THE FOURTH IN WAR TIMES other was a little younger. Both were ver the formal celebration of the control of the The Bee Balloon Ascension.

A Memorable Fourth Twenty Years Ago.

A FAR-FAMED FOURTH OF JULY. How Omaha Celebrated Independence Day in 1875.

atill fewer are familiar with the adventures boys, and they sailed in for a genof the aeronaut, Colonel John H. Pierce, who
eral row. Captain Jack Crawford, since what it requires and the expedients neces-

Shoaf's great billiard hall, corner Eleventh and Farnam. The balloon was purchased for \$250 and sent for repairs to the fair grounds. After it had been aired and patched by the famous poet scout, Captain Jack Crawford, and the ascensionist, John H. Pierce, its netting was found to be too rotten and its wicker car too frall for so perilous a jour-ney. So Colonel Pierce was dispatched to Chicago to purchase the necessary supplies which in due time were spliced and attached to the gas holder.

The balloon excursion to the Black Hills-was announced far and wide with the following

1875. 1776.

THE NATIONAL BIRTHDAY.



Grand Celebration at Omaha, Saturday, July 3, under the Auspices of the Daily "BEE."

The advertisement went on to say that a balloon ascension would be made at the state fair grounds in a balloon seventy feet high, carrying three persons, John H. Pierce, aerowith The Bee; that there would also be free-for-all trotting race, mule race, hurdle race, foot race, sack race and other races; that a platform for dancing, accommodating 125 couples had been built; that the music would be furnished by the 23d Infantry band and a military parade by the troop from the Fort Omaha barracks would be held by the kindness of the department commander, General Crook; that numerous small balloon containing live cats, dogs and pigs would be sent up; that the railroads had agreed to run excursion trains from all points at greatly reduced rates; that admission to the fair grounds was only 50 cents, children half price, and that one and all should come and enjoy the good time guaranteed in advance.

The day was a general holiday. Private and public business was suspended to en able all to participate in the celebration. The following order was even issued from the department

TO ALL CLERKS AND AGENTS: GENTS: -On account of many of our clerks and agents wishing to take transportation for the Black Hills in The Bee balloon, this ofice will be closed on Saturday, July 3, 1875. E Pluribus Unum.

Very Respectfully,
PAUL VANDERVOORT, Chf. Hd. Clerk, R. M. S So far as relates to the entertainment of the public the celebration of the glorious

Fourth of 1875 was a grand success. So far as the financial results were concerned it a dismal failure, entailing upon The Ber and its proprietor a loss of some \$800.

THE AERONAUT TELLS HIS OWN STORY Experience of the Man Who Went Up with the Enlloon.

MINNEAPOLIS, June 26.-During the year 1875 the west was greatly excited over the discovery of gold in the Black Hills and my name was linked with it as the one who, through The Omaha Bee, had given the news to the world. But the Indian title to the auriferous region was protected by General Sheridan with all the troops available, while Crazy Horse and his band of savages were eager for the scalps of the few who ran the military blockade. The Black Hills park, the new miner's Mecca, was, however, a sacred hunting ground for the

souls of departed Sioux, and no Indian was ever known to enter its hallowed precincts With pure hydrogen gas a well equipped balloon of large size could make the voyage te this park and the summer trade winds of the prairie sea blew from my home to

the land of gold.

I was then employed on The Bee, an Omaha paper that got the news in spite of the Associated press, which was serving at that time the rivals of The Bee. This daily, with two editions, and the Beebsch-ter, in German, and the Bohemian Pokrok Zapadu were all published by the now famous editor, Edward Rosewater, anti-monopolist, anti-prohibitionist and anti more things and men than I can mention, but neverthe less, next to his enemy, Jay Gould, Mr. Rosewater was then, as he is today, the strongest power in Nebraska, and this was the man who approved and financially gave life to my plans for a Fourth of July celebra-

tion, and a balloon ascension with the Black Hills as the objective point. The dead walls and our columns were alone in heralding this new way of seek-for news. The great dailies of the world told the story, with editorial com-ments, and it was a question, much dis-cussed, whether we had the right to thus avoid the government forces, and whatter the soldiers at Fort Omaha would allow this expedition to start from under their noses. The comic papers had their jokes about the new Bee line to the Black Hills. I bought balloon, revarpished and almost remade it while a brother of the editor devoted himself to the preparations for manufacturing a vast

quantity of hydrogen. The glorious Fourth proved to be a bright and beautiful day. The wind was exactly true to our destination. The cannons boomed. The bands played. The excursion trains came crowded, and thousands of dollars were taken at the fair grounds gate from the eager throng that rushed to surround the balloon.

