

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF, FRIDAY, AUGUST 13 1897.

HOURLY IN A SIDE SHOW

MEN ENDOWED WITH ABNORMAL STRENGTH.

Explanation of Mr. David Devant's Very Clever and Effective Illusion Styled "The Spirit Wife"—Many Feats Absolutely Honest.



(Special Letter.) ANY of the funniest and most successful side-shows are the result of more or less rapid evolution. You must know that the born entertainer is constantly on the lookout for new ideas. There is M. Arhno, one of those specialty artists whose performances are remarkable, both for the quantity of gorgeous and costly apparatus requisite, and for the extraordinary finish and perfection of the feats accomplished. Necessarily the strength of such men's arms must be prodigious.

Many men find that they possess great bodily strength, so that the acquisition of a few tricky "knacks" is all that is necessary to equip such as "strong men." Others, again, discover in themselves great strength of jaw; this is not uncommon. The performer in the picture possesses abnormal strength in his teeth, jaws and neck. He is seen lifting by his teeth a large cask filled with water. There is really no humbug about it. Anyone may go upon the stage either before or after the accomplishment of the feat and try the thing for himself.

One of Mr. David Devant's very clever illustrations forms the last illustration. It is entitled the "Spirit Wife;" and the secret is here revealed for the first time. Modern magicians are ever chary of giving away their secrets, but the popular Egyptian Hall entertainer has so many things to his professional bow that he won't miss this one; possibly, indeed, the show may be the more popular hereafter. Viewed from the auditorium it is very effective. Mr. Devant stimulates grief, and suddenly feels the power to bring before him the spirit of his absent wife. And so the vision floats before him, graceful, transparent, mysterious. And this is how it's done: "The principle," says Mr. Devant, "is simply reflection. The stage is entirely covered with a huge sheet of very clear plate-glass, and as the audience sees everything through this, they don't suspect its presence. Miss Marion Melville, who acts the part of the spirit, is placed on a black velvet couch beneath the stage and a little in front of it—in fact, where the orchestra usually sit. The couch can be readily moved into any position by mechanical strength in his teeth, jaws and neck.

A powerful electric light is cast upon the reclining figure of the lady, and the lights behind the plate-glass are slightly lowered."

A ghostly reflection is at once visible, and, of course, Mr. Devant is seen through it.

For Wedding and Ball. Notwithstanding the constant declaration that Englishwomen do not know how to dress, the descriptions of their gowns read most delightfully. Especially do the summer weddings appear in a charming light through the medium of the fashion papers. The custom of the bridesmaids carrying crooks or pompadour sticks, instead of the conventional bouquet, seems to flourish on the British Isles this season. One maid was gowned in white satin and bore a pompadour stick twisted about with roses; another party of six maids, in white muslin frocks with fichus of chiffon, big pink satin sashes and white chignon hats buried under masses of La France roses, carried white crooks, ornamented with pink roses. A third wedding party was decidedly out of the ordinary in appearance, thanks to the fact that the bride's six fair attendants wore not a speck of color, their gowns being of white muslin and their



"THE SPIRIT-WIFE DELUSION."

hats huge black affairs, trimmed with black chiffon and black and white ostrich feathers. A bevy of maids at still another summer marriage wore white silk veiled with white canvas, trimmed with blue moire and grass lawn; their bouquets were of forget-me-nots and pink roses.

A beautiful ball dress shown a few days ago was made of white satin worked in relief with pale pink roses in aeroplane, with pale green leaves applied with gold thread. From waist to hem of this satin skirt this trimming trailed, and the bodice, which was of the swathed description, showed the same decoration over a chemise of old-rose point, one sleeve being formed of a frill of the lace quite short and the other being made of pale pink roses.

COULD HEAR WEBSTER A MILE

Mrs. Sally Baker, the Only Pensioner of the War of 1812. Knaw Daniel. Marshfield is noted for having its people live to green old age, but Mrs. Sally Baker, who is 98 years old today, can claim the distinction of being its oldest inhabitant by quite a number of years. She resides in a pretty farmhouse on the Neck road, which has been her home for sixty-one years. The buildings are spruce painted, the surroundings are trimly kept, and the barns indicate a thrifty farm business. Mrs. Baker was born in Kingston, June 9, 1799, and was the daughter of Oliver and Sally (Maglathin) Sampson—good Old Colony stock on both sides of the house.

