

SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

Simple Water-Tests—Gas Engines for Pumping—Consumption Prevention and Consumption Cure—The Man-Eating Africans—Average Marching Endurance—Marriages and Births in Europe—A New Gaslight—Energy Expended by the Pianist.

A simple test for the sewage contamination of water, recommended by the Iowa Board of Health, is to add 4 drops of permanganate of potash solution to a glass of the water. After standing 2 hours, the rose color imparted by the permanganate will have changed to a dull yellow if decomposing organic matter is present in a dangerous amount, and completely disappear in time if the decomposed organic matter is in very large quantity. If the proportion of impurity is small, the rose color may fade only slightly. A good method of quickly determining the quality of drinking-water is to dissolve 12 grains of caustic potash and 3 grains of permanganate in an ounce of distilled water, and add 1 or 2 drops of this solution to a glass of the water. If a decided color is imparted, the water may be used, but it should be rejected as probably dangerous if the color immediately disappears.

An interesting installation of gas engines—the first of the kind—has been made at Sunderland, Eng. Several Tangye engines have been couple direct, without intervening belt or gearing, to centrifugal pumps for emptying a graving dock, and the results are said to have been thus far highly satisfactory. Each pump, of which there are several, can discharge hourly 2600 tons of water and each engine indicates 120 horsepower. They have a self-starting attachment.

The work of the British Royal Commission on tuberculosis leads to the belief that, by carefully boiling milk, properly cooking meat, and totally destroying all sputum from infected persons, the spread of tuberculosis will be gradually but surely checked in the course of time.

A new smoke consuming device for furnaces is an attachment automatically feeding a quantity of oil to the fire when fuel is added. As the oil burns it consumes the smoke, the injection of oil being adjusted at will to the amount of smoke expected at each fresh charge of fuel.

The use of petroleum for consumption is not a new idea, as it was suggested some years ago by a French physician. Dr. Pellissier, of Roumania, was led to employ the crude oil in his practice by noticing that workmen in petroleum works at Campina are never affected with pulmonary tuberculosis, and he has now reported the experience of two years. The petroleum is simply freed from earthy matter by filtering through paper, and enclosed in capsules to avoid creating an aversion to it on account of its unpleasant odor. The results of the treatment are claimed to be surprising. The cough ceases, the sweats disappear, the appetite and sleep return, the lesions of the lungs recover. The breath acquires the odor of petroleum, but digestion is not disturbed. Treatment through the stomach is supplemented during the day by breathing air passed through petroleum, a Turkish tobacco pipe being used for the purpose. Efforts to administer the remedy by injection were unsuccessful.

Cannibalism was discussed by the anthropologists at the recent meeting of the British Association, where it was stated that nearly all the races in the Congo basin carry on an extensive trade in human beings as food. The different tribes, according to Capt. S. L. Hinde, have various and horrible methods of preparing the flesh for eating—certain tribes of the Bangala race, for example, having admitted that they break the arms and legs of their victims and then keep the bodies alive in water for two or three days to render them more palatable. Human flesh, contrary to common belief, is never eaten raw by the negro savage, nor for religious or superstitious reasons. In the country of the Baletela, even parents are eaten by their children as old ages approach, and neither gray haired, halt, maimed nor blind persons are to be seen.

Experiments by some Berlin medical students have shown that the full service equipment of the German infantry soldier, averaging 70 pounds, cannot be carried on a day's march of 25 miles, when the temperature is 70 degrees F., without such fatigue that a day's rest should follow. The effort could not be repeated day after day without injury to health, the greatest weight that could be safely carried 25

miles daily for a considerable time, in ordinary summer weather, being 60 pounds.

The facts given below, compiled by M. Chervin, were presented to the French Anthropological Society at its recent Broca meeting. Of 1000 people of both sexes, over 15 years of age, the per cent that marry is as follows: Hungary, 91.6; Germany, 53.0; England and Wales, 52.6; Denmark, 52.0; Austria, 51.3; Italy, 50.1; Finland, 49.2; Holland, 49.0; France, 45.8; Belgium, 41.9; Greece, 41.6; Scotland, 40.0; Switzerland, 40.8; Ireland, 33.0. The number of legitimate living children born of 1000 married women is; in Germany, 270; Scotland, 269; Belgium, 265; Italy, 251; England and Wales, 250; Austria, 250; Sweden, 240; Ireland, 240; Switzerland, 236; France, 163. Illegitimate children: Germany, 265; Scotland, 199; Belgium, 198; Italy, 246; England and Wales, 121; Austria, 444; Sweden, 444; Ireland, 41; Switzerland, 102; France, 167. In its marriages France falls a little below the other principal countries of Europe. In its legitimate births it is at the foot of the list, and even taking into account its illegitimate births, it is far behind Germany, Austria and Italy in point of increase of population.

