

THE FIRST ROCK SALT MINE.

Its Discovery Was the Result of Accident Rather than Design.

"I really believe that many of the greatest discoveries are the result of accident, and this applies not only to scientific facts, but also to more material matters," remarked Gen. Dudley Avery last night at the St. Charles Hotel. "Accident brought the great salt deposit on Avery's Island to light after its croppings had been worked for nearly half a century. My grandfather sold salt years before the war, and my father in his youth followed the same methods of production, even after his father's time, but it remained for my brother John, then a boy of 16, to really make manifest the remarkable advantages which the island possessed in the matter of rock salt mining. It was during the war. Salt was selling in New Orleans for \$11 a sack. This was at a period when the salt works of the island were not being made use of. You see, my grandfather manufactured salt by digging wells, into which the salt water flowed in great quantities, and this water he merely boiled, evaporating the moisture and causing a residue of fine salt. When my brother learned of the high price of salt in New Orleans he went to my father, then practicing law in Baton Rouge, and suggested that he be given permission to work the then abandoned wells and make pin money for himself. There was no objection, and with the assistance of several slaves John proceeded to open the old wells by clearing out the accumulation of debris and boiling the brine, as his grandfather did years before him. He opened a number of new wells, and was soon selling salt at a great rate, but the demand increased, and he decided to open a big well some ten feet square. The work proceeded, but the usual depth was reached with no result. The water did not flow. He concluded to dig deeper, and at sixteen feet came upon what the negro diggers said was an old stump. Failing to chop the 'stump' with an ax, the negro concluded he had struck a bed of rock, and when my brother descended into the excavation he managed, with a cold chisel, to cut out a piece of what he thought was transparent rock. My father, however, who happened to be on the island at the time, knew what had been discovered, and in the course of a little while the wonder of the discovery had been noised all over the country. This was discovered the first rock salt deposit in the South, and a few months after that time a dozen shafts were being worked in a crude way, and we were shipping salt to Richmond in great quantities, at least great for that period in the world's history. Work has progressed almost steadily since that time, and we are shortly to begin a new shaft which will go deeper than ever; in fact, drop beneath the old workings, although this is not necessary, because we can tap the deposit in any locality we choose."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Jellyfish as Protectors.

A singular case of fishes living on or with another, has just been made known by M. Gadeau de Kerville. The young of the fishes called false mackerel are almost always found in company with the large medusae known as rhizostomes. These young fishes swim parallel with the long axis of the jellyfish, and in the same direction as the latter. They remain above, beneath and behind the animal, but never advance beyond its umbel. It frequently happens that some of them introduce themselves into the cavities of the jellyfish, and are then visible from the exterior, owing to the transparency of the host.

Sometimes the school of fishes wanders a few yards away from the medusa, but at the least alarm, immediately returns with great rapidity to occupy its former position. It is evident that the medusa very efficiently protects the young fishes by means of its innumerable stinging capsules. This is demonstrated by the fact that when the fishes become larger they no longer seek protection by accompanying the medusa.

How to Drink Water.

The effects produced by the drinking of water vary with the manner in which it is drunk. If, for instance, a pint of cold water be swallowed as a large draught, or if it be taken in two portions with a short interval between, certain definite effects follow—effects which differ from those which would have resulted from the same quantity taken by sipping.

Sipping is a powerful stimulant to the circulation—a thing which ordinary drinking is not. During the act of sipping the action of the nerve which slows the beats of the heart is abolished, and as a consequence that organ contracts much more rapidly, the pulse beats more quickly, and the circulation in various parts of the body is increased. In addition to this we also find that the pressure under which the bile is secreted is raised by the sipping of fluid.—The Sanitarian.

Not a Good Word.

"I notice, Mr. Pipp," said the editor to his new reporter, "that in this account of a robbery you say the victim was relieved of \$500."

"Yes, sir."

"Were you ever robbed?"

"No, sir."

"I thought not. If you had you would not write of the robbery as a relief."—New York World.

As Wise as a Serpent.

"Doctor, how can you be so reckless as to ride in those open cars?"