In April, 1819, Sally Sampson was married to Capt. Otis Baker, of Duxbury, Parson Zephaniah Wilnis, of Kingston, performing the ceremony. Capt. Baker had been a privateersman in the war of 1812, being then less than 21 years old. His widow now draws a pension, and is the only pensioner of that war now living in this section. In 1836 Capt. Baker and his wife went from Duxbury to Marshfield and established a home, where she has resided ever since. The farm was a mile long and extended from Green Harbor river, on the opposite side of which lay the estates of Daniel Webster. Mrs. Baker used to see a great deal of her distinguished neighbor, for he was always hallo fellow well met with the townspeople. Mr. Webster's voice, in particular, has impressed itself on the lady's memory. "You could hear him a mile off," she said. The Websters attended the little Congregational church at South Marshfield, and, being of Episcopalian "proclivities," were a source of wonder to the Pilgrim descendants as they knelt and bowed their heads at public worship.—Boston Globe.

LONGEST-HORNED COW.

There is None Other in the World That Can Approach Her.

Here is the photo of a South African cow whose horns measure 6 feet 6 inches from tip to tip. In an ox great growth of horns is not unusual, but in a cow it is quite unprecedented, especially to this extent. The cow belongs to Mr. A. S. Gibson, of Waterfall Farm, about 12 miles from Johannesburg, South Africa. Mr. Gibson and the Dutch farmers throughout the country agree in describing the cow's horns as absolutely unique. This extraordinary cow is perfectly quiet and she was placed side by side with an ordinary-horned animal in order that an astonishing contrast might be perceptible in the photograph.



LONGEST-HORNED COW.

Which Was Right? "Every increase of noble enthusiasm in your living spirit shall be measured by the reflection of its light upon the work of your hands," said the greatest of English art critics. Which of the two men in the following story, taken from a recent book "On Southern English Roads," possessed more of that sympathy that should characterize the true artist, may be left to the readers of the Companion to judge: An American artist was painting in company with a famous English art critic and author; and whilst the art critic sat down with delight to draw an old tumble-down chalet, whose bent roof and sunburnt wooden walls were full of subtle curves and wonderful hues, mixed with soft gray shadows, the American artist was content to sit idly by. After a while the critic exclaimed:

"Why don't you paint that lovely old chalet? It is beautiful as a dream in color and form!" The American's answer was curious. "Well, I don't see the beauty in it that you do. The roof suggests wet coming in; the walls suggest draughts and chills and misery for its inmates. The whole place suggests painful poverty. I can't paint it! I don't see any beauty in the decay that causes human suffering."

Growing Usefulness of X-Rays. Monsieur Ollier showed, at a recent meeting of the Academy of Sciences in Paris, how, by the use of Roentgen rays, the progress of bone growth in the human body, after surgical operations, could be watched and studied in a manner hitherto impossible. In the same way the position of diseased portions of a bone can readily be located, and such portions can be removed without amputation of the limb in cases where such amputation would otherwise be necessary; but while proving themselves exceedingly useful when carefully and skillfully employed, the X rays are also capable of mischief. Messrs. Seguy and Quenisset reported to the Academy that prolonged exposure to the rays had in several cases caused violent and irregular palpitation of the heart.

Tunnel Between Scotland and Ireland. The scheme of a tunnel between Ireland and Scotland is being revived, with some prospect of finally attaining success. The advantages would be great, and now that the improvements in tunnel boring have been so marked in recent years, the project does not lack feasibility on the engineering side.

AN OLD CANNON SHOP.

FURNACE RICH IN REVOLUTIONARY MEMORIES.

