

HEROISM OF SEAMEN

Records of the Navy Reveal Numerous Instances.

BRAVERY IN FACE OF DEATH

How the Trenton's Band Played in Samoan Tempest—Story of Sinking of the War Sloop Oneida in Sea of Yeddo.

By GEORGE CLINTON.
Washington.—Stories have been told of the heroism of American and British passengers and seamen at the time of the wreck of the great steamship Titanic. The navy departments of two countries have records to show that American and British discipline almost always has been maintained in times of trouble at sea.

It is held sometimes that in the face of death supposedly brave men turn cowards and that occasionally the supposed cowards turn brave men. Army officers and naval officers in Washington say the records show that when the supreme moment comes almost all men of proper birth, upbringing, and some of them add "infallibility," prove themselves to be made of the right stuff. In the archives of the navy there are stories of heroism which infrequently see the light. The handsmen of the Titanic went down to death playing. When the tempest of 1888 struck the Samoan coast and the wreck of the American man-of-war Trenton, Captain Farquhar commanding, was imminent, the members of the ship's band took to the rigging of the old wooden ship and were lashed there by the sailors. The handsmen played the "Star Spangled Banner" and the music was heard above the storm, heartening the sailors who were battling with death.

Heroism of Oneida's Crew.
The story of the sinking of the British troopship with the soldiers drawn up in lines upon the deck and going to death unflinchingly and in parade formation, is known to every school-boy of whatever land. How many are there who know that this act of heroism has a parallel in the deeds of the officers and crew of an American man-of-war? In January of the year 1870 the United States steam sloop-of-war Oneida went to the bottom of the Sea of Yeddo carrying with her twenty-four officers and 152 men. It was a dark, foggy night. Suddenly out of the gloom loomed the prow of a great steamer. Before even the discipline of the man-of-war could do anything to avert a disaster the stem of the approaching steamer crushed into the stern of the Oneida and carried away its whole quarter. For a reason unexplained to this day the vessel which struck the Oneida, and which afterward was found to be the British steamship Bombay, did not stand by to learn the results of the collision or to offer helpful aid.

A large number of the Oneida's boats were smashed in the collision and made useless. In the boats that were left there was room for only thirty men. These boats were lowered, and then Capt. E. P. Williams ordered the sick brought up from below. These men were placed in the uninjured boats, completely filling them. Captain Williams then ordered the surgeon to go with the invalids. He demurred, saying that he preferred to stay by the ships.

"Your place is there, doctor," said Captain Williams; "mine is here, I order you to go."

The surgeon took his place in one of the boats and cast off, the convalescents acting as oarsmen. Captain Williams and his officers went to the bridge. Below them stood the men in groups, calm and motionless. The sick stood by in their boats and saw the last scene of that tragedy at sea. The ship's lamps threw a faint light upon the bridge and over the forward deck. The Oneida slowly settled. Soon its docks were awash. There was one last throb of the engines, a trembling of the whole ship's structure, and the sea claimed 176 gallant American souls.

No Successor to Butt.
President Taft does not intend a present to appoint a personal military aide to succeed Maj. Archibald W. Butt, who went down to his death in the sea at the time of the Titanic disaster. It is Mr. Taft's intention to call on one of several young army officers or naval officers from time to time for service. It may be that later he will choose one personal aide who will accompany him constantly as did Major Butt, but for some time yet the duties of military aide to the president of the United States will be divided.

As has been told before in these dispatches from Washington, President Taft has said his word of appreciation of the services and manhood of Major Butt. It also has been told how keenly the loss of the army officer has been felt among all ranks, military and civil, in the capital. The probabilities are that a monument will be erected to the major's memory, but he will be only one of those whose bravery in the last hours will be so commemorated. If congress appropriates money for the memorial, it will be to raise a shaft in honor of all brave men who, with Major Butt, stayed on the deck of the Titanic loyal to duty and to American tradition and gave up their lives that others might live.

Odd Psychological Condition.
For days in Washington there was a curious condition; some persons probably would call it a psychological condition. No one believed that Major Butt would be found among those

survivors who found refuge in the lifeboats. The only hope for his safety held by men who knew him and knew army traditions, was that he might have been picked up after the ship had gone down. Neither did any man believe that Archibald Gracie, who was a fellow passenger with Major Butt on the Titanic, would be found among those saved except under the same chance of rescue that others would have after the steamship had gone down.