All was ready but the gas with which to our gas maker, is now a wel

merely a brilliant, but overconfident youth, who knew but little about the task he had undertaken, and I knew loss, for in all my ascensions I had kept away from the foul odors of the gas tanks. Our gasometer the co-operation of a chemist. No one The celebration of the national anniversary of 1875 will ever be memorable in the annals of Omaba. Comparatively few of our present population were eyewitnesses to the incidents related by the participants in the historic air-line voyage of The Bee balloon and still fewer are familiar with the adventures.

was then employed as a traveling agent of The Bee.

In 1875 Omaha had a population of less than 25,000, and while her citizens were noted for enterprise public spirit and process. What it requires and the expedients necessary to make a plant capable of evolving against the Indians, came to our help with 20,000 cubic feet of hydrogen gas in two or two revolvers and a yard of hair streaming three hours, as was then contemplated. In the wind, the police rallied, and when the battle was over we were alone with a gas bag found that to supply 20,000 cubic feet of gas.

and the gas flowed like molasses in winter. Thousands were present. Such a vast crowd had never before assembled in Omaha, and as it was growing dark I climbed into the cordage and told the assistants to give me a boost. Up went the balloon, about ten feet, then back to earth 'mid deafening shouts of derision and disappointment. Excursionists from far and near had remained in the city vowing to see the balloon ascension if it took all summer, and these, being of the wild and woelly sort, had gone from grocery to grocery until they were full if the balloon united the impatient crowd. At 3 o'clock united the impatient crowd.

however, and if one shot had been fired the funerals would have included some who have ince then carned an honorable niche in the The next day the balloon was filled, but the gas had so little buoyancy that I could not take the car, the anchor, ballast, pro-tective appliances nor instruments of any kind. I jumped into the ropes, shouted good-

bye, and sprang heavenward.

More than a mile above the city I heard the shouts and wild hurrahs of the excited populace, while a grand old eagle screamed with indignation at the invasion of the sacred air of his realm. The feast of vision was air of his realm. The feast of vision was worth all the trouble it had cost. The rarified and free air of the heights above us travels with great speed, and I made fully a mile a minute until I neared Florence lake and found my balloon descending. I pulled wide the valve, increasing my downward wide the valve, increasing my downward and salled to some laborars for as speed, and called to some laborers for as-sistance. They laughed and asked for a ladder, and said: "Ve gant coom oop dare you—vot vor you make fun mit us?" Now was the time to use the rip cord and pen the balloon from top to bottom, letting out the gas and making a huge parachute of the cloth above me, thus insuring imme-diate descent. One jerk, and the rip cord fell

send the balloon up again.
In a few seconds I was buried beneath the waters. Then the balloon formed into a huge sail and dragged me through the lake with the speed of the wind. As I neared the shore I noted a thicket of willows ahead. My mother preferred willows to the time honored slipper, but I have always avoided them. I noticed an opening, and using my legs for a wide. rudder I steered my light draft clipper quite easily into what proved to be a winter wood road, now covered with water. I managed o follow this track without other injury than a few scratches and bruises until an open prairie was reached, when I made a desperate

struggle to stop the swiftly ricocheting balbut all to no purpose. I he but the gas escaped slowly. I held the valve pen, but the gas escaped slowly.

Not far away two excited men were aiming at me with gins. I shouted and they ran. I beckoned and called for their assist-ance, and they returned, dodging the jumping on, evidently deeming it a thing of life At last they bravely rushed in and seized the huge, unmanageable bulk and drew it to the ground, while I tied it to a stray sapling. When empty they helped me roll it up and were so delighted with their achievement that they danced and shouted with glee. They vere two young Winnebago Indians, with the vildest notions about the wonderful bird they and helped to capture, and they almost wor-

shiped me as one far greater than ordinary

They thought I was Walla-Wa-Kon, the spirit of the air. A catfish, caught by his thorns in the huge evolver pocket of my buckskin vest, was a ouvenir of my unwilling bath in Florence lake and served to make me a hearty meal My Indian friends accompanied me on my return to Omaha and were my guests until with brass, feathers, beads and paint they became rich and proud and returned with tales that made them heroes in their tribe. Financially the affair was a success (for the gate keepers), and the press forgave us for failing to reach the Hills, seeing that we tried hard to satisfy the people. Neverthe-less I keenly felt that I had not made a ess I keenly left that complete success of the venture.

JOHN H. PIERCE.

WHY THE GAS GENERATOR FAILED

froubles Experienced in Getting the Balloon Inflated and Ready to Start.

The original design of the balloon ascension was to make a trip of a few miles This idea was soon enlarged upon so as to make as long an aerial voyage to the northwest as possible, with a view of reaching the Black Hills. For this purpose hydrogen gas, which has about double the carrying power of ordinary illuminating gas, was to be used, and provisions for a number of days supply, together with arms and ammunition, were to be taken. There seemed to be no doubt from previous observations of current to carry the airship to the northwest as that seemed to be the general direction of the air currents.