A means of increasing the illuminating power of gas about 15 times is claimed by M. Denayrouze, a French physicist. A spherical metallic body and a mantle capable of being raised to incandescence are included in the upper part of the lamp, and in the body is fixed a tiny motor, which works a ventilator and which receives current from a couple of small accumulators. The electricity energy required is said to be only 1/2 volt and 1-10 ampere, and this is sufficient to force air through the mantle and give the flame remarkable brilliancy. Lamps of 800 candle-power have been made.

A German composer has calculated that a minimum pressure of the finger of a quarter of a pound is needed to sound a note on the piano, and that at times a force of 6 pounds is thrown on a single key to produce a single effect. Chopin's last study in C minor has a passage, taking 2 minutes 5 seconds to play, that requires a total pressure estimated at 3 full tons. It is not strange that pianists develop wonderful strength of the fingers.

Two French experimenters have caused argon and helium to combine with magnesium vapor under the prolonged action of the silent electric discharge. Argon united with platinum under similar conditions.

SECRETARY HERBERT.

An Address at Montgomery, Ala., on the Currency Question.

Secretary of the Navy Herbert spoke at Montgomery, Ala., one night last week to a large audience. His subject was the currency.

Secretary Herbert in opening, declared that the question whether or not the United States government ought to undertake the free and independent coinage of silver is a question "we have had before us since the great campaign of 1874, when we took issue with the carpet-bagger who was then dominating our State, and on the conclusion arrived at may depend the future supremacy of the Democratic party in the United States for years to come."

He then said that he approached the question as a bimetalist. He was also a Democrat who had always worked in harness, but the currency question was one to be decided on business principles. He asserted that the "silver dollar of our fathers," so much spoken of, was never seen by those same fathers to any extent, for it did not circulate. He then drew attention to the steady fall in Confederate money from the time it became abundant.

The talk about a country having a money system of its own entirely independent of the outside world, passed his understanding. The law of 1834 practically made the United States a gold country. It was this generation that had turned to silver. Within the last 17 years the United States had added to their circulation the stupendous sum of \$549,700,000 of silver currency, and had now more silver per capita than any silver country in the world, and more silver in proportion to gold than any gold-using country.

He frankly acknowledged that he had been a silver man, voting for free coinage. But men were not infallible and had the right to change their opinions whenever they saw cause.

If your children are subject to croup watch for the first symptom of the disease—hoarseness. If Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is given as soon as the child becomes hoarse it will prevent the attack. Even after the croupy cough has appeared the attack can always be prevented by giving this remedy. It is also invaluable for colds and whooping cough. For sale by O. M. Royster, Druggist. 40-4t

GENERAL NEWS.

French troops have taken the capital of Madagascar.

An American firm has secured the contract for lighting the Mexican National palace.

Congress, at its approaching session, will be asked to recognize the Cubans as Belligerents.

Warrants for conspiracy have been issued against the Secretary and managers of the Florida Athletic Club.

United States Senator Warren, of Wyoming, says the only hope for silver is in a fight within the Republican party lines.

The powers united in demanding of Turkey an inquiry into the killing of Armenians and the release of innocent prisoners.

Several of the passengers on an electric car held up in a Chicago suburb by robbers were badly, though none fatally, hurt.

Ex-Speaker Crisp, in a letter to a friend, says he will probably make several speeches in Georgia in behalf of free silver coinage.

A New York crank applied at the White House for the position of "President's boy." He was promptly landed in the police station.

The United States war vessel Marion has been ordered to Chili for the purpose, it is said, of enforcing claims of several American citizens.

Mexicans are greatly excited over rumors of a Protestant conspiracy to blow up the church in which is the image of the Virgin Guadalupe.

Prof. Lorain L. Langstroth, for twenty years a professor in Yale, and for fifty years a minister, died of apoplexy while delivering a sermon at Dayton, O.

In the speech at Elizabethtown Senator Lindsay prophesied that if Kentucky went Democratic this time the Democrats would win the Presidency in 1896.

German experts are in this country trying to find out the methods of tanning our leather, the importation of which into Germany is growing to enormous proportions.