Archibald W. Butt was not a West Pointer. Archibald Gracie is not a graduate of West Point, but he was at the academy for some years and his father was a graduate of the year 1854. Army men knew Butt and knew Gracie, and when the news came that Gracie was saved some of his friends were glad in a way and deeply sorry in another way. The first report had it that Gracie had a place in one of the lifeboats with the women and children, and some few men believed this report.

Relieved by the Truth.
When the story came of the way in which Gracie's life was saved Washington residents, army and civilian, were relieved. He was saved by one of those rare "accidents of chance" which one finds in Clark Russell's sea tales. Gracie stood with the men while the women were saved and, like Butt, faced willingly what seemed certain death.

After it was learned that Archibald Gracie had been saved some army men who did not know him shook their heads, but seemed willing to wait until news came which might clear the matter up. There are West Point classmates of Gracie's in Washington who in the face of the story that he was in a lifeboat with the women and children stuck to their faith in him. At the Metropolitan club the matter was under discussion. A brigadier general who was at West Point with Gracie said: "Wait, he was bred game and he is game; he'll come out of this squarely."

Archibald Butt was well known in Washington in both army and civilian service. Gracie was less well known, but it was the feeling in the service that the spirit of the soldier in both men would sustain them in manifest duty. Men wanted both Butt and Gracie to die rather than to learn that either had been saved at the expense of a fellow being. Gracie's rescue was of the miracle kind and has apparently nothing about it to show that he did not live up to the best army traditions.

Many Capital Fans.
Congress takes a deep interest in baseball that is not represented alone by an effort to investigate so-called baseball trusts. There are fans in the senate and fans in the house and, to get away from congress, there are fans in the White House and in all the departments of government. President Taft is a fan and frequently attends the ball games on the grounds of the Washington American League club.

The greatest fan in Washington is the vice president of the United States, James S. Sherman. He has been missing some games this year because he has had to miss them, not because he wanted to. Last year he attended nearly every game that was played on the baseball grounds. Senators Smith and Townsend of Michigan and Senator Culberson of Texas are fans of high degree. There is in baseball a hit which is known as a "Texas leaguer" which is a base hit rather of the pop fly nature which lands just back of one of the basemen too far in the rear for him to get it and too far to the front for an outfielder to get it. It is not much of a hit for length or strength, but it is safe. Senator Culberson does not like the name Texas leaguer as applied to this hit. He says the state of Texas is so big that home runs can be made there without danger that the ball will fall outside the state boundaries, and that moreover Texans believe in long, hard drives. He wants some one to account for the name Texas leaguer as applied to this safe but comparatively feeble hit.

Vreeland's Wonderful Scoring.
Representative Vreeland of New York state is a banker and a baseball fan. He goes to every game which it is possible for him to attend without interfering with his house duties. Mr. Vreeland was a member of the great monetary commission which framed the currency reform bill which is now pending before congress. He knows figures and finance as he knows his baseball. It is said that the score card which he keeps is a marvel, being a detailed account of the game covering many more points than the official scorers ever think of putting down.

Representative Nicholas Longworth of Ohio, who is a son-in-law of former President Theodore Roosevelt, is another of the house baseball fans. When there are no pressing legislative duties Mr. Longworth leaves his seat in the "fort of nonchalant" way about three o'clock in the afternoon and saunters out into the corridor. As soon as he gets up it is noticed that a good many fellow members rise from their seats and saunter down the aisles in equally nonchalant manner. It might be supposed that this goodly company was simply going out into the corridor to get a drink of water. The illusion is lost, though, when the corridor is reached. They streak it for a car which goes to the corner of Florida avenue and Seventh street, and the rest of the afternoon they spend watching the greatest game the sun ever looked on.

Its Characteristics.
"The principal characters in that play are a baby and a horse."
"That dramatist is evidently doing things with mite and mane."

NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



Screen alfalfa seed.

Destroy the little weeds.

Good dairymen keep no dogs.

Horses can be pastured on alfalfa.

The right kind of seed is half the crop.