"Hush, my dear, your hubby knows his business. If I ride in the open cars others will think it safe for them. Just answer the telephone, dear. Yes, I thought so. Another pneumonia patient."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Nebraska Notes

T. Hule of Norfolk dangerously gashed his face and neck by falling down a flight of steps.

Mike Maher, a farmer near Fremont, is boiling over because some villain purloined forty hens from his henery.

John Geally of Gordon harvested thirty-five bushels of gooseberries, and bought \$35 worth of sugar to save 'em.

Cornelius and Mott, Kearney's champion hose couplers, are bandying words with an Illinois unknown for a match for \$200 a side.

Steve Footitt of Plainview will have to stay at home for several weeks because a can of burning gasoline was spilled upon him.

Harry Landgraaf of North Platte clung to a fire cracker too long, and now he is grunting around with a shattered finger and powder burned hand.

Judge Jackson and H. E. Kryger, of Neligh, were in Chicago last week renewing negotiations for the erection of a sugar factory at this place.

Charles Gerriek, living near Fremont, claims to have the best corn in that section. The stalks are over six feet high and have already tasseled out.

Rats are so thick in Pender that they destroy the gardens and wax fat on the young pigs and chickens. A Chinese laundry would solve the difficulty.

Henry Schuett, living between Hartington and Bloomfield, had a leg broken in a runaway accident while returning home from the celebration at Bloomfield.

John Oleson of O'Neill fell while trying to load a wagon, and his head landed on the pavement with such force that John didn't know a thing for sometime.

Tramps at Creighton stole into the barber shop of A. I. Scott, but not to get a shampoo. When they came out they were armed with two razors and \$1.25.

Colonel Cobb of Emerson has gone in a body to Washington to surround that postoffice. Brother Cobb will sure get it. He carried a rabbit's foot in each hand.

Sam Bouten of South Sioux City was shooting cannon fire crackers when one exploded so near his daughter that the flesh below her knee was considerably torn.

The churches of Lyons propose to unite and hold union meetings all summer. It might be a good idea all the year round. Consolidation is the order of the day.

Gilbert Castle, eight years old, of Holdrege, fell from a hammock and broke his collar bone. This makes the fourth time he has broken a bone in his short life.

The three-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Brown of Aurora swallowed the contents of a package of diamond dye, but fortunately she didn't die, thanks to the untiring care of her parents.

Louis Peterson of North Platte lost a fine bay horse. While it was being driven on the street, a boy threw a firecracker in front of it, and at the sound of the explosion the horse reared, and fell dead.

Roy Stewart of North Platte struck a broken bottle while diving in Kellmer's lake. He received an ugly wound on the head, which bled profusely to the great though needless alarm of his companions.

Claud Smith of Ainsworth rode part way around the track at a horse race. The reason he didn't complete the circuit is that his horse threw him off so violently as to make him unconscious for a time.

Two charming young Knox county ladies are advertising in the Climax, a Chicago matrimonial paper, for a hubby. It seems they are dissatisfied with the home product. Stand up for Nebraska! patronize home industry.

The first half of the week was hot with strong southerly winds and the latter part cool with northerly winds. The daily mean temperature has averaged about 3 degrees above the normal, the excess being nearly the same in all sections of the state. The maximum temperatures on the 6th, 7th and 8th were about 100 degrees generally, and in many places exceeded 100. The rainfall was above the normal in the southeastern section, where it ranged from 1 to 4.5 inches; about normal in the northeastern and central portions of the state, and slightly below the normal in the western counties. The hot dry weather the first of the week was trying to all crops, specially in parts of the southeastern section. Early oats, spring wheat and early potatoes have generally suffered some slight damage during the week. Small grain has ripened rapidly and harvesting has made rapid progress. Winter wheat is all in the shock in the northern counties and is being cut in the northern counties. The oat harvest has commenced in the southern counties. Corn was not injured by the hot weather and has made good growth; it is now being laid by as fast as possible and the earlier fields in the southern counties are beginning to tassel. Generally corn has improved in condition in the state. Apples are dropping badly.

Sam Norlander of Gothenburg lost a generous chunk of his thumb by the premature explosion of a giant fire cracker.

Mrs. John Edwards was watching a ball game at Ainsworth, when a foul ball struck her on the eye, knocking her senseless.

Mary Carpenter, aged thirty, daughter of a prominent Ainsworth county farmer, punctured her jugular vein with a hatpin and a needle and will die. The cause of the rash act was disappointment in love and alleged abuse from her parents.