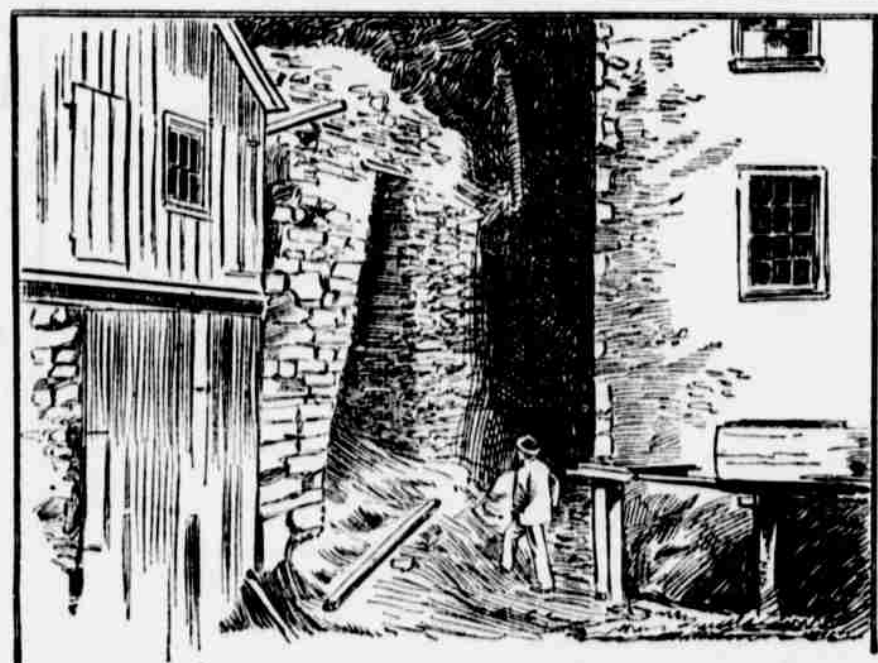
Where Washington's Guns Were Cast—Samuel Nutt, the Original Founder, Came to America in 1814 and Found Rich Deposits of Iron Ore.

FROM the Philadelphia Times: Much space is devoted by the newspapers of to-day to the wonderful new guns of recent invention and the mills where they are manufactured. If only by way of comparison, a description is

appropos and interesting of the ancient furnace now long since abandoned and almost forgotten, where the cannon was made that fought for us during the revolution. It is a quaint spot, hidden among the peaceful environment of hills and farms, yet replete with memories of historic interest. Close by the ruined forges some of the old guns may still be seen, and they point out a meadow where, in 1777, a quantity of firing pieces were buried to escape seizure by the British. Then, too the furnace is among the first established in Pennsylvania and was the place of manufacture of the Franklin stove, an invention of the famous scientist and philosopher, so popular in his day and so highly prized by modern antiquarians.

Historic Warwick Furnace, around which these memories cling, is situated in Chester county, close by the pretty rural village of Coventry. So nearly has it disappeared that diligent search is required to find the spot. The furnaces have been cold and silent for nearly half a century, the hand of progress has left them stranded far from the channels of modern commerce and a few more years will find them little but a memory. And yet they are almost in the dooryard of Philadelphia. An hour's ride in the steam cars to Pottstown, in the Schuylkill valley, and an eight miles' drive southward are the only difficulties in the way. But this jaunt, short as it is, transports one a thousand miles away from the present into a past replete with its own romance and into a region pervaded with an atmosphere of elegance and aristocracy which in the olden time resembled more the landed gentry of old England than the universal liberty and equality of free America.

On the northern edge of Chester county a hilly agricultural district of great rural beauty is drained by French creek—a corruption of Friend's creek—a stream which flows into the Schuylkill at Phoenixville. About six miles south of Pottstown, at the old hamlet of Coventry, French



THE OLD FURNACE VENT.

creek divides into two branches. One winds up to the romantic "falls," the other penetrates a lateral valley to the south. About two miles up this valley and surrounded by rugged hills are the remains of ancient Warwick Furnace. In spite of the general ruin, enough remains to give a good idea of what the busy settlement must have been when revolutionary cannon was made here.