Kill the small weeds and there will be no big ones.

Chicks raised in brooders are not bothered with lice.

Grass was never more welcome to cows than this spring.

Broiler prices are somewhat better than they were last month.

It is well to assume when chickens are dying that the disease is contagious.

Put a slatted frame over the drinking trough and the water will be kept cleaner.

The early spring chicken catches the good price. Raise early spring chickens.

Plant good seeds. Poor seeds are dear, no difference what price you pay for them.

Get the incubator at work on the broiler crop as early as possible. Delay means loss.

No incubator can make good hatches from poor eggs, that is, those lacking in fertility.

More incubator hatches are spoiled by the anxiety of the operator than from any other one cause.

Lard, vaseline and enough sulphur to make a paste makes a good remedy for sorehead in chicks.

Vegetables delight in having a warm, deep, rich and mellow soil, and will pay generously for the privilege.

Lice feed on the young chickens—that is one great reason that they fail to make the growth they should.

Carefulness in dressing poultry pays for the extra pains taken. The pin feathers must all be removed.

There is genuine satisfaction in owning thoroughbred stock and they cost no more to feed. Go in for the best.

Worry along without a trap nest, but keep your eyes open for the best layers, and set their eggs next spring.

A little ground charcoal mixed with the chicks' feed now and then will help keep away digestive troubles.

Three rules for success in gardening are: Freedom from weeds, thinning out, and keeping the ground well.

With reasonably good seed and a fairly well prepared seed bed, about 20 pounds of alfalfa seed is required per acre.

It is claimed by some onion growers that carbolic acid emulsion gives satisfactory results in fighting the onion maggot.

Nitrate of soda is the most quickly available source of nitrogen for plants, but buyers should steer clear of low grade nitrate.

Crimson clover makes fairly good ensilage, but, like all plants rich in protein, it develops a strong and rather objectionable odor.

Government reports state that more up-to-date agricultural machinery has been sold the last ten years than during any previous ten years.

It is not safe to pasture either cattle or sheep on alfalfa, as they are liable to bloat when it is fed green. Feed them the hay or practice soiling.

As the price of land increases the condition of the manner of farming must change, provided, of course, one has to make interest on the money value of the land.

The young chicks which are to make our winter layers should be hatched from the middle of March to the middle of May, depending on the breed.

When a man does not mind the bleat of a sheep that wants more feed, salt or water he has not the true spirit of the shepherd. Neither is he worthy of the name of shepherd if he does not do at once those things which should be attended to, but says he will do them tomorrow or some other day.

Alfalfa is a perennial.
A pure bred bull is best.
Mongrel fowls are expensive.
Light in the barn is essential.
Horses with tender feet need much attention.

The wheel hoe saves a lot of back-breaking hoeing.

Good roads increase values because they make values.

Good pasture is invaluable in growing pigs successfully.

Cut straw is the best for bedding if you save the manure.

If zinc is burned with the coal it will clear the chimney of soot.

Are the plow-lays sharp, and all the tools in first-class shape?

Two litters of pigs a year is about what the best sows will do.

He that abuseeth his colts may expect to be kicked by his horses.

Sifted coal ashes are better than plaster for the striped squash bug.

Jerking the bit and yelling confuse a horse and advertise a blockhead.

Out-buildings, unpainted fences and rubbish heaps may be hidden behind vines.

Equal parts of corn and oats are hard to excel as a grain feed for sheep.

Provide plenty of pure water, sunshine, range and green forage crops for sheep.

A flock that gets bone meal and oyster shell will have few cases of leg weakness.

Look out for the yearling colts. Don't let them get a setback as spring approaches.

Sore mouth will sometimes attack sheep in pens and run through the entire flock.

During an extra cold spell of weather add a little corn to the sow's grain ration.

Small seeds and finely cracked grain are a better feed for the small chick than wet mash.

Never breed a nervous, high-strung sow that is ready to jump and run at the drop of a hat.

The fewer sows kept together during the breeding season and until farrowing time, the better.

Of all fowls ducks are the easiest to raise. The eggs are more fertile than those of any other fowl.

Cold weather is not much of a detriment to chickens, providing it is dry and the atmosphere pure.

The geese should be laying at their best now, and this is, also, the month in which turkeys begin to lay.