ALLIES AGAINST UNITED STATES

Spain and Japan Form an Alliance to Fight Us.

LONDON, July 16.—A dispatch from Paris to a news agency here says that inquiry at an American embassy there has elicited a confirmation of the rumor that the governments of Spain and Japan have arranged an offensive alliance against the United States.

The terms of the understanding, which is for the mutual protection of Cuba and Hawaii, provide that in the event of an actively aggressive movement on the part of the United States tending toward interference in Cuban affairs or persistence in the annexation of the Hawaiian islands, both Spain and Japan shall declare war simultaneously against the United States and shall make hostile demonstrations along both the Atlantic and Pacific coast lines of that country.

Fight With Robbers.

CHICAGO, July 16.—Shortly before midnight Wednesday Detective Sergeants Howard and Foley attempted to arrest three men who were driving in a buggy and from the description are thought to have been the men who attempted to rob a saloon early in the night. The men resisted arrest and opened fire on the officers. The detectives returned the fire and two of them fell. One of them hung onto the buggy and the officers are confident that he was killed and that the others were badly wounded. Although two patrol wagons were called upon to chase the buggy it escaped with its occupants.

During the chase A. D. Poessel, a bicyclist, attempted to follow the men and ran off the abutment of the Lake street bridge, which was open. His wheel fell into the river and Poessel saved his life by clinging to the abutment. While he was in this position the bridge tender swung the bridge upon him and nearly crushed him out of human shape. His injuries are supposed to be fatal.

See Much of United States.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., July 16.—The transcontinental tour of the Pan-American commercial men is practically ended and they are not sorry. Wearing by constant travel and satisfied by unbounded hospitality of their northern brothers, the men from the tropics are looking forward with joy to next Saturday, when they will have returned to Philadelphia. Sunday and Monday the delegates will assemble at the commercial museum of that city, under whose auspices the tour has been made, and there will be a general discussion of what they have seen with an expression of views on the probable results of the trip toward promoting the trade relations between the United States and the southern republics.

Trans-Mississippi Congress.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, July 16.—The ninth annual session of the trans-Mississippi commercial congress was called to order at 11 o'clock in the assembly hall in Temple park. The hall has been beautifully decorated for the occasion with flags, bunting and potted plants. The convention will be in session four days, and on account of the large amount of work to be done may be extended into next week.

Delegates have been arriving all day and a large contingent is expected by Friday morning's trains.

Hon. William J. Bryan, the president of the congress, did not reach here until Thursday.

Women on the Stone Pile.

LAFAYETTE, Ind., July 16.—Mrs. Helen M. Gongar of Indiana is indignant at the reported action of the chief of police of Kansas City, Kan., in putting female prisoners in the garb of men and working them on the streets and stone pile with male criminals. She declares this action to be more shameful than anything practiced toward women in barbarous nations. She asks that women everywhere shall write letters of protest to the Kansas City, Kan., authorities, that they may realize that women will not tolerate such indignities in silence.

Train Is Wrecked Deliberately.

CUMBERLAND, Md., July 16.—At 2:30 o'clock yesterday morning the engine attached to train No. 10, while passing slowly through the junction of the Pittsburgh and the third division near Cumberland, was derailed and fell over on her side. The baggage car was slightly damaged, but no one was injured, and the tracks were blocked for but a few hours. Investigation reveals the fact that someone had deliberately removed a bolt from the switch, which caused the derailment.

Kidnute the Senate.

NEW YORK, July 16.—A dispatch to the World from London says that the bimetallic commission headed by Senator Wolcott is an absolute failure. The principal newspapers have referred to the commission in terms which, while conforming to the rules of artificial Gallic courtesy, have been not far from ridicule. President Hanotaux refuses to take the commission seriously.

Trestle Collapses.

ALTON, Ill., July 16.—At Bellefontaine bridge at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning a St. Louis, Keokuk & Northwestern train backed down upon a trestle which had been undermined by the water of the Missouri. The trestle collapsed and the eight cars of rock on the train tumbled into the river. There were eight men on cars. John Chorn, foreman of the crew and Robert Hatfield, a laborer, were caught under the rock and killed. Six others were badly hurt. The bodies have not been recovered.

