

Campfire Tales

"THE PRIDE OF BATTERY B."

South mountain towered upon our right, far off the river lay. And over on the wooded height we held their lines at bay. At last the muttering guns were still; the day died slow and wan; At last the gunners' pipes did fill, the sergeant's yarns began. When, as the wind a moment blew aside the fragrant food Our brierwoods raised, within our view a little madden stood, A tiny tot of 6 or 7, from fireside fresh she seemed, (Of such a little one in heaven one soldier often dreamed.) And as we stared, her little hand went to her curly head "In grave salute. "And who are you?" at length the sergeant said, "And where's your home?" he growled again. She lisped out, "Who is me?" Why, don't you know? I'm little Jane, the Pride of Battery B. My home? Why, that was burned away, and pa and ma are dead; And so I ride the guns all day along with Sergt. Ned. And I've a drum that's not a toy, a cap with feathers, too; And I march beside the drummer boy on Sundays at review. But now our 'becca's all give out, the men can't have their smoke, And so they're cross—why, even Ned won't play with me and joke. And the big colonel said to-day—I hate to hear him swear— He'd give a leg for a good pipe like the Yank had over there.

Good Effect Caused by One Man Who Stood Erect in the Face of the Enemy

"That story of the shot that carried away Whitman's rations at Kenesaw," said the captain, "reminds me of a shot at Chickamauga. On the first day of the fight I was in the front line across the Lafayette road, and was kneeling on one knee steadying my gun by resting my left elbow on my left knee. I was as unexcited and deliberate as ever in my life, but just as I was ready to fire a shot went through my slouch hat above my left ear, the sound resembling that made by striking a pumpkin with a stone. I was a good deal surprised, but I thought at once, 'If the rebels are shooting that low, I will stand up and see where the bullets come from.' I found out pretty soon, for the rebels brought up their supports and our brigade fell back fighting. "I stood up again under very peculiar circumstances in the battle of Perryville, Ky. In the afternoon when we were ordered to advance and occupy the line held by the Thirty-Sixth Illinois, just as we reached the brow of the hill on the right of the Springfield

Ex-Senator Manderson Writes a History of His "Twin Revolvers" During the War

"The Twin Seven-Shooters" is the title of a story by ex-Senator Charles F. Manderson of Nebraska, which is soon to be published in New York in book form. It is founded on an interesting episode of the senator's service in the civil war. The "twins" themselves repose in a magnificent mahogany case at Manderson's elegant home in Omaha. They are of unique construction and handsomely mounted in silver. They were presented to him by his regiment. As there was danger of capture he packed his revolvers in some supplies that were on the way to camp from the sanitary commission, and which were going in charge of a convoy. He himself made the trip in safety, but on reaching his regiment he learned that the supplies, and, of course, his precious revolvers with them, had been captured by Gen. Wheeler's cavalry. Twenty years after the war Col. Manderson received a letter from a man in Iowa, informing him that he

Claims the Phrase, "I Fights Mit Sigel," Originated in a Court Room in Missouri

"The poem of Grant P. Robinson, 'I Fights Mit Sigel,' reminds me of the time when the name of Sigel was despised in Missouri," said an ex-confederate living in New York who was chased by the men who "fit mit Sigel" in that state. "It was the belief in old Missouri that Pap Price, as his soldiers called him, was invincible. When we heard that a Dutchman named Sigel was in the field on the Union side we Johnny Rebs laughed until we were too sore to march. Anything in camp that was no good was called Sigel. Whenever we got into a country where the people were wavering between Seesh and the Union we brought the hesitators around by asking them how they liked a country that had to hire a Dutchman to fight its battles. This started the laugh and often won a recruit. "Finally we went up against it in the battle of Pea Ridge. It was the first square-toed fighting we had done and, according to history, we

Same Set of Resolutions Does Duty for Gen. Hooker and Gen. Franz Sigel

The late Gen. Franz Sigel had the singular felicity of writing resolutions on the death of Gen. Joe Hooker, twenty-three years ago, which were so eminently appropriate to his own career that the association of the Eighth New Jersey volunteers, "Hooker's old guard," for which they were written, adopted them again, with only the change of name, in honor of Gen. Sigel himself. Beware of the woman who loves money more than she loves love.

Blocks Cupid's Plans

French Law Places All Power in the Hands of the Parents.

WHEN a Frenchman proposes for the girl he thinks he might love, the first question is: "Are there things against him?"

It is understood that sowing wild oats never makes part of the category, except in the case of a possible disturbance at the church door.