For the majority of vegetables, soil of a sandy nature is best, provided there is a good sub-soil for drainage.

If all the implements were cleaned and painted last fall, a great deal of time will be saved when you must "get busy."

A good way to disinfect a brooder is to open it wide, take out the hover and let the sun get at the inside through the day.

Making the drinking water slightly red with permanganate of potash has often been found to prevent the spreading of roup.

Poultry manure should be partially dried before storing in order to prevent fermentation setting in, thus avoiding the escape of the ammonia.

There is no better or cheaper way of growing hogs than to pasture them on alfalfa. One acre will furnish pasture for from ten to twenty hogs per season.

An old horseman says that the chief cause of colic in horses, or the cause of the largest per cent of these cases, is brought through long abstinence from water.

Men of moderate means should start the improvement of their cattle through the purchase of a pure bred bull and gradually grow into the breeding of pure bred animals.

No one can afford to raise pigs that refuse to fatten or that are frequently off feed. In this case the correction may often be made before the pigs are farrowed. It is very apt to lie with the handling of the brood sow.

To make alfalfa hay cut in the forenoon and let it wilt; then rake into windrows. It should be cured in windrows and cocks, and stacked and put in barns with as little handling as possible before the valuable leaves become too dry and brittle.

The garden with a row of trees or some shrubbery along the north will be some days earlier in the spring but in dry countries this earliness may be paid for later. Trees along the edge of a garden are apt to sap the moisture for a long distance on either side.

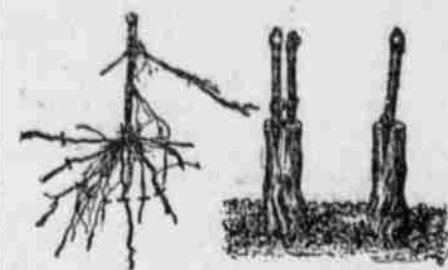
PRUNING AND TRAINING OF GRAPE VINES OF IMPORTANCE

No Other Fruit-Bearing Plant Responds So Generously to Attention, Adjusts Itself to Conditions, or Is Used for So Many Varieties of Purposes—Many Methods of Grafting.

(By GEORGE C. HUSMAN.)

By nature the grapevine is a great climber. Forms of it are found in our woods striving to overtop the tallest trees, and single plants over-spreading large areas. Again, other forms are grown as mere bushes, two or three feet high, producing crops ranging from 1 1/2 to 22 tons of fruit to the acre. No other fruit-bearing plant responds so generously to attention, adjusts itself to so many conditions, or is used for such a variety of purposes. For these reasons its culture has always kept pace with civilization. Grapes are often grown on soils too poor for other purposes. Native species of the grape are found in nearly all parts of the world, and no country is blessed with a greater number of them than our own. It is therefore reasonable to conclude that grapes can be successfully grown almost everywhere in this country, results with them depending largely upon the selection of varieties of the species suited to the respective conditions.

In ordinary practice grapevines are propagated from seed, from cuttings, by layering or by grafting. For origi-



1. Pruning Grapevine Roots Ready for Planting. 2. Vines Grafted According to the Cleft-Graft Method, at the Left With Two Scions, at the Right With One Scion.

inating new varieties, seedlings must of course be used. The individual seedlings differ so widely that they are seldom used by the intelligent planter even for grafting stock.

There are many so-called methods of grafting. The mechanical operations performed are similar and the underlying principles are the same, the essential difference being the place where the work is done—as implied by the names—bench, nursery and vineyard grafting.

Bench grafting is done on benches or tables, usually indoors during winter. The grafting of vines growing in the nursery is called nursery grafting. Rooted cuttings of other varieties are grafted in the nursery and the resulting vines planted in the vineyard. In vineyard grafting the vines growing where they are to remain are grafted. In cleft grafting, the vines are cut off at a smooth place near and preferably a little above the surface of the ground, unless it is desired to have the grafts establish themselves on their own roots, as it makes the removal of water sprouts and roots starting from the scion much easier and lessens the danger of injuring the scion before it is thoroughly knitted to the stock.

To prune intelligently, the age, size and condition of the plant, the loca-



Vines Growing in Vineyard the First Year, Showing Single Shoots Tied to Stakes.

tion, climate, soil and other features of its environment, and the principles governing its life must be considered.