WITH OUR MAN

De Armit's Mines May Decide the Fate Of the Great Coal Strike.

COAL FAMINE NECESSARY TO SUCCESS.

Strike Likely to Continue for Weeks and Months—Responsibility for Present Troubles Rest With One Company.

CLEVELAND, July 15.—The fate of the great coal strike now depends upon the course of the miners in De Armit's mines, say local operators. Until the strikers succeed in inducing these men to come out there can be no coal famine and failure to close these mines means a loss of supremacy in districts which the strikers now control. In the inaction of the strikers yesterday those operators who have consistently and persistently refused to concede the possibility of the strikers attaining their end found much encouragement.

CHICAGO, July 15.—J. W. Ellsworth, president of the Union National bank, who has large coal interests in Ohio and Pennsylvania, said yesterday that he did not think the strike would be settled within a month, perhaps not for six weeks.

"The New York and Cleveland Gas Coal company," he said, "is practically responsible for the mining troubles of the past three or four years. Its interests are small comparatively, but large enough to unsettle the price of wages and the cost of coal in comparative markets. It is responsible for the present strike. Its scale of price as agreed on was 60 cents in the Pittsburgh district. The New York & Cleveland Gas company agreed to be bound by that. The operators went so far as to accede to the demand of that company in 1895, that company stores be abolished. Some time after work was resumed the New York & Cleveland Gas Coal company asserted that the full 97 per cent which had had company stores had not given up and that, as this was a condition upon which it was paying the scale, it would not be bound by the 60 cent rate. It compelled its men to close a new contract at 54 cents. The miners and operators have labored under this condition long enough. The dictation of this company must cease, or it should take its coal to non-competing points. The company mines just coal enough to fix the price."

Is Not a Suicide.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., July 15.—Accidental self poisoning by an overdose of morphine, taken to relieve pain, was the verdict of the coroner's jury as to the cause of death of Nicholas C. Creede, the mining king found dead in the garden of his residence on Pearl street.

During the inquest very little reference was made to his wife, from whom he separated six months ago, and whose return is conjectured to be one of the causes of the depression, which is said to have been observed in Creede of late. All questions asked at the inquest were evidently intended to bring out the contention made by the friends of the deceased that it was entirely an accident that he took an overdose of morphine.

The testimony went to show that Creede had occasionally used morphine to allay neuralgic pains and that it was entirely possible that he had accidentally taken too much. After a short deliberation the jury returned a verdict to that effect. Creede's lawyers are unable to say whether or no the left a will, and out of respect for him, his papers have not yet been examined. The body will be placed in a vault, and will probably be sent east later.

Runaway Cars do Damage.

ROOSE, Ia., July 15.—A Chicago and Northwestern switch crew at 5:20 Tuesday morning let seven freight cars get away from them in the yards here on the main line, when they started down the steep grade west of the city at a terrific speed. About a mile down they collided with freight train No. 22, a double-header coming up the hill. All the trainmen on both engines jumped, and were not injured. In one of the runaway cars two tramps, Frank Brooks and Eugene Bibe, were sleeping. Their car was completely telescoped with another. Bibe was killed instantly and Brooks badly injured. Both engines were badly wrecked.

Trouble Is Begun.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., July 15.—A special to the Express from Danville, Ill., says:

"Trife between the miners commenced in this district Tuesday night. About 400 or 500 Belgian strikers and other foreigners gathered at the Pawnee mine and when a cage full of colored men who had been at work reached the top of the shaft they were assaulted. Shots were fired, wounding several strikers. The strikers piled ties on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois tracks and demolished the car windows with rocks and bricks. Then the miners inside the coaches opened on them. About fifty shots were exchanged. It is reported that one miner was killed."

Prepare to Protect Faure.

PARIS, July 15.—In view of anarchist threats special precautions were taken for the protection of M. Faure, the president, while en route to the review yesterday. Many suspects were arrested. The thicket near the cascade in the Bois de Boulogne, the scene of the last bomb outrage, was surrounded by detectives. More than 150 detectives mounted on bicycles, were ready at various points to carry out instructions and pursue anarchists in case any emergency should arise.