To furnish one's certificate of birth seems a most innocent requirement of French marriages; yet young men on the eve of wedding have shot themselves in dread of a discovery its scrutiny must lead to. "Acknowledged child" burns upon its surface—the French law will never let bygones be bygones. Then, as the birth certificate gives a direct clue to the father's secret dossier, the errors of two generations are at the disposal of those who can show a right to know them.

The girl's parents have such a right. The young man cannot, dare not, refuse investigation. In the social and administrative arms of the French government, the details of one's errors are writ out with such minuteness that in a recent cause celebre a witness of importance was confronted with proofs that when he was 18 he pawned his college books; that he dodged a cab fare when he was 23; that he owed money for his morning coffee at the age of 25, and that at 26 he gambled in a tripot (purely gambling club).

Now you must know that the French father's inquisitiveness grows out of a duty to his daughter absolutely unknown to the fathers—and the daughters—of America. In France the average marriageable girl says to her father:

"I have always been obedient; I have effaced myself; I am entitled to a husband. Find one for me!"

These extraordinary details of French marriage law ought to be known to the girls of other countries when young Frenchmen court them.

(a) Up to the age of 25 years finished, i. e., until he has reached his 26th year, no young Frenchman can become a husband without furnishing to the civil functionary, who alone can marry him, the written act of consent of his father and mother. In case of dispute, the father's consent is sufficient; but not so the mother's, whose sole consent is good, however, when she is a widow. When both parents are deceased, the man must have the consent of his grandfather or grandmother in the same way, lacking whom the duty of consenting falls upon the family council composed of his nearest relatives.

It is a subtle law. Three times, at intervals of a month, a whole machinery of stamped paper and its legal service must be set in motion. This gives parents four months more time. If they choose to dodge the service, as the widow of a millionaire distiller did for eighteen months on board her yacht not long ago, the balked young folks have nothing to do but patiently pursue their rigats through "the swamp of procedure," as they say in the Salle des Pas Perdus—"the Hall of Lost Footsteps" of the Palace of Justice.

When a young Frenchman, therefore, sees a girl well suited to him, he does not go to her and say: "I love you." (a) It would be dishonorable. (b) It would make her faint; and (c) He would not get the chance to try it. Instead, he goes and tells his mother. His mother tells his father. His father goes to see his brother, or his business partner, or a friend. Then both of them, wearing their

best frock coats, call on some friend of the family of the girl in question. The proposed match is talked over and a rendezvous is made to hear this friend's report on how the family of the girl receive the proposition.

It is at some dance or dinner or reception that the young folks are at last confronted with each other. Falling such facilities the Opera Comique has been immemorially for this purpose by Parisian families of the middle classes. Like most European playhouses, all its parquet circle and its galleries are cut up into little boxes. Each of them has been

the scene of many a "decisive meeting."

The mother has her daughter sitting by her in the box which she has taken. Between the first and second acts the young man is brought to them by the common friend, ostensibly to pay an offhand visit and inquire about their health. They stay five minutes, speaking of the play, the weather, and the Parisian season, and then retire.

When they have gone the mother ought to make some tentative remark to the girl on the young man's looks, position, fortune, manners and so on, endeavoring to fathom the impression he has made.

It is admitted that mothers ought not to instruct their daughters previously for this encounter. For if



The Young Folks Are at Last Confronted with Each Other.

the girl has been catocalised beforehand she will be so filled with apprehension as to risk losing grace and naturalness. So she may not have sufficient self-possession to observe if the young man be pleasing to her or the contrary.

She ought not to know the object of his coming to the box, because, if she fails to please, it is distressing to be told so. She would be humiliated and lose confidence the next time.

The common friends meet again, in their frock coats, to let each other know what the effects have been. If, as happens very rarely, the girl has failed to please on close inspection, nothing will be said. The two friends simply talk about the weather. But if it be the youth who has been found lacking, the truth is declared, and his friend breaks it to him later. Sometimes, and there are those who declare it should be always practiced, a girl favorably enough impressed demands nevertheless to see more of the youth before she gives her word. Then it will be arranged that she shall meet him often, but not intimately.

On his side, good taste demands that he should not show himself conscious of the fact that he is being studied. He goes through his paces, social, intellectual and physical, as if he did not dream of her inspection. The next step is the proposal. The father of the aspirant, his brother or his uncle does it for him.



His Father Takes a Bath, then Goes to See a Friend of the Girl's Family.

The girl's father or her other legal guardian should give him an immediate response. At this interview questions of fortune and the like are discussed in more detail; and notes of them are made to form the basis of the marriage contract.

Immediately he has been accepted, the young Frenchman must get into his dress suit and call on his future mother-in-law. He ought to thank her warmly, but without exaggeration. Then he may ask to see the girl.