Three persons were to embark on this voyage, Mr. Pierce, his plucky little wife, and the writer. Illustrated placards announcing this program were hastily improvised, printed and sent to stations on the lines of all connecting railways, and newspaper advertise-ments with appropriate cuts sent to various journals under advertising contracts. then taken out of the storehouse and by a "blower" filled with air to be tested for leakages, the valves and other atachments to be carefully adjusted and placed

thorough repair. The balloon sack was itself in a fair condition, needing a few patches here and there, which were made by an old expert sailor whose services had been engaged. When this was done the entire sack needed a thorough coat of varnish. This was a laborious as well as difficult piece of work, but was accomplished in a few days. In the meanwhile a sudden discovery was made. The notting, which had not been closely scrutinized, was found to be in a state of partial decay and absolutely worthless. This was an alarming surprise. Nothing of that na-ture could be obtained in the city and without it all would be a failure. With only six days margin nothing remained to be done but to send Mr. Pierce at once to Chicago with authority to contract under any con-ditions for the netting so as to insure its recipt on time.

Under special inducements and extra payment per day for delivery before the stipu lated period the netting arrived at Omaha July 2. The ascension was to take p'ace Saturday, the 4d, the Fourth coming Sunday, It was expected that an expert would be secured at Chicago to devise and superseend, and its manufacture began, and with vise the gas machinery, which was reported depression instead of elevation. Andrew as a simple and easy affair. In this we were unsuccessful, and the matter was left ennown and able engineer, but then he was tirely with myself. I looked up what little

face consideration can form a conception of noted for enterprise, public spirit and patriotism, everybody was disposed to defer sil demonstrations to calebrate the Fourth to the following year, which was the centennial anniversary of American independence. About the middle of June The Bee ventured to get up a celebration of the Fourth on its own account that would attract people from all the neighboring country. To this end a balloon excursion to the Black Hills was projected and advertised to take place on the afternoon of Saturday, July 3, at the fair grounds adjacent to Sherman avenue. A balloon in which Prof. Stellner had made an ascension several years previous was laying in soak in the cellar of Shoaf's great billiard hall, corner Eleventh was produced to defer in the was over we were alone with a gas bag found that osupply 20,000 cubic feet of gas, which was about two-thirds the capacity of the balloon to Jefferson square, and the next morning a mass of mud-covered cloth and cordage was fished out of the puddles, taken to Capitol Hill, washed, repaired and hung out to dry.

It is unnecessary to state that the ascension several years previous was laying in soak in the cellar of Shoaf's great billiard hall, corner Eleventh was over we were alone with a gas bag battle was over we were alone with a gas bag battle was approaching. We was approached the supply 20,000 cubic feet of gas, found that to supply 20,000 cubic feet of gas, which was about two-thirds the capacity of the balloon, required his supply 20,000 cubic feet of gas, which was about two-thirds the capacity of the balloon, required his supply and one-half tons of supply 10 and one-half tons of

on the morrow the air should not hold us down.

down.

By extraordinary effort, with stormy weather at intervals, the gas works, so to speak, received their last finishing touches article of the gas works. At 6 in the morning we attached our hose and turned on the gas, but when night came the balloon still lacked buoyancy, for water was in the mains and the gas flowed like molasses in winter. Thousands were present. Such a vast

vowing to see the balloco, was and with it the entargement of the wild all summer, and these, being of the wild all summer, and these, being of the wild and woolly sort, had gone from grocery to grocery until they were full if the balloon wasn't. If bad language could hurt, I should have died there and then. The crowd was too dense for bullets, hence my funeral did not occur that week. Weapons were drawn, and occur that week. Weapons were drawn, and the surging of the crowd temporarily ceased. The generation of crowd temporarily ceased. The generation of crowd temporarily ceased. The generation of crowd temporarily ceased. gas, however, became slower and with it the ing did not seem to develop much gain. It seemed quite evident that the area of ex-posed surface in the batteries was insuffi-

cient to generate gas fast enough,
After 4 o'clock a mob of half drunken,
disorderly men surrounded the works, threatening to blow them up. Some began climbing upon the batteries and supporting platforms but were roughly handled with clubs and at the point of revolvers were finally forced to move on. In the meanwhile storm clouds made the sky black as night, and by I a heavy rain poured down, and continued for two days. On Tuesday, the 6th, it cleared up, the balloon was taken up and carried to Jefferson square, where it was decided to

All efforts to get the balloon in for a day ascension proved futile and a final effort was decided on for that evening. special contract was made with the gas con pany to inflate the sack by direct connection with the gas main, and by 10 o'clock the infa tion was completed. It had been decided in view of the circumstances that only two should make the ascent, Mr. Pierce and the broken at my feet. I grasped the valve cord, but I drifted out over the lake; then I closed the valve and overboard went re-When all was in anchor ropes were loosened, but to the convolvers, boots and coat in a vain effort to sternation of all the balloon would not rise Then, after reducing the load of provisions and other apparatus to a minimum and finding i waters. Then the balloon formed into a huge | would not rise, the writer stepped off. Again disappointment stared us in the face; would not rise.