NO UNEASINESS FELT

Attitude of Japan on the Hawaiian Situation Causes no Alarm.

WASHINGTON, July 14.—The Evening Star says there is no uneasiness among the friends of annexation in congress about the Hawaiian situation. Neither the attitude of Japan, nor the persistent opposition of the sugar trust, it is believed, can weaken the position of the administration.

The foreign relations committee of the senate is to meet today and Senator Davis, the chairman of the committee, said this morning that he was going to secure favorable report on the Hawaiian treaty at that meeting if a quorum could be obtained.

Neither Senator Frye, Senator Lodge, nor Senator Gray, members of the committee, were at the capitol yesterday. It is not the present expectation that the treaty of the annexation will be taken up at this session, but a situation exists which may hasten the matter. It is believed that if the attitude of Japan toward Hawaii becomes more threatening it will force annexation at once, though the friends of annexation will not be in haste unless developments render speedy action necessary.

A Hole Without a Bottom.

CRIPPLE CREEK, Colo., July 14.—Photographer Yelton yesterday returned from a trip to Cow mountain, about six miles east of this city, where he has been to obtain views of a most remarkable cavern, discovered by sinking a prospect shaft. The cave was discovered by parties who were doing their assessment work in a group of claims on Cow mountain.

A man was picking in the bottom of a ten-foot hole when he suddenly struck the point of his pick through the rock into apparently unlimited space. He cautiously investigated and gradually opened up a pit that led to the other world, to all appearances. Rocks dropped into the hole, however, struck bottom in about two seconds or less, showing that the cave was not so deep at that point. The men got a rope, and fastening it securely above, descended to explore the immense cavern, which proved to be a veritable store-house of ice stalactites and columns of pure ice stood like cypress trees from the floor and hung like a ghostly fringe from the ceiling.

Exploration was not carried very far, as the yawning abyss was encountered at a distance of about fifty feet from the entrance. Chunks of ice thrown into the abyss could be heard rattling and clanking on the sides, but never a sound of the bottom being touched. Photographs were taken by flashlight and the pictures reveal the ice in crystal, forming most fanciful figures. An effort will be made to open the cave to a more thorough exploration. The chamber where those pictures were taken is seventy-five feet high and about fifteen feet wide. Beyond this the cave widens and the interior seems abyssal.

Discover a Lake of Oil.

SEATTLE, Wash., July 14.—What is said to be the greatest oil discovery ever made is reported from Alaska. Some gold prospectors several months ago ran across what seemed to be a lake of oil. The lake was fed by innumerable springs and the surrounding mountains were full of coal.

They brought samples to Seattle and tests prove it to be of as high grade as any ever taken out of Pennsylvania wells. A local company was formed and experts sent up. They have returned on the steamer Topeka and their report has more than borne out the first reports.

It is said there is enough oil and coal in the discovery to supply the world. It is close to the ocean, in fact the experts say that the oil oozes out into the salt water.

It is said that the Standard Oil company has already made an offer for the property. The owners have filed on 8,000 acres and are naturally very much excited over their prospective fortune.

One Hundred Thousand Expected to be Idle in London.

LONDON, July 14.—The strike of the engineers is, apparently, only to be settled on the survival of the fittest. Both the masters and the men have refused all offers of arbitration.

The lockout began yesterday morning. As a retaliatory measure the engineers are calling out the remainder of the men, and by evening no fewer than 100,000 engineers will be idle.

Already the yards of several large firms have been picketed. The London firms that have joined in the lockout now number forty. Among them are such important concerns as the Otis elevator company, the Westinghouse Brake company, Fraser & Chalmers and the Brush Electric Engineering company.

Sultan Still Holding Out.

CONSTANTINOPLE, July 14.—The Turkish minister, at a special session of the cabinet Monday, discussed the results of the powers to the circular note of the Porte.

Notwithstanding the unfavorable character of the response a large majority of the ministers have reiterated their former advice to the sultan to report upon the Pines frontier.

Charges Against Politicians.

ST. LOUIS, July 14.—In the regular convention of the American protective association of Missouri yesterday, President Stevens delivered his annual address. In his address he charged politicians with attempting to disrupt the order and said that if the loyal members of the councils which were suspended Monday wished to return they could do so by reorganizing and leaving out the objectionable politicians. S. J. Herriek of Kansas City was elected state president.