A statement of some of the more important of these life principles follows: The sap flows with greatest force to the outer extremities; the more upright a branch is, the more sap flows into it; the sap when abundant and active produces wood; the more abundant the flow of sap, the



Unpruned and Pruned Vines, Showing the Method of Training by the Modified Munson System.

larger and later the fruit; the ascending sap grows richer the farther it flows; checking the flow of sap makes the plant bear earlier and produces more and richer fruit. The vine usually bears its fruit on new shoots growing from the wood of the pre-

vious year. The time for pruning is in winter, when the vines are dormant. They should not be cut when frozen or while the sap is flowing rapidly. Summer pruning is practiced on the young growth to regulate the quantity of fruit and the shape of the plant.

In pruning, one or more of the following objects are usually accom-



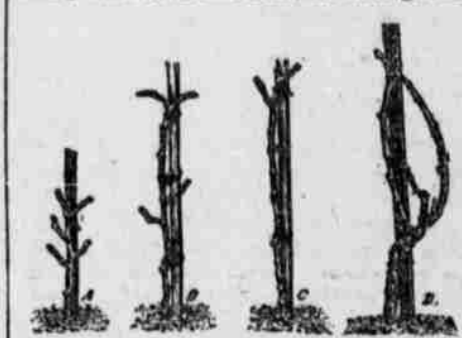
Grafts Ready for Healing In.

plished: Parts of plants removed, renewed, promoted or retarded; wounded and diseased plants cured; the shape and habits of plants modified; the size and quantity of the fruit increased or diminished; the quality of the fruit improved; the fruit made to ripen earlier or later; a regular succession of fruit secured; and the spraying, training, cultivation and gathering of fruit facilitated.

Around the city homes, where there is only room for a few vines, grapes are often trained on porches, fences, outbuildings, trees, arbors and stumps. In vineyard practice some growers use only a stake or post, and others use extensive systems of training the vines.

The spur, the fan, the four-arm system, the two-arm kniffin, the Munson, umbrella, overhead and cane systems are a few of the many methods of training adopted by vineyardists.

The writer considers the Munson system of training the best all-round system for use in localities where rains and storms occur during the growing season. It protects the fruit and places it in the most advantageous



Vines Headed Back for Different Systems of Training; A, the Spur and Fan System; B, the Four-Arm Renewal System; C, the Two-Arm Kniffin, Munson, Umbrella and Overhead Systems; D, a Pruned Vine in its Fifth Year, Showing the Method of Training by the Cane System.

surroundings for the best results. It makes . . . practical, and . . . facilitates spraying for fungous diseases and insect pests and, after the original outlay for the trellis has been incurred, lessens the cost of all operations and makes them easy and pleasant.

In California trellises are comparatively rare. Stakes only are used. These give the vines the necessary support and allow the vineyard to be cultivated crosswise as well as lengthwise.

SECURE HEALTHY PLANT GROWTH

Proper Regulation of Moisture Is Greatest Factor—Give Water Only When Needed.

Proper regulation of moisture is the greatest factor in securing healthy plant growth. While plants can withstand great extremes in temperature, corresponding extremes in moisture will surely tend to ruin if not killed even the strongest.

Water should be given only when needed, and then in such copious quantities that the soil is thoroughly soaked. When potting plants space should always be left at the top for pouring in water. An inch and a half will suffice.

Consider the kind of plant you are watering. Soft-stemmed kinds, especially those with large leaves, will require much more water than hard-wooded, slow-growing kinds. While the former easily recover from drought, the hard-wooded suffer permanently from extremes.

The character of the soil should also regulate watering. Heavy clay soils soak easily, while very light loam soils dry out quickly, and unless carefully watched plants in them will wilt. In either case it is better to water thoroughly and less frequently than to water sparingly and often.

The seasons and time of day should also be watched. Plants not in active growth should be watered sparingly until they have regained their foliage. Watering in the evening just before dark greatly aids against diseases, as the foliage remains wet through the night.

Curling Lemons.

Curling lemons in the sweatshouses by exhaust from gasoline engines instead of by coal oil stoves is being tried in California.