Art Relics to Order. In Rome and Naples there are factories in which "ancient" art relics are made to order. Statuettes of Aphrodite in bronze are manufactured there by the gross, and recently several worthless objects were palmed off on unsuspecting tourists as being priceless relics which were unearthed in Macedonia. One factory even succeeded in selling an unusually curious relic to the museum at Athens. Unfortunately for the unscrupulous manufacturers, when the experts examined it they at once discovered that it was bogus, and notified the Italian authorities.

Method of Inducing Sleep. Dr. Steiner observed in Java a method employed to induce sleep. It consists in compressing the carotid arteries. The operator sits on the ground behind the patient, whose neck he seizes with both hands. The index and middle fingers are then pushed forward into the carotids, which are compressed toward the spine. The method is absolutely harmless. Anaesthesia is rapidly obtained, and the patient wakes promptly, with no symptoms of nausea or malaise.

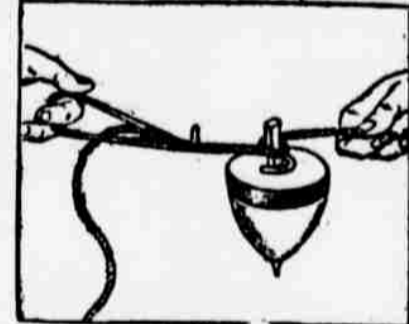
POPULAR SCIENCE

New Forces Suggested.

A novel experiment lately shown the London Royal Society by Mr. T. C. Porter was performed with a little water in a beaker having nearly vertical sides. When the water was rotated about a vertical axis, the pressure was least in the center and increased outward, and when near boiling point and heat was applied, steam formed only in the region of least pressure, producing a gaseous core. The rotation was set up by stirring with a rubber covered glass rod. Curious phenomena were shown by the column of steam when the water was first stirred and then allowed to come to rest while still being heated, the water at first having a concave surface and the core of steam being practically continuous from bottom to top. This was followed by a stage of perplexing pulsations. Some forms of the steam columns resembled solar prominences, and it was suggested that the latter might be due to diminished pressure near the center of cyclones in the sun's atmosphere.

Novel Top-Spinning Device.

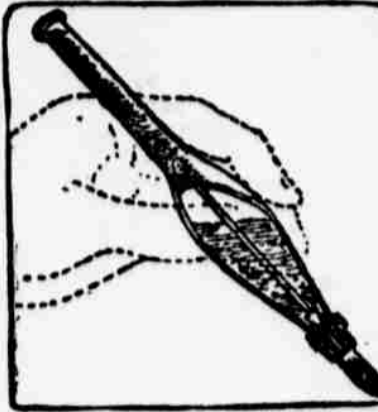
To spin a top well, as every boy knows, care must be used in winding the string, as well as in throwing the top, the tension of the cord having considerable to do with the speed of revolution. Now a western inventor comes forward with a top which, while it makes use of the string, does not have it wound on the top, as is necessary with the old kind. The illustration gives an idea of the device which is used in connection with the cord to give the top its rotary motion and also shows the manner of applying the string and spinning wire. The latter is formed with a loop at one end in which one finger of the left hand is inserted, while the opposite end of the



wire has a curved hook which surrounds the spindle on the top. At the point of the long loop is a guide through which the string feeds to the top. To put the top in motion the cord is given a single turn around the spindle, the free, long end is inserted in the guide, and the hook of the spinning wire is placed over the spindle underneath the cord. It is obvious that a sudden and strong pull on the cord and an equal resistance with the other hand will hold the top stationary in a vertical plane, while the rapidly moving cord will give motion to the spindle to rotate the top as the cord is drawn through the guide. When the string has passed through the guide there is no further resistance and the top drops of its own accord to the floor, maintaining its motion for a great length of time. Frederick W. Kranz of Minneapolis, Minn., is the patentee.

Fountain Marking Brush.

A very necessary portion of the labor of shipping goods from large factories and stores is the marking of each package with the name and address of the party to whom it is to be sent, and the pot and marking brush are common articles in the shipping department of every large establishment. There is, of course, danger of the pot being tipped over and depositing its contents on the floor or boxes, if not on the goods themselves, and the marking brush is likely to drip in transferring it from the pot to the surface to be marked, and altogether the arrangement is neither cleanly nor saving in time. We present herewith a complete illustration of a marking brush complete in itself, showing a decided improvement over the old brush and pot. It has the ink enclosed in a reservoir forming the handle, and there is an arrangement by which the flow to the brush is limited or prevented alto-

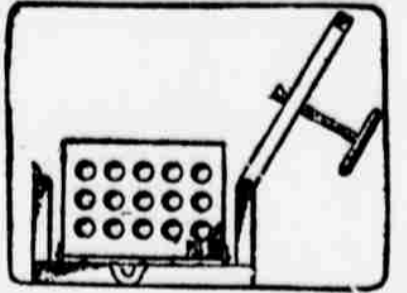


gether, this being accomplished by turning the screw cap at the end of the handle to insert the conical head of the central rod in the opening leading to the bristles. To clean the reservoir the cap and brush are both detached from the handle, leaving the latter open from end to end for the passage of a stream of water or other cleaning fluid. Jesse A. Crandall of Brooklyn, N. Y., is the inventor.