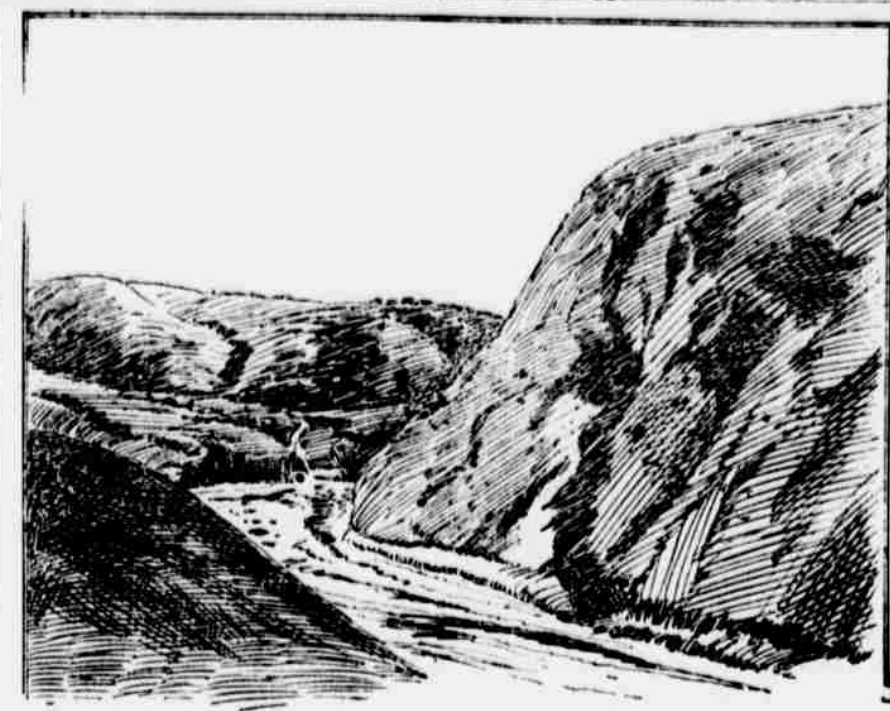
Iron was manufactured in this region as early as 1717, the only forge in Pennsylvania of prior date being that of Thomas Rutter, on the Manataway, established in 1716. Samuel Nutt, of Coventry, Warwickshire, England, came to America in 1714, and is believed to have discovered the rich deposits of iron ore which are found in the neighboring hills. In 1717 he took out his patent for the first tract of 400 acres of land and established his forge. During the following years he rapidly increased his holdings of real estate until at the time of his death he owned over 1,600 acres. The region, then a virgin wilderness, was named Coventry, after his English home. As coal had not then been discovered in Pennsylvania, the old forges all used charcoal in their retorts as fuel and the near-by forests made this product cheap and easy of manufacture. Indeed, the subsequent abandonment of many forges was due to the destruction of the forests and the scarcity of charcoal, coupled with the discovery of mined coal and its effectiveness in manufacturing iron.

Samuel Nutt brought his first workmen for the Coventry forges from England, and with them came many of the customs and peculiarities of the old country. The forges multiplied and grew in importance, the wealth of their owners increased in magnitude and as the years went by the English proprietors governed their English

workmen and their miles of possessions with a power that resembled the feudalism fast dying out in their native land. Fine mansions, with their solidity and size embellished with many elegancies sprang up in the winding valleys with little tenants' or workmen's cottages clustering around them. The ancient church of St. Mary's was built as a place of worship, and here their mother Religion sojourned them on the Sabbath, baptized and married them and buried them in the little churchyard where their headstones still wear a look of ancient aristocratic pride. Samuel Nutt, proprietor and first autoer of the Coventry mines and forges, took William Branson, a Philadelphian, into partnership about 1728, but their relations were not entirely satisfactory and each established iron works of his own. Nutt was gathered to his fathers in 1737, but under the care of his widow Anna and his children, the mills grew and prospered greatly. In his will Nutt bequeathed to his widow and daughter, Rebecca,

appearing, for the material they contain is being widely used to repair the public roads of the neighborhood.

