

Niagara Water-Power.

Chicago Tribune: The idea of utilizing the vast water-power of Niagara, now going to waste, is nothing new. It has been suggested and discussed for years, but no practical plan has been offered and discussion has been limited to theorizing.

The two methods of utilizing this vast power which have been most frequently discussed are those of conveying power caught through turbine wheels, either in the form of electrical current or compressed air, but in either case there are difficulties which would have to be overcome.

There can be no question, however, that under the stimulus of a small fortune the inventive talent of our engineers will find some way of utilizing the unlimited water-power which is now thrown away over the brink of Niagara.

Railway Construction in China.

Judging from what has already been done in the matter of railway construction in China, the British consul at Tientsin, Mr. B. Brennan, is not inclined to take a very hopeful view of the prospects for railway enterprise there.

With the exception of the French syndicate, none has succeeded in doing any business. The construction of the docks and work-shops of Pork Arthur. It has been admitted that in this matter the French outwitted their competitors, and that they understood better how to deal with the officials with whom the decision lay.

Tickets for Corpses.

From the New York World. A reporter waiting three minutes in a Broadway passenger agent's office yesterday overheard the following: "No, sir, there are no half-rate tickets for corpses. A corpse of any age requires one full first-class limited ticket, and no baggage can be checked upon that ticket, nor can any stop-over check be issued upon it.

"A passenger is allowed only 150 pounds of baggage, or 75 pounds upon a half ticket. If you have more than 150 pounds you will have to pay excess baggage, which charge will amount to from 12 to 15 per cent of the cost of the passenger's ticket.

"Thank heaven, he's gone," said the agent turning to the World reporter. "I have to answer just such questions a dozen times a day, and have almost had the lockjaw in consequence. There's one thing about this interstate law, though—it's been a godsend to the printers and waste paper dealers, as every few days the commissioners are making important changes which necessitate new tariffs and instructions, and the printers are kept busy, while the junk men grow rich off the superseeded matter, which is thrown into the waste-paper baskets of every railroad office of the United States."

Fishing and Catching Fish.

[Seth Green in American Agriculturist.] The article, "First Day's Fishing," in the May number of the American Agriculturist, hit me just where my memory is longest. It recalls the time, over sixty years ago, when my clothes were wet, a stone-bruise on my heel and a toe nail stubbed off, I had just such an old crooked fish-pole. I then cut my fish-poles in the woods, and no one that has never tried it has any idea what a job it is to get a straight one. A sapling looks straight; you cut it down and trim it. Then there are so many crooks in it that you reject it, and cut several more before you get one to suit.

Now I don't say I never see anything while I am fishing. I do as much looking about as any man when I am not fishing. But when I am fishing I do nothing else. If the fish don't bite I am wondering if my bait is all right, and I don't go long without a bite before I look at my bait and make some change in it. If

nothing more, I take it off and put it on again. Then I jerk it a little faster or a little slower and let it sink to the bottom, let it lie a minute, then give it a sharp jerk, and if there is no bite I change places or let out the line and get the bait farther away from me. If fly fishing I have a number of motions to give the fly. Sometimes one motion will coax the fly fish to bite and sometimes another. But I am fishing all the time.

Lancaster County is to have a new court house, the cost not to exceed \$190,000. Bids are to be advertised for at once.

COMMON ERRORS CORRECTED.

Exaggerated Notions Which Even Scientific Observers Have Indorsed. Ignorant folk, wondermongers and even scientific observers have disseminated many erroneous and exaggerated notions which are not readily eradicated. We are still told, for instance, of the Norwegian maelstrom, a frightful whirling chasm in the sea capable of sucking down the largest ships, though in reality this fearful "whirlpool" is simply a run of the tide through a sloping channel is rarely dangerous, and then chiefly on account of the rocks on which it may draw vessels.

Mr. John Murdoch has recently shown that the Eskimos do not, as text books of physiology affirm, dose through their long winter night, keeping up their bodily heat by enormous meals of raw blubber and lamp oil, but that their winter life is active, their food mostly cooked and their consumption of oil not excessive. A still widely accepted belief is that the hair snake is a wonderful transformation of a horse's hair when kept in water, though these odd creatures (known to science as Gordius aquaticus) really grow from eggs, and in early stages inhabit the bodies of insects.

Accounts of the germination of grain from the mummy pits of Egypt have arisen from deception practiced by the Arabs in placing fresh seeds with the belongings of the mummies. Though now known to be incorrect, the inference that the moon influences the weather is a very natural one to untrained observers, and is far less absurd than a thousand vagaries that gain credence, such as the dropping of live reptiles from the clouds, the ejection of live snakes and other creatures from the human stomach, the localization of water by a forked stick, the extinguishment of fire by sunshine, etc.—Arkansas Traveler.

An Editor's Strange Experience.

"I know a good joke on an editor from Helena, M. T.," said a conductor on the St. Paul, and I guess I'll have to tell it. He's a colonel, but I shan't give you his last name. Last week he came into St. Paul on business, and after registering at the best hotel in town started out to see the sights. It was about 2 o'clock in the morning when he returned, a little the worse for wear. It happened that the night porter who showed him to his room was only half asleep, and, without knowing what he was doing, ushered the colonel into the bathroom attached to the apartment assigned for his use, muttered 'G'night, sir,' and disappeared. Next morning at the breakfast table the Montana journalist met an acquaintance and said to him: "Fine hotel, this."

"Yes, one of the best in the country," "Do you like their new fangled beds?" "Their beds are all right, though I didn't know that there was anything new about them." "Well, they've got the darnedest bed in my room you ever set eyes on. It's more like a coffin, an' there wasn't a blamed bit of cover on it. I was cold all night. I don't think it's mighty fine to have water so handy that when a feller gets thirsty in the night he don't have to get out of bed for a drink, but the worst of it was in my case that it was just my darned luck to leave the thing running a little the last time I took a drink out of it, an' when I woke up sign' I was nigh drowned in cold water. Never spent a more miserable night in my life."—Chicago Herald.

