigade), and the Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania. Attention was called to the subject by the article on the Iron Brigade, published recently in the Milwaukee Sentinel, which contained a statement that it was the Second Wisconsin which fired the first shot. Adjutant Charles Richardson of E. B. Wolcott post, who has looked up the history of the battle thoroughly, is convinced that his regiment opened the battle.

"Without a desire to rob the Iron Brigade of any rightful laurels," said Capt. Richardson recently, "I am compelled to say that the first shot did not come from that brigade, but from the Second brigade of the First division of the First army corps.

This honor was at one time claimed by the Eighty-fourth New York of Cutler's brigade, but after listening to an exhaustive argument made on the battleground, in which both parties were ably represented by surviving participants, the evidence favored the Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania, and it was accorded the honor. Gen. Cutler, a few months after the battle of Gettysburg deemed the events so well worthy of note that he wrote to Gov. Curtin of Pennsylvania setting forth the fact that it was the Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania that opened the battle of Gettysburg, and asked that he have it so recorded in the archives of the commonwealth, as an act of justice to the regiment. And so it has been done, and this fact also appears on the base of the monument erected by the state of Pennsylvania on the battleground of Gettysburg in honor of this regiment.

In a volume entitled "New York at Gettysburg," published by a committee created by the act of the legislature of the state of New York of which Gen. Daniel E. Sickles is chairman, is this statement:

"Wadsworth division of the First corps approached Gettysburg at 5:30 a. m., July 1, and Cutler's brigade moved rapidly across the fields. As the column comes in sight—the First Infantry on that historic field—it is seen that the blue flag carried by the leading regiment bears the coat of arms of the Empire state. It is the Seventy-sixth New York Infantry, a regiment well worthy of the historic numerals that form its designation. The leading brigade, Cutler's, is formed across the Chambersburg pike, deploying under a heavy artillery fire with the Seventy-sixth New York, Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania and One

Hundred and Forty-seventh New York along a ridge on the right of a deep railway cut, with the Eighty-fourth New York and the Ninety-fifth New York formed on the left. The First Infantry volley, as is most and proper, rang out immediately from the rifles of the Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania. With an echoing crash the Seventy-sixth New York instantly followed with its fire."

Col. William Fox also says: "The brigade, Cutler's, was the first infantry to arrive on that historic field, and to it fell the honor of opening that famous battle, the first volley coming from the rifles of the Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania.

"I was a private soldier in the Seventy-sixth New York Infantry of Cutler's brigade at this time, and I think I am entitled to speak without bitterness or malice. I could not if I would nor would I if I could detract from the laurels won by the Iron brigade, as I have the honor to be enrolled in another brigade, whose fighting qualities have gained for it both praise and distinction.

"The terrible losses of the Iron Brigade at Gettysburg no doubt show stubborn fighting, but the fact remains that there were others." My regiment, the Seventy-sixth New York, took into the fight on the morning of the first day 348 officers and men and lost 231 killed and wounded, including the commanding officer killed, in thirty minutes, these figures being obtained from Colonel Fox's book. This was a loss of only thirteen less than fell in the charge of the Light Brigade at Balaklava, but with a percentage more than two times greater, being 74.2 per cent, while the remnant of the One Hundred and Forty-seventh New York, which retreated after its half hour's fighting, numbered only seventy-nine officers and men out of 380 taken into the fight. The First Minnesota lost 215 killed and wounded, with not a man missing out of a total of 262 engaged, a loss of 82 per cent. The Twenty-sixth North Carolina, a Confederate regiment at Gettysburg, lost a trifle over 72 per cent in killed and wounded only, while with its killed, wounded and missing, its loss was 88.5-10 per cent. One company of the Eleventh North Carolina went into the fight with three officers and thirty-eight men and in the engagement two of its officers and thirty-four men were either killed or wounded.

"The Iron Brigade's heaviest loss at Gettysburg was that of the Second Wisconsin, which lost 181 out of 302 engaged, or 59.9-10 per cent."

Nature squares the round of pleasure.

STATUE OF KAISER WILHELM THAT CAUSED BAD FEELING IN GERMANY.