Desperate to prove to a jeering crowd that the failure was unintentional and not from fear, Mr. Pierce disconnected the basket, and elevating himself into the concentrating ring rose a few feet, to sink hopelessly again t the ground.

s accounted for on two grounds. First, the weight of the new netting had been some what increased over the old, and second, the equisite buoyancy.

After a brief consultation it was decided t make another effort the next morning. mard was placed around the balloon to pr ent any mischief.

The next morning at dawn Mr. Pierce and I vere on the ground looking over the situa-The balloon was seemingly inflated its utmost, but upon trial it would no lift Mr. Pierce in the basket. Chafing under repeated failures, instead of waiting for the un to rise and thoroughly evaporate the poisture on the balloon from the heavy dew and still further increase its lifting power by the expansion of the gas incidental to the increased heat, Mr. Pierce cut loose the bassuspended himself from the trating ring, threw off his coat, and then ordered the men to let go. In a moment he was up 500 feet or more in the air, then deliberately calling at the top of his viice, which could be heard for blocks, "Goodby boys," ie dropped some sand ballast and shot skyward like a frightened bird suddenly escaped from a prison cage.

The balloon took a northeasterly course.

ing at about fifty miles an hour. denly, as flying over the river bottoms about three miles distant a cloud of smokelike appearance burst from the top of the balloon, and, as if in some convulsive struggle, it seemed to fall by jerks in sommersault fashion through the air. Securing a saddle horse I rode toward the spot as fast as pos-sible, expecting to find the unfortunate corpse of my friend. I discovered Mr.

Pierce safely on land apparently as well as ver. The story as told by himself was that ifter seeing his course was directly over the which was then over its banks, he to let himself down, lest the gas giving out after a time might drop h m in an undesirable location. To effect this he suddenly drew the rope attached to the side of the balloon, with a view of splitting the sack, anticipating as a result that would spread out in parachute form an out in parachute form and drop him safely below. The rope, in my opinion, luckily broke and forced him to take the safe course, viz: to pull open the valve and let the gas out more slowly, with the result already named and more fully de-scribed by Mr. Pierce himself. I could add much by way of comment and

analysis from a scientific standpoint by the light of subsequent acquired knowledge, but this is already too long. It certainly proves the old adage, "Truth is stranger than ANDREW ROSEWATER.

SERMON ON THE WHEEL.

New York World. We're spiritual wheelmen in this world o' sin and shame, So.ne of us are experts—others bran' new at is are all we travel, one o' them is h and wide, r rough and hilly now which e other rough and hilly, now which one will you ride?

The smooth road looks invitin', but all along the smooth road looks invitin', but all along the way
Wheels with punctured tires and broken frameworks lay.
With here and there a rider who has suffered in a smash.
They rode "the pace that kills" and thought they cut a mighty dash.

See! Yonder goes a scorcher bendin' low upon his wheel, Ridin' to perdition just as fast as he can road before him; lots of fun upon the in his pockets for to make his life so Look out on the other road, lots of bikes

But wait until you reach the top an' then you'll see a sight.

A road that can't be beat an' wheels all new and shinin' bright.

Fitted up with heavenly gear—that's to be
One of the m, the lad with which this story. Jump on one and wheel away straight into Paradise

Recollections of Thrilling Experiences on the Great Holiday.

V.CKSBURG FIRING THAT MEANT BUSINESS

Strange Fart Played by the Fourth in the Life of a Well Known Army Officer-The Rewards of a Boy Who Fought for the Flag.

(Copyright, 1895, by S. S. McClure, Limited.) "Yes," said Colonel Fred Grant, leaning ack in his commissioner's chair at the New York police headquarters, when I asked him about the memorable Fourth of July, 1863, I remember the entrance of the federal groops into Vickspurg very well indeed. But was a lad of only 13 then, was quite ill rom camp disorders and suffering from a jost horrible toothache, which was not re leved until after we had passed over the ortifications. You will easily understand fortifications.

iteresting have no place whatever in my "On the 3d of July, as you no doubt remem-ber, the preliminaries of Vicksburg's sur-render were gone through by my father and General Pemberton. The meeting of my father, who was attended by General Mcherson, with General Pemberton, attended by General Bowen, has been described in better terms than I could command, even if I could recall the details. After a little talk Mc-Pherson and Bowen stepped aside to arrange details, while the staff officers discussed af-fairs among themselves. After the terms had been arranged and put into writing the that been arranged and put into writing the conference was ended and Generals Pemberton and Bowen returned to their own lines and we to headquarters. There was a feeling of the most intense expectance all through our headquarters, and, indeed,

the entire federal camp.