On the hill behind the furnace is a large stone building in which the charcoal was stored. Its walls and floor are still coated with black dust and its lofty interior is damp with the many rains and dimly lighted by the sunshine percolating through the thousand gaps in the crumbling roof. Down in the meadow, near the road leading from the charcoal house, an ancient blacksmith shop is now used as a shelter for cattle. A stone's throw further to the east the ancient "mansion house," still in a good state of preservation and inhabited, nestles among the trees like the citadel of the erstwhile village and gives suggestion of the place's former importance. It is a great, rambling structure, elevated upon a high stone terrace. The private lawn shaded by fine old trees, is removed from the surrounding land by the terrace and iron barriers. Upon it faces a long veranda connecting with



THE ABANDONED ORE PITS.

120 acres of land upon which to erect a furnace. It was then that Warwick came into existence. This forge must have given birth to a very considerable village for the land about the old mill and in the adjacent valley is thickly strewn with the remains of workmen's dwellings. They were little, one-and-a-half story stone buildings, with small windows, tall chimneys and low "stoops" in front, each with its strip of dooryard and kitchen garden. Some few of these are still in a fair state of repair, many are abandoned and fast falling to decay, and a still larger number are utter ruins, with perhaps a pile of bramble-covered stone, a solitary chimney with weather-beaten hearthstone or a gnarled garden shrub to

the principal rooms of the mansion. On one side is an ancient garden, with the old-time box borders grown waist-high in a confused jungle of neglected foliage. On the opposite end of the main building stretches a long wing, its interior subdivided into kitchens and many small chambers, where the workmen ate and slept. Close by are kitchen gardens, the quaint spring house, with its underground gallery; an ancient log barn—one of the first buildings erected here—and groups of small storehouses and outbuildings. Below the mansion house extends a group of mammoth barns, each with its overhanging projections upheld by round stone pillars forming a protected porch. These buildings were once the stables and baiting places of scores of horses and mules, for wagons had to be used not only to haul charcoal from the forests and ore from the neighboring mines, but to convey the manufactured iron to distant markets. The body of one of the ancient wagons is still preserved in the charcoal house. It is a picturesque affair, ribbed on the outside and turned up at the ends like a boat. Shortly after Samuel Nutt's death, Warwick Furnace witnessed the first manufacture of the famous Franklin stoves. Robert Grace, manager of the furnace and one of the Nutt family by marriage, was a friend of Benjamin Franklin's, and the famous scientist and philosopher thus describes the transaction in his autobiography: "In order of time I should have mentioned before that having in 1742 invented an open fireplace for the better warming of rooms and at the same time saving fuel, as the fresh air admitted was warmed in entering, I made a present of the model to Robert Grace, one of my early friends, who, having an iron furnace, found the casting of the plates for these stoves a profitable thing, as they were growing in demand." These stoves are now very rare. At first glance one would suppose them to be shallow open fireplaces, with very broad, rounded hearths. A back plate extends upward and forward toward an overhanging cornice or curtain at the front and top over the fire. Behind this curtain is an aperture which carried the smoke off and furnished a draught from the chimney through a chamber behind the back plate. The presence of this hot air chamber back of the fire increased the radiation of heat, making a greater warmth with a less expense of fuel.

The furnace property has been held by the Potts family, descendants of Anna Nutt, from 1737 to this day. Thomas Rutter, a name also famous among early iron manufacturers in



CHARCOAL HOUSE AND WORKMAN'S COTTAGE.

Pennsylvania, purchased a half interest in the forges from Samuel Potts in 1771. The firm was known for many years as Potts & Rutter, and bought out the shares of the heirs of William Branson between 1778 and 1783.

During the revolution Warwick furnace acquired national fame. While the struggle for liberty was in progress the mills were in constant operation for the government, and large quantities of cannon, balls and shell were cast there. One of the old shells, recently found near the furnace, is still preserved at the Mansion House. The shell is exceedingly heavy, about a foot in diameter, hollow, and with a cast iron wreath an inch thick. During the year 1776 sixty cannon of twelve and eighteen-pound calibre were cast at Warwick for the Continental forces.