A Wholesale Lemon Squeezer.

As many thousands of lemons are used in large restaurants and drug stores in making lemonade with which the customers quench their thirst during the heated term, and as these are usually squeezed separately, with consequent loss of time to the drinker, it has occurred to Joseph C. Bulloch of Cherokee, N. C., that a ma-

chine for squeezing the lemons by the dozen might prove of some value as a labor and time saver. The machine he has designed for this work, and which is illustrated herewith, has a flat base to rest on the bar or counter, with a series of semi-ellipsoidal projections raised on the upper face of the bottom, on which the halves of the lemons are impaled. The machine has a hinged presser plate with vertical posts at each end of the base to support a pivoted bar. This bar carries a screw-threaded shaft, with a hand-wheel at the top, and an enlarged head at the bottom to engage the presser plate. To operate this squeezer any number of lemons from one upward are halved and placed on the projecting knobs, when the presser plate is tilted down



and the bar locked across the top between the posts. The screws then lowered until it exerts the required amount of pressure on the plate to flatten the lemons and force the juice out into a receptacle provided for the purpose.

The Nature of Electricity.

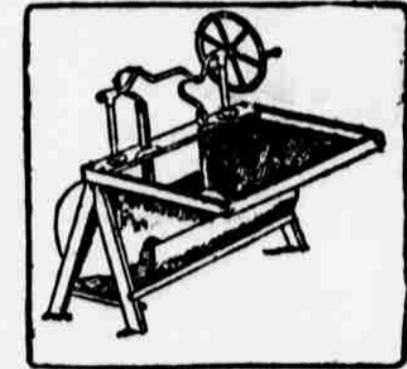
Prof. de Heen of the University of Liege concludes that all electrical phenomena are to be attributed to vortex motions of the ether, and proposes three fundamental hypotheses. (1) All bodies are surrounded by an atmosphere of vortex elements, which elements we may call electrons. (2) Each electron represents a small conical vortex whose energy of motion is unchangeable. (3) The direction of motion of the superficial electrons is always the same. When a body is electrified the vortices that pre-existed at its surface are oriented. The hypotheses can be expressed and discussed mathematically and we may look for further developments of these ideas.

Dark Planets.

Mysterious dark bodies have been seen occasionally to cross the sun's disc. An English astronomer has collected accurate dates of nine these transits, the earliest being J. 6, 1761, and he finds that these indicate the existence of two known planets within the earth orbit, with periods of about one hundred and seventy-four and twenty days respectively. One of these bodies must be nearer the sun than Mercury, with a mean distance of about 13,000,000 miles. The other is calculated to revolve between Mercury and Venus at a distance of about 51,000,000 miles, and should have a diameter of 1,700 to 2,000 miles. At its most favorable position for observation it would appear as a third magnitude star 30 degrees from the sun.

New Washing Machine.

This washing machine seems to have the faculty of cleaning the clothes



without subjecting them to the harsh treatment of forcing their way through the pile and perhaps tearing the garments. The inner surface of the tub is covered with corrugated metal, so shaped that the plunger usual in an apparatus of this character. Pounders are attached to the operating shaft so as to yield readily when any large mass of clothing is encountered, instead heads come in contact with the front edge first and scrub the clothes down the inclined surface until the bottom is reached. It will thus be seen that the rotation of the actuating shaft by the crank wheel will subject the wash to practically the same motion that it would receive if scrubbed by hand over a board.

Prize for Scientific Paper.

It is announced that Prof. Joseph Seegen proposes to offer a prize, under the auspices of the Imperial Academy of Sciences in Vienna, for the best answer of the following question: "Is any part of the nitrogen of the albuminates which have undergone metabolism in the animal body eliminated either by the lungs or by the skin in a gaseous form?" The prize offered amounts to about \$1,000, and essays may be written in German, French or English and must be sent in before Feb. 1, 1904.

Bacilli as a Dye.

Dr. Victor C. Vaughn, of the University of Michigan, recently exhibited to a scientific society some silk handkerchiefs which had been dyed a bright yellow or a beautiful pink by the pigment abstracted from the micro organism known as the bacillus prodigiosus. He referred to an apparatus with which he was able to produce various bacilli by the acre.