This is the full figure statue of the Kaiser which has just been unveiled in the Hall of Fame in the ancient town of Barmen, Germany, after receipt of a curt note from Berlin that no member of the royal household could be present at the unveiling owing to the criticism of the Kaiser by the people of Barmen following the receipt by them of a bill from the sculptor when they thought the Kaiser was paying for the statue. Their original plan was to place an allegorical group in the hall to balance a statue of Emperor Frederick and replace it with a statue of the Kaiser

after his death. The Kaiser, exercising the power given him by the German law, vetoed the group, owing to artistic defects, and when informed it was a temporary piece to occupy a place reserved for a statue of himself, to be placed there after his death, he gave a sculptor an order to make the statue at once and send it to Barmen. The people of Barmen thought he was making them a dispute over the payment of the \$4,000 it cost and the criticism which caused Barmen to be boycotted by the royal family.



POET FIGHTS FOR RELIGION.

Eminent Frenchman Antagonizes Government on the Question.

Francois coppee, the poet, who is leading the fight against the government of France in the religious schools question, has an immense following in the nation, and his influence is great. The government, however,



declares its intention to close all schools wherein religious instruction is given, and it has a large majority in the chamber.

EMINENT JEWISH RABBI DEAD.

Dr. Jacob Josephs Was Chief of Russian Orthodox Jews.

Dr. Jacob Josephs, the eminent Jewish minister, who has just passed away, was the chief rabbi of the Russian orthodox Jews of the United States, and possibly in many ways the highest American authority in Jewish law, philosophy and religion. Dr. Jacobs was the author of several standard works on these subjects and was widely known among the learned men of his faith. He was 52 years



old, a native of Wilna, Russia, and attained rare distinction in learning at the very youthful age of 18. He had been rabbi of the Beth Hamedrash Hagadol congregation in New York city for fourteen years.

IN THE DAYS OF SLAVERY.

The total white population of the south in 1860, according to the census, it is noted, was 8,999,760, of which 284,864 owned the 3,953,696 slaves in the country, excluding two owned in Kansas, fifteen in Nebraska, twenty-one in Utah and eighteen in New Jersey. One man alone owned more than 1,000 slaves and he was a South Carolinian. Eighty-eight owners, in nine states, had more than 300 each, and thirty of the eighty were South Carolinians. One-fifth of all the slaveholders or 77,322—owned but one slave each, and the greatest number of these small holders in one state was in Virginia, which had also the largest proportion of slaves, 400,865. —Charleston News and Courier.

THE CZAR AND THE TRUSTS.

Issues a Call for an International Conference to Regulate Them.

M. De Witte, the Russian minister of finance, is credited with being not



only the greatest financier in Russia, but the ablest railroad manager in all Europe. It was he, it is said, who suggested to the czar the calling of an international conference on trusts for the purpose of regulating them, because these combinations of capital "cause depressions and unreasonable fluctuations in prices."

Views of Professor Townbridge.

Experiments have convinced Prof. Townbridge that lightning never strikes the surface of the ocean, and from this he draws the interesting conclusion that lightning discharges can hardly be supposed to pass through regions of the air where there is, at the time, a heavy fall of rain. There are as many as several people who disagree with the professor.

Fine Engineering Feat.

The engineers of the Pennsylvania railroad recently performed a record feat. They succeeded in moving a steel bridge, weighing 1,836 tons, which spans the Raritan river, 174 inches in 175 seconds, in order that it might be replaced with a stone structure. The traffic on the railway, which is very heavy, was not delayed for a second.

LITTLE FOLK

The Thrush.
 The thrush sings high on the terebinth bough,
 Low, louder, low again; and now
 He has changed his tree—you know not how.
 For you saw no fitting wink.

All the notes of the forest throng,
 Flute, reed and string, are in his song;
 Never a fear knows he, nor wrong,
 Nor a doubt of anything.
 Small room for care in that soft breast;
 All weather that comes to him is the best.
 While he sees his mate close on her nest,
 And the woods are full of spring.
 He has lost his last year's love, I know—
 He, too—but his little he keeps of woe;
 For a bird forgets in a year, and so
 No wonder the thrush can sing.
 —E. R. SILL.

Magic Pills.