A Police Captain's Experience.

Police Capt. Williams went to the St. Lawrence river on an excursion a year or two ago. On the deck of the steamer where he sat with his wife, a couple of gentlemen near by began to discuss the police force of New York, when one of them dropped into a talk about Capt. Williams himself. According to the young man's relation to his friend, Capt. Williams was about the toughest and worst of them. "Well, sir," said Capt. Williams, "I stood it for a long time, being tempered by the fact that his wife's hand was on his right arm with a restraining pressure. He finally turned round and said: 'I beg your pardon, sir. But do you know Capt. Williams about whom you are talking?' The reply was received: 'No, sir, I never met him and I never saw him.' 'Well, sir,' was the captain's reply as he displayed his shield, 'I am Capt. Williams, and I want to say to you that even if I were as bad as you have pictured me I could yet spit on a man who would talk about a person he did not know as you have talked about me.' There was no more conversation possible, but there was a sequel to the episode. Just before the captain's departure from the boat there came a rap on the door of his stateroom, and on opening it he found his traducer. The young fellow evidently had many qualities in him, for he said: 'Capt. Williams, I did not like to leave this boat without speaking to you. In the first place, I think I ought to make an apology, and in the next place I want to tell you that I have learned a lesson which will last me a long time, and that is not to talk about a person that I do not know.'—New York Tribune.

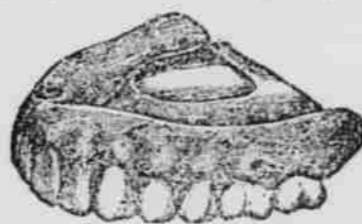
A Peculiar Kind of Coal.

A twenty-three foot vein of what promises to be a valuable kind of fuel has been discovered at Elinore, Cal., and it is thought that the whole valley is underlaid with it. It is described by The News of that place as quite soft, and easily worked when in the mine, but it gets hard when exposed to the air. It resembles slate somewhat in appearance, although of a somewhat lighter color. It is clean, leaves no marks or stains on the hand, does not slack or crumble in the air, can be split like mica into very thin fibers, burns freely, and needs only to be ignited with a match, smells like burning rubber when being consumed, and leaves behind a jet black ash resembling lampblack in all its properties. It is said to be worth \$15 per ton for making gas.—New York Sun.

A Planet Taken with Convulsions.

From the Pall Mall Gazette. A correspondent of the Pioneer Mail gives the following account of "facts as witnessed by myself, wife, and two Mohammedan servants, all four seeing the phenomenon simultaneously, and not for a minute or so, but for upward of an hour." "At about 8:30 o'clock on the evening of May 29, while sitting at dinner, one of my khitmitgars came in from the outside, and said: 'Sir, just step out and see what a tamasha is taking place with the star Sook'—the native name for Venus. Out we went, and sure enough, there was Venus, large and bright, but strange to say, falling 2, 3 and four feet at a time, then oscillating from right to left; sometimes dashing to the right and then to the left several feet at a time. These movements continued in rapid succession, and were plainly apparent to all at once; but this was not all. Venus when we first saw her, was, say, apparently some 400 yards above the horizon. While watching her we observed a star (some 2 yards, to look at) above, suddenly fall into Venus and there remain. We were amazed. The natives exclaimed: 'The last day is at hand,' and so on. We watched Venus rapidly descending until she dipped the horizon. At times she appeared her usual size and quite bright, then again hardly visible. Perhaps the phenomenon described can be explained by some one versed in astronomy. I again repeat that what has been described was seen by myself, wife and two native servants, and could by no means have been imagination."

Dr. C. A. Marshall.



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THE GREAT CONSTITUTIONAL REMEDY. For Debility, Dyspepsia, Weakness, Indigestion, Enervation, and Stagnation of the Blood, Loss of Appetite, Derangement of the Liver, and all other ailments arising from a Low State of the System, giving ample evidence of its beneficial effects. It is composed of Helsselroth's Gelatine-Coated Blood and Liver Pills. They cost no more than other laxative pills, and are a greatly superior. Ask your Druggist for Helsselroth's Swedish Wine of Iron (Price per Bottle, six bottles, \$5, and Helsselroth's Blood and Liver Pills (50c per box; five boxes, \$3, or send direct to LAWRENCE HELSELROTH, 107 Chicago Ave., Chicago.

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EGGS FOR HATCHING. MOON & ROBERTS, GREENWOOD, - NEBRASKA. Sheriff's Sale. By virtue of an execution issued by W. G. Showalter, Clerk of the District Court, within and for Cass County, Nebraska, and to me directed, I will on the 25th day of July, A. D. 1887, at 11 o'clock A. M., of said day at the south door of the Court House in said county sell at public auction, the following real estate to-wit:

Sheriff's Sale. By virtue of an order of sale issued by W. G. Showalter, Clerk of the District Court, within and for Cass County, Nebraska, and to me directed, I will on the 30th day of July, A. D. 1887, at 11 o'clock A. M., of said day at the south door of the Court House in said county sell at public auction, the following real estate to-wit:

\$25,000.00 IN GOLD! WILL BE PAID FOR ARBUCKLES' COFFEE WRAPPERS. 1 Premium, - \$1,000.00 2 Premiums, - \$500.00 each 5 Premiums, - \$200.00 25 Premiums, - \$100.00 100 Premiums, - \$50.00 200 Premiums, - \$25.00 1,000 Premiums, - \$10.00 For full particulars and conditions see circular in every pound of ARBUCKLES' COFFEE.