MAY BREAK OUT

Hot Headed Element Among Striking Miners May Take Extreme Measures.

FEAR LEST THEY CANNOT BE CHECKED

Arbitrators Arriving at Pittsburgh to Settle the Difficulty—More Mines Shut Down—Grumbling at the Slowness of Some Miners at Quitting.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., July 13.—Beyond the strengthening of the miners' lines along the rivers, there was little change in the strike situation yesterday. The ironclad contracts which were enforced at several mines in the Monongahela valley were swept out of existence and the strike was made general in the fourth pool. The only mine reported in operation in the region is the Equitable at Webster. It is a stock company, comprising seventy-five stockholders and they are mining their own coal. The men in the Stickell Hollow mines of the Washington Pennsylvania Coal company came out yesterday, making the suspension complete in this district except at the mines of the New York and Cleveland Gas and Coal company, where about 1,200 men are working.

No effort has yet been made to get these diggers out and the miners at other pits, who have laid down their tools, are grumbling at the slowness of De Armit's men in joining the movement. The hot-heads are advising drastic measures. They have been kept in check so far but there is no telling when the fever will break out, and a concerted movement on Sandy and Plum Creek made.

Labor Commissioners and official arbitrators of the several states affected are mobilizing in this city. The state of Ohio is the only one which has a regularly appointed board of arbitration. Most of the others interested are labor commissioners and industrial statisticians. The Ohio board and the Indiana labor commissioners are already here. James M. Clarke, industrial statistician of Pennsylvania has arrived, the labor officials of West Virginia are expected here and those of Illinois on Wednesday. Thus all the states, with the exception of Kentucky and Tennessee, where the strike is on, will be represented in the conferences which are to be held here during the next few days. Invitations have been sent to the coal operators of the Pittsburgh district to meet the arbitrators informally and talk over the matter of settling the strike. James Young, representing the M. A. Hanna mining interests, came in from Cleveland yesterday morning and was in consultation with the peace makers.

Uprising Against Christians.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 13.—The steamer Doric has arrived from China and Japan two days ahead of schedule time. It brought Yokohama advices to June 29. The Japanese Mail gives a summary of the correspondence from Tien Tsin, which shows that the state of the foreign colony in that city is alarming. Three Christians were killed in the last days of May on the charges that they had stolen native children in order that they might serve as offerings to insure the safety of the foundations of the new French Catholic cathedral to be dedicated June 21.

A Tien Tsin correspondent says: "It is reported that a conspiracy has been formed to attack the foreign settlement on June 21, and to burn the Roman Catholic cathedral. The consuls of the various nationalities have deemed it prudent to telegraph the facts to their governments and to ask for their protection of men-of-war. The gate leading from the foreign settlement to the Chinese quarter is closed every night at 11 o'clock. The Japanese gunboat Akagi is now at Aaku in response to appeals from the Japanese consul. Chinese soldiers are quartered in various parts of the city for the express purpose of checking rioters."

A Bad Accident.

COPENHAGEN, July 13.—A terrible railway disaster took place at about midnight at Gjentofte. The express from Belsingora ran into a passenger train standing at the station, wrecked eight carriages, killed forty persons and injured sixty others. Most of the victims are of the artisan class. The dead and injured have been conveyed in ambulance trains to this city.

It appears that the collision was due to an error made by the engineer in reading the signal and by the failure of a brake to act.

Thirty-two bodies were extricated. The number seriously injured was eighty-four.

Bears Marks of Cruelty.

DENVER, July 13.—Julia L. Barton, the sixteen-year-old step-daughter of Adam Weinbrenner of Beatrice, Neb., who has arrived in Denver to live with her aunt, Mrs. E. M. Bishop, still bears the mark of the beating with a horse-whip which caused her to run away from home a fortnight ago.

A Fast Trip.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 13.—In a flying trip from Ogden to the bedside of his stricken brother at San Mateo, W. H. Crocker beat the record established several years ago by the famous Villard special train. The distance from Ogden to this city is 833 miles. Mr. Crocker covered it in twenty-three hours and twenty-two minutes. His time from Sacramento to this city was also remarkable, being one hour and fifty-three minutes, the distance being eighty-six miles.