It was the next year, however, that witnessed a threatened invasion, a seizure of the armament and a sudden termination of this warlike labor. After the battle of the Brandywine, in September of 1777, when the Americans were defeated and the British occupied Philadelphia, Washington retired from the neighborhood of Gosheu Friends' Meeting, where an expected battle had been prevented by a rainstorm, and came to Warwick, obtaining a fresh supply of ammunition for his army. During the winter that followed, when the massacre of Paoli and the hardships of the patriots at Valley Forge filled the colonists with despair the cannon at Warwick were in constant danger of being seized by the British, quartered within easy marching distance of Philadelphia. So one day the furnace bell sounded an alarm, and its peals across the hills and through the neighboring valleys collected all the loyal citizens of the countryside to bury the guns. They hid them in the stretch of meadow below the mill, and in front of the Mansion House, and tradition says that after the interment the fields were plowed up, so that all traces of the excavations were lost.

The bell which sounded the tocsin is still in existence and was exhibited at the Centennial with some of the cannon made at Warwick's furnace. It was cast at the mill by Potts & Rutter in 1757 and was used constantly to call the men to work from that time until May, 1874, a period of 117 years.

There are still a number of cannon buried in the mud along the banks of the stream in the meadow, although these are more probably guns which did not stand the firing test, than the swivels concealed there to escape the British. The latter would be too valuable to remain buried after danger was past, and tradition says that the imperfect guns were deposited along the stream. Be that as it may, the cannon are still visible there, although they are fast being submerged. Their weight is so great that the washing of water around them and falling away of the soft earth that supports them is causing them to sink deeper and deeper into the ground. Several of them have been removed as relics. About ten years ago, some of the men and boys of the neighborhood who wanted to celebrate the "Glorious Fourth" in true Revolutionary style, exhumed one of the old cannon and dragged it to the summit of a neighboring hill. There they loaded it with a charge of powder and fired it as a salute. The ancient cannon was burst into a thousand pieces.

NOTES OF THE HORSES.

Queen Alix, 2:03 3/4, weighs 920 pounds at present.

W. H. McCarty now has Claybourne, 2:11 1/2, in his string.

A European horseman recently offered \$2,500 for Vego, 2:10 3/4. Last Request, 2:11 1/2, by Bourbon Wilkes, will be seen on the turf again this year.

Charley Thompson has added Monte Christo, 2:18 1/2, to his string at Fleetwood Park.

Klamath, 2:07 1/2, has a half-brother named King Altamont, which will be raced this season.

The two fast pacers, Sulphide, 2:09 1/4, and Carbonate, 2:09, will not start in public this season.

Trainer Jack Burny says Joe Patchen, 2:03, earned \$80,000 in purses and stallion fees in three years.

Ornament's full brother was sold by the owners of the Beaumont stud to J. S. Curtis, for \$10,100.

The ex-turf queen, Maud S, 2:08 3/4, is now said to be in foal to Starkirk, a brother to Magnolia, 2:15.

Axinite, 2:17 1/2, by Axtell, 2:12, acts very nicely this spring. He stepped a third mile in 2:22 recently.

Analine, a promising three-year-old, full sister to the pacer, Online, 2:04, has been a half in 1:10 at the trot.

B B, 2:12 1/2, the famous branded pacer, sold at auction at Boston last week for \$580. He was a close second to Hal Pointer the first heat Hal paced below 2:10.

Constantine, 2:12 1/2, may race a little this fall. He made his record in 1892, and was a competitor of Kremlin in one or two great races. Later the Lord Russell horse outclassed him completely.

Monroe Salisbury, who had trouble in getting his stable away from California, as the horses were taken possession of by the creditors of the estate, is now on his way east, and has added the fast stallion Boodel, 2:12 1/2, to his string.

Trotting horsemen have just passed the darkest stage of the panic and few there are who favor large expenditures for entrance money, even as conditions now stand. If opened for a free-for-all trotting class little interest is likely to attach, as that class at present lacks fighting talent.

The Queen reigns over one continent, 100 peninsulas, 500 promontories, 1,000 lakes, 2,000 rivers and 10,000 islands.