"I was suffering so severely that I went into the tent that I was sharing with my father and lay down upon one of the two hamboo cots that had been made for us by hamboo cots that had been made for us by hamboo cots that had been and I resome of the solder boys. But I was in such pain that I could not sleep, and I remember well how I lay there, hour after hour, on the eve of that eventful Fourth, watching my father, who sat writing at a rude little two-by-four pine table, also made by the soldier boys. His face was lighted by the flickering blaze of a candle, and the acratching of his pen as it traveled back and forth over the paper was the only sound in the tent. Finally, in the middle of the night-I am not sure whether it was yet the Fourth or not—I began to drowse a little, in spite of my pain. But I was aroused very by the entrance of an orderly with "I did not have to be told that the mes-

sage was from General Pemberton. I lost my sleepiness at once and watched my father's face while he read the note. It father's face while he read the note. It was not a long one, but he read it over intently two or three times. When he looked up an expression of great relief passed over his features and he took a long breath. "Well, Fred," he said, turning to me, 'it's all over. We shall enter Vicksburg in the morning as soon as the formal surgical passed.

nder can be made. "That was all he said, and I suppose he nust have turned in soon after. I fell into

a deep sleep almost instantly.
"Of the actual entrance into Vicksburg on
the Fourth I remember only the chief points. Our men were jubilant, of course. The staff, led by father, rode, inside the confederate lines to a house partly of stone and partly of wood, that was pretty well riddled by shot course. Persper-

wood, that was pretty well riddled by shot and shell, where we met General Pemberton, who looked greatly distressed, and the papers were signed. The talk between General Pemberton and my father was not long; its terms were courteous but hardly cordial. and all were heartily glad when the signa-tures had been appended to the articles of capitulation. Then we remounted and rode into town. I remember that our horses had jump the breastworks and trenches, that the joiling increased my suffering. Pather selected his headquarters as soon as he could, a dentist was brought and my aching tooth was attended to, and then, being ery ill indeed, I was put to bed. days later it was necessary to send me north to save my life."

THAT MEANT BUSINESS. Dr. George F. Shrady, who was General Grant's physician during the great soldier's last illness, recalls July 4, 1862, as the most mpressive Independence day in his experi-

"I had just been graduated in medicine, eald Dr. Shrady, "and was on my way to Fortress Monroe, where I was to serve as an assistant surgeon. The battle of Malvern Hill had been fought on July 1 and 2, and here were many wounded union soldiers a he hospitals in and about Fortress Monroe Ve went there by boat, the sea voyage par of the trip being made on the Euterpe, and our trip up to the fort on a smaller steamer, got my first taste of real war on that trip. The confederates at Fort Powhatan disregarded our yellow flag, indicating that our was a hospital boat, and opened fire upon us stood on deck looking directly

ort, as our boat steamed leisurely along Suddenly there was a puff of white smoke Then a big somethin and a great red flash. came sailing through the air right toward You know you can see the projectile from a big gun if you are about in its range My first thought was that I was 'right in it, so to say, and my second that I'd like to ge out of the way. But before I had time to out of the way. lodge, the shot had struck the smokestack and demolished it. That made things highly interesting, and besides the sharpshooters kept peppering at our pilot house all the way up, and, taking it altogether, the trip was a

right lively one When we made the return trip a few days later in the same boat, we were escorted by two gunbeats, one of which was named the Galena, after the town of General Grant's residence. It was as if a school girl had been stoned by mischievous urching on her way to school, was afraid of being hurt, and the teacher had sent her home between two big boys who would awagger along on either side, and see that she came to no sort of harm. Well, as we passed Fort Pawhatan one of our gunboats sent a shell or two crashing over toward the boat. It was fun to see the missiles cut off the tree branches and make the dust fly around there. There were o answering shots. The mischievous urchins They didn't like the looks of the kept quiet. boys that had been sent to see the little girl home, and so the return trip was much ess exciting than the trip up stream had