An entertaining little trick can be done with two pills made of bread. "One of the pills I throw away," the performer says, "the other I put in my left hand, which I close. At the same moment the pill which I have thrown away will come back and join the other in the left hand." And, opening the hand, he shows the two little pills. The whole trick lies in the right hand of the performer. Taking one of the pills, he shows it between the thumb and index finger, and, under the pretext of throwing it away, slips it between the index and middle finger by a slight pressure of the thumb, opening the hand with a slight motion of throwing. Taking the second little pill, he places it apparently alone in the left hand, but in reality also the other one held between the index and middle finger of the right hand, closing it immediately. Opening the hand, he shows the two pills. After a little practice this trick can be repeated several times without fear of detection.

The Butterflies.

Two butterflies cut out of tissue paper fly about as if alive, set in motion by a fan. They light on a flower, play in the air, descend on a flower, in short imitate real butterflies to perfection. All that is needed to make such butterflies is colored tissue paper and a pair of scissors. Fold the paper and cut the shapes of the butterflies as shown in the circle of our



Illustration. Fasten the butterflies to a long hair with the help of a diminutive piece of wax. Tie this hair to another which is fastened to your head likewise with wax (as shown in illustration). Throw the butterflies in the air with the left hand and move your fan underneath them to keep them in the air. It is very amusing to have a bunch of artificial flowers on which the butterflies can alight, only to fly away at a motion of the fan.

The Boy's Own Hammock.

There are times again and again in camp and in the out-of-doors dens that boys love to have, when a place to roost while reading or a place to drowse through a day of drizzling rain is in great demand. Generally, just when one most wants it the forest branches and twigs are too wet to use for a bed, and, besides, it is too much trouble.

Now here is a way to make a really practical hammock that will just fill the bill. Get several barrels, break them up and remove all the nails from the staves.

Bore a three-quarter inch hole in each end of each staff with a heated poker. Then lace thin rope—clothesline is good—through the holes. This can be accomplished easily. The stay blocks at each end of the hammock should be twelve inches long.

The hammock can be made entirely comfortable by placing upon it several couch pillows and covering them with a shawl.

Little Girl Trained Fish.

A pleasing story is told of a little girl who lived on the stage road from Shasta to Yreka, in California. Her father had caught several trout, and had placed them in a small pond near the house. The little girl made friends with the fishes by feeding them daily with crumbs of bread. To a stranger's call they would not rise to the surface of the water, nor would they pay much attention, usually, when food was thrown to them by persons whom they did not know. But when the little girl chirruped her well-known note the trout flocked to her outstretched hand, jostling and crowding each other in their eagerness to reach the tiny fingers filled with food. The little maiden was as fond of her pets as she could be, and she would not permit any of the trout to be caught. The fame of her funny friends spread in the country roundabout, and it soon became one of the treats of

travelers on the Shasta road to halt and see the curiosity.

Captive Fairy.
 The fairy in the picture is held captive in the crystal. But there are



cracks in the crystal through which she may escape, if she can discover them. These are represented by the dotted lines. Find in the dotted lines the exact space taken up by the fairy's figure and through which she can get out.

Houses Built of Grass.

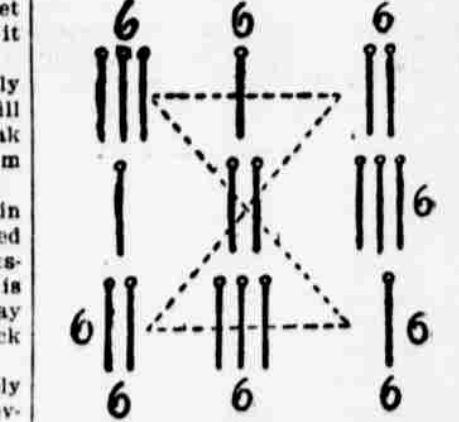
The grass houses formerly built by the Wichita Indians of southern Oklahoma are exceedingly interesting. The grass is gathered early in the spring, when it is yet fresh. The sod cutting usually takes place immediately after a rain, the sod being removed to a thickness of about eight inches. Buffalo grass sod is the only kind that will answer the purpose of the builder. He commences to lay the foundation as does the stonemason, digging away the earth to a depth of about one foot. The grass portion of the chunks of sod is laid to the outside and the house is built to a height of twelve to fifteen feet, in the form of a pointed dome. There is no hole in the top for smoke to pass out, the latter being carried away through a pipe outside of the hut. The door is usually in the south and there are no windows. Through each tuft of sod is run a willow reed string and these strings are bound clear around the structure. The grass remains green and will grow if there is plenty of rain. It is not at all uncommon to see the sides of these grass houses turn green as spring approaches, just as do the pastures near them. The houses are very warm in winter and cool in summer. They never leak.