ENLISTING ON THE FOURTH. An army officer of such present rank and tanding that he is likely some day to be a najor general, was recently visiting some old friends in the east who had not seen him often since he began army life, and said to them that he looked upon the 4th of July, 1862, as the date of the beginning of his career, and that he had sometimes wondered at the coincidences which had made that day a conspicuous one in his life. Then briefly

he told his story: "Soon after midnight on July 4, 1862, a country lad was awakened by a prearranged signal, and looking from his window, saw one of his mates waiting impatiently for him to one out and celebrate by the firing of pistols and a little brass cannon, in the small hours of the night. Not many minutes was the awakened lad engaged in dressing, and with an agility which was always his characteristic he swung himself from his window to the limbs of a cherry true, and by that means dropped to the ground. In his pocket were a couple of biscults and some pieces of cold meat, which he had with prodence provided on the evening before. Sharing the provisions with his mate, they started, munching as they went. They went to a hill beneath which stood a little farm house which was once the home of the grandfather of a president of the United States. On the crest of this hill they discharged their cannon perhaps a dozen Then, dragging the little cannon be hind them, they started off for the city, some four or five miles distant. As they passed a there, too,
Room for plenty more, my friends, riders all
too few.
Hard work climbin' up the hills, no macadam there.
Nary chance to coast and save your legs a
lot o' wear.

Identify the plant of the windows and discharged their pistols. When at last they reached the city they joined a considerable company of youngsters who were engaged like themselves. Just at surrise they climbed into the steeple of an old church, beneath

no child's play to pull the rope.

One of them, the lad with which this story has to do, was 17 years of age, of a man's stature, but a boy's heart and impulses; the

day was to take place. So they found a seat upon two fence posts, where they perched themselves to watch the procession as it went by. There was a company of boy soldiers, dressed in zouave uniform, commanded by one who has stace gained fame as an artist, and by another whose father was conspic-ous as a general in command of union troop at the battle of Bull Run, and who himse afterwards became a high officer in the regu-lar army. These little fellows, with wooden guns, marched with military step, and in the hearts of some of them there was kindled an enthusiasm, such as had led their older brothers and their fathers, to enlist in the

army that was far away at the front, getting ready for that second great encounter upon the Manassas battle field. Ine Manassas battle field.

Jumping down from the fence posts, the two lads walked beside the juvenile soldiers, looking very solemn now, and wishing that they too, were members of that company. At last they came to the public square. Here a platform had been erected, and seated upon the company of the company. It were the member of congress from that district, and a distinguished orator from an-other state, and perhaps half a dozen others. They were not to make the ordinary Fourth of July speech, but to urge volunteers to come forward and enlist, so that new reginents might be made complete and sent to

thy many details that would now be very

MONEY FOR THE HOMESTEAD. Then he saw the congressman take from als pocket a package of money, and heard alm say, as he did so, "I have \$1,000 here. him say, as he did so, "I have \$1,000 here. Each one of the first ten men who comes forward and enlists will receive \$100, and besides that the town will pay him, by and by, \$200 more." Then one man, and another, and still another, went forward, signed his name, was cheered to the echo as he did so, and received \$100. Eight men came forward speedily. Then there was a long pause before the ninth presented himself. As he came from the platform he passed a lat. before the ninth presented himself. As he came from the platform he passed a lad, whose first name was William, and said to him, "William, that's the first \$100 that I ever had, and I'm going to give it to mother." He was one William knew, and was only a year or two older than himself, and not so tall, nor anywhere near so strong. Now the congressman pleaded and begged for the tenth man to come forward and enlist and receive his \$100. William's heart was and receive his \$100. William's heart was suidenly set on fire, and he said to himself William's heart was If Hiram can enlist, why cannot I' \$100 that I get now will be a great help to father, and the other \$200 will make it possible for him to pay his interest. Then shall be a soldier, too, and carry a real gun. Thus thinking, but scarcely knowing who

he did. William edged his way to the steps which led up to the platform, and then hesitated. The eys of the congressman fell upon him. "Come up, my son," he said. "You, too, want to fight for your country. Come and join the roll of honor."

So, almost before he knew what he had done. William had signed the roll, received his \$100 and was told to report on the following days at a place which was named to him.

ing day at a place which was named to him in that moent he changed from a lad to

In that moent he changed from a lad to a man. He had become separated from his playmate, who had gone marching on with the boy soldiers. Therefore he turned his face homeward, and after a while reached the little farm house.

William did not dare tell his mother what he had done. So he sought his Tather, who was celebrating the Fourth after the fashion of farmers who toll hard, by getting in a crop of hay. William went to the field, and calling his father apart from the field hands placed in his bands the \$100. hands placed in his bands the \$100. "Where did you get this, my son?" the

armer asked. 'It was given to me this morning.'

"Given to you for what?"
"For enlisting in the army, and you wil "For enlisting in the army, and you win have \$200 more by and by."

The old man looked at him bewildered, and then, after a time, he asked the boy to tell the story. As William did so the tears came into the father's eyes, but he said: "William, if you had asked me this morning I should have forbidden it, for I should have said that you were too young. But it seems said that you were too young. But it seems to me that if they want soldiers to fight for the flag so bad as this, then some one in our old, I fear? You have three brothers, and they are too young. You shall stand by You shall stand by

ur word, William, and go. Then they went to the house, and when the nother was told her face paled, but she took lown the bible and read a chapter in it to

A BRAVE SOLDIER. Little more than two months later William was in the thick of the fight at Antietam. His courage and his coolness won the admira-tion of his comrades. Near the close of the battle, as he was passing through a corafield ne was struck and fell to the ground. I proved, however, to be a spent bullet. The shock was severe, and the wound painful, but

not dangerous. When William came out of the hospita he found that he had been made sergeant as a recognition of his courage and his faithful-A year later, on the Fourth of July, he lay in the hespital again, at Gettysburg. was one of the immortal band who had re celved the charge of Pickett's men at the stone wall. His commanding officer had seen him fighting while the blood was streaming from a wound in his neck. As he lay upon his cot on that Fourth of July his mind went back to that day a year before when he had started out for a boyish celebration, and had edurned to his home pledged to become a coldier, and he was glad that he had taken that step. He knew that army life had fascination for him, and he then made a reso lution that in case he survived his wound he would remain always in the army. Tals time when he left the hospital a lieutenant's con nission was awaiting him-a boy of only 18. On the Fourth of July, 1864, William had

memorable experience. He had fought al and he was a captain now. Some official bust ness brought him for the first time into the presence of Grant, and Grant said to him Captain, I have heard of you, and especially of your courage at Cold Harbor. I shall no forget you. On the Fourth of July, 1865, the young

captain, having been mustered out of the dunteer service, received a Heutenant's commission in the regular army, and although he was never told so directly, yet he never doubted that he owed the appointment to a friendly word from General Grant.

In the west, whither he went with hi egiment, he remained many years, and his old father and mother were very proud of the secord which he there made in the perilou campaigns against the Indians. Slowly successive promotions, he at last reached the ank of colonel, and was generally recognized is one of those soldiers who, though lacking qualities which make a fine commander.

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Have Twelve Vehicles of the Karbach stock that must be sold this week. Prices will be made to sell them. Call at once. Cor. 15th and Howard St.

> The Bargains of a Lifetime.

An Abundance of Material for the Annual Patriotic Din.

and Tons of Home Made, Highly Colored Explosives-A Few Novelties in Set Pieces Vary the Monotony of the Cracker.

Three more days and the fun begins. The and the old girl, will indulge in gunpowder patriotism, frighten the eagle from his eyric and contribute more or less to the ear-splitting discharacteristic of the eyes slorious ting din characteristic of the ever glorious Fourth. The country will blow itself with the usual implements. But, Oh, what a head the next morning!

During the first half of June twelve ships low jackets, jack in a bex, and Columbian head the next morning!

During the first half of June twelve ships loaded with Chinese combustibles reached he front. | loaded with Chinese combustibles reached The older lad stopped to listen to the this country. They carried 8,000,000 pack-The older lad stopped to listen to the speaches. He had not heard very much about the war, for in his peaceful country life only faint echoes of the great conflict had penetrated at that time. He heard the congressman, as he urged the young men who were gathered in the square before him to come forward and enlist; he heard the great orator make a powerful plea, and he wondered whether this speaker did not feel very hot standing in the sun and swinging laid, it would make a line 16,161 miles long.

The care are sixty-four fire crackers. That makes 512,000,000 fire crackers. To render this vast prospect of joy more comprehensible, remember that a fire cracker is two inches long, and if these packs were laid out in one continuous line, as the small boy would be glad to have them lated to the fact that it is the largest fire-works wheel sold for 5 cents. It has a fire cracker is two inches long, and if these packs were laid out in one continuous line, as the small boy would be glad to have them.

The provides wheel is another. It owes its page. The ferris wheel is another. It owes its page. The fire crackers is two locks of the fact that it is the largest fire-works wheel sold for 5 cents. It has a lively action. A center wheel revolves with great force, and, with two smaller wheels in the inner circle, forms fantastic figures. Magic fountains are another nevel is another. It owes its page. The fire crackers is two inches long, and if these packs were laid out in one continuous line, as the small boy would be glad to have them.

The provides wheel is another. It owes its page. The fire crackers is two inches long, and if these packs were laid out in one continuous line, as the small boy would be glad to have them. very hot standing in the sun and swinging laid, it would make a line 16,161 miles long, his arms so violently and speaking in such and it would reach more than half way and it would reach more than half way around the world. Emerson's shot would be nowhere in comparison.