Learn How to Breathe.

It is possible to exercise one's whole body, to keep it strong and well, simply by breathing properly. Children should be taught to breathe and to get into the habit of filling the whole lung space at each inhalation and of emptying it completely at each exhalation. There is no better way of getting to sleep after going to bed than by breathing properly. Push away the pillow and lie flat upon the back with the muscles relaxed. Slowly draw in the deepest breath possible, hold it for four seconds, then slowly expel it until the chest and abdomen have collapsed. Repeat this until you are tired or fall asleep. There are scores of ways of varying this exercise. But this is the essential. Of course it is assumed that one sleeps with his bedroom windows open.

Match Trick.

Eighteen matches are needed for this trick. Assort them in such a way that you have three single ones, three lots of two, and three lots of three, separately on the table. The task is to group the matches in three lines, each containing three parts, in such a way that the aggregate sums of all lines,



horizontal, perpendicular, and diagonal, is six. The illustration shows how the matches must be arranged.

Boys' Chances in Life.

Hundreds of boys in this country to-day are bemoaning their small salaries and lack of opportunities, when they are right in the whirlpool of business or trade, the finest school possible for them. If they would keep their eyes open and their minds alert and learn to see things and absorb knowledge they would no sooner complain of "no chance" or say that luck is against them. They would realize that they have been set on the road to fortune, and that by sturdy trudging they can arrive in triumph at the goal.—O. S. Marsden in July Success.

New Birth Record in Texas.

A Mexican woman at El Paso, Tex., has given birth to two healthy children, the second one born six weeks after the first. The case has caused considerable comment among physicians.

The Bloody Angle

Fierce Fighting That Took Place
 In Circle of Twelve Miles

GEN. ST. CLAIR MULHOLLAND in the Philadelphia Ledger says: "About twelve miles south of Fredericksburg is Spottsylvania Court House, and about the same distance west, perhaps a little more, is the Wilderness Tavern. Draw a line from each of these points to the others—from Fredericksburg to Spottsylvania, thence to the Wilderness Tavern, and back again to Fredericksburg—and you will have a triangle in which were fought several of the greatest battles

of the civil war. Or, perhaps better still, draw a circle—say twelve miles or a little more in diameter—with Fredericksburg Tavern on the outer edge, and inside that circle were fought the battles of the first and second Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Salem Heights, the Wilderness, Po river, Todd's Tavern, Laurel Hill, Spottsylvania Court House, Mine Run and several minor fights and engagements.

"Within the circle more men have been killed and wounded than on any ground of equal area on earth."

Fight at Port Hudson

Promised Medals of Honor
 Not Given to Forlorn Hope

AFTER the second repulse of the Union forces at Port Hudson, La., June 14, 1863, Gen. Banks called for a forlorn hope of 1,000 men. In his anxiety he promised, among other things, "a medal of honor," and this promise, made by the highest official in the department at that time, was

a binding contract whose terms the government should have fulfilled promptly, but has not. Strenuous efforts to this end have been made from time to time, but ineffectually up to the present time.

Maybe the butterfly has as much fun in life as the bee.

Was a Shooting Star

Supposed Signal That Disturbed
 the Rest of Slumbering Camp

THE MOROS of Basilian were friendly with a sort of sullen friendliness, and the officers of the garrison were prepared for an outbreak at any time. Five or six miles inland from Isabela a small guard was maintained at a native town and the arrangements were that in case of an attack upon it by the Moros a rocket should be

sent up. One night the watchful sentry at Isabela saw the long-expected rocket shoot across the sky. The garrison turned out, and with "It's come at last!" started to the aid of their fellow marines and bluejackets. But they found the outlying post wrapped in sleep and peace. The supposed rocket was a shooting star.—New York Mail and Express.