And fire crackers are to be cheap this year. What cost 5 cents at retail heretofore can now be bought for 2 or 3 cents. This is due to the new tariff law. The old duty under the McKinley law was 8 cents a pound, which made the extra cost of an eight-pound box- containing sixty-four packs of fire crackers, 64 cents. Under the Wilson law the duty is 50 per cent ad valorem, and amounts to about 20 cents a box. This affects only imported goods, of course, and our home-made fireworks will cost as much as ever this year. But the fact that fire crack-ers are to be cheaper than ever before will probably develop large increases of gun-powder patriotism all over the country and make this a Fourth of July long to be remembered. The poorest little boy in the land can have his fire crackers this year and more fortunate ones can have twice as any as heretofore. There are few new things brought out in

the way of beavy fireworks this year. Among them is probably the biggest attempt ever made in the way of cannon crackers. There is a glant cracker now fourteen inches ong. The dealers are almost afraid to keep hem or to sell them, and they will not sell them to boys unless they are accompanied by their parents or some responsible person r have a permit in writing. One of these rackers contains powder enough to break the glass front of a store if set off at the curb, and it is only safe to explode them out in some open space where the concussion an do no harm to adjoining buildings.

The list of new things in fancy fireworks

his year presents an iteresting lot of names There are Ferris wheels, electric fans, trolley wheels, electric bicycles, Brooklyn bridges little Vesuviuses and big Vesuviuses, tor bullions, several new kinds of "chasers" and Japanese bombs. An unusually good thing is the parachute rocket, which floats a num-ber of small lights by little parachutes. Another pleasing device is the dragon rocket, which lets loose, up about 500 feet, a swarm of dragon like serpents, that wind in and about each other for quite a time, until they disappear.

Some of the old set pieces appear now under new names, and many of them are modified in their colors so as to produce new and pleasing effects. Of the cheaper new and pleasing effects. Of the cheaper new things is the silver geyser, the electric light, trolley wheel, beehives, gas wells, yellow jackets and grasshoppers, all of which are sold for from 1 to 5 cents each,

The art in making fireworks consists in nixing the colors and so constituting them that they will burn properly with the right effect. The designing is done by the chemist be work of manufacture not requiring skilled labor. There will be a few new imported fireworks, one of the best being the Chinese mandarin, composed of a large number of firecrackers. This is something that has never been seen in this country before. ad is large and round, and contains the ands of snakes of various bues, which squirm and dart about in every direction when touched by the torch. A few new things are to be found in batteries. The electric spreader is perhaps the more gorgeous, wanding, as it does, after the explosion, a myriad f stars, each showering different colors, brough the air. For those who prefer pariotic fireworks the union battery has be evised, which displays a grand fusilade of olored stars and gives a kaleidoscopic effec Among the new goods of American make are an almost endless line of colored exhibion candles and rockets. New electric parade torches that will burn in rain or wind, that are self-igniting, will be a prominent

ature this year. Dragon nets are a new and startling article n fireworks, simple to fire, and display beau-tifully. They commence with discharges of electric stars, each star in its flight separat-ing and making a number of smaller stars and There is also a shower of brilliant colored fires eight to ten fet high. As a

WHOOPING UP THE FOURTH finale, a grand outburst of hissing, flery dragons take place; they fill the air with loud, hissing noises, and leave trails of brilliant fire behind them as they shoot through the

The most amusing article ever offered in fireworks is "the devil among tailors." It is to be placed on the ground to fire, and opens with an illumination in colors, followed CARGOES OF CHINESE COMBUSTIBLES by a rich atream of brilliant fire; next shows a fountain of reporting electric stars, and terminates with a burst of fiery dragons thrown to a height of fifty or sixty feet, and exploding there with loud reports.

exploding there with loud reports.

The Hirayama Japanese bombshell is new and stariling, the effects produced by these being entirely different from any other, displaying showers of pearls, chrysanthemuma of various kinds, stars, willow trees, moons, dragons, lighted lanterns, hanging chains, thunderstorms, showers of shells, clusters of states fans, recklares rings, secolly, etc. small boy and the old boy, the small girl besides numerous combinations of the same.

The ingenuity of the manufacturers has not be made specially to order in this city. The pearl batteries which throw into the

wheels, are some of the novelties in Bre-works this year.

The Ferris wheel is another. It owes its

new things are silver geysers, electric lights and trolly wheels.

The union battery is another new feature devised in this country. It displays a grand fusillade of colored stars and gives a kaleidoscopic effect. Another nevelty, called the "silver-birch tree," sends a column of fire seventy-five feet into the air, which branches and blossoms into blazing forests.

The Natchez tribes are said to have been the only North American Indians who had a temple of worship.



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