The last of the famous Jungle stories is told by Rudyard Kipling in the Cosmopolitan for October, and the subject is "How Mowglie Left the Jungle Forever." "It is the last of the stories, because there are no more to be told."

Orders have recently been placed by the Penn. Railroad for 40,000 tons of steel rails, the Baltimore and Ohio 20,000 tons and the Southern 25,000 tons. Altogether 150,000 tons have been ordered by the various lines for delivery in November and December. The prices paid were \$28 per ton for Pennsylvania mills and \$29 for Chicago. It is likely the price will go up to \$30 next year, and this is a certain indication that the railways intend to get more for carrying freight.

If Troubled with Rheumatism Read This.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Apr. 16, 1894.—I have used Chamberlain's Pain Balm for rheumatism and found it to be all that is claimed for it. I believe it to be the best preparation for rheumatism and deep seated muscular pains on the market and cheerfully recommend it to the public. JNO. G. BROOKS, dealer in boots, shoes, etc., No. 18 Main St. 40-4t

ALSO READ THIS.

MECHANICSVILLE, St. Mary County, Md.—I sold a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm to a man who had been suffering with rheumatism for several years. It made him a well man. A. J. MCGILL. For sale at 50 cents per bottle by O. M. Royster, Druggist. 40-4t

AN ILL-FATED COUPLE.

Mrs. Amelie Rives Chanler Has Secured a Divorce.

Mr. W. G. Maxwell, of the law firm of Chanler, Maxwell & Phillip, of New York, is authority for the statement that a decree of divorce, on the ground of incompatibility, has been granted Mrs. Amelie Rives Chanler. It is stated there was no opposition to the decree, and that nothing in the pleadings or the proceedings reflected on either of the parties.

Mr. Maxwell positively declines to give any further information.

Amelie Rives Chanler, while simply Amelie Rives, suddenly burst on the world with a feverish volume called "The Quick or the Dead." This was about eleven years ago. The book was well written, fairly plotted, but succeeded rather for the flavor of fever in it than of any merit, whether of the story itself or the style of the English employed in telling it. Altogether, it was not of the sort a cold or careful judge would describe as "healthful literature."

Chanler is related to the Astors.

MAHONE OF VIRGINIA.

Not an F. F. V., But a Plain Plebian—A Good General and That Was All.

Whenever a man who is or has been prominent becomes ill or dies the country is at once flooded with misstatements concerning his life. The case of Ex-Senator Mahone, of Virginia, is the latest striking instance. From the time he was stricken down with paralysis the misstatement mill has been steadily grinding. One prominent newspaper writer stated over his own signature that Gen. Mahone and his family were blue-blooded, F. F. V. aristocrats, and that so long as he remained in the Democratic party he was rich and prosperous in business, idolized for his war record, and his family the pets of the highest society, but that after he became a Republican he and his family were socially ostracised, and his business discriminated against until he was gradually driven to bankruptcy. About the only true thing in the whole article is what is said of his war record. The people of Southampton county, Virginia, where Gen. Mahone was born, and where he has relatives now living, would smile at his being called an aristocrat, and old citizens of Petersburg where he has lived since the war would do likewise upon being told that the Mahones ever were social pets. Mahone was plebian born. He was a civil engineer and helped to build the Norfolk and Petersburg railroad, which was a part of the A. M. & O. system, of which he became president after the war, at a salary of \$25,000 a year. He came out of the war poor, as he entered it, but his war record made him a railroad president, and the boss of the Democratic party of Virginia, which position he maintained until forbearance ceased to be a virtue. About the time his control of the Democratic party was broken he also lost his railroad job. Then came his organization of the Readjuster party, his flop to the Republicans and his term in the Senate. He was credited with being a rich man and was a lavish liver and a daring speculator, but since he left the Senate he has been known simply as a lobbyist. His bankruptcy was the result of bad investments some of which were shared by Democrats, instead of their driving him to bankruptcy. In Petersburg the social status of the Mahones is as good as it ever was. Gen. Mahone was a great soldier and a brainy man, but when that much is said it is best to stop.

BENSCOTER-BOYNTON.

Two Well Known Knoxville People Wed at Washington.

A special from Washington, D. C., published in the Knoxville Tribune of the 9th says: "At the residence of the bride's uncle, Col. J. B. Brownlow, No. 1411 Corcoran street, at high noon on the 8th, Miss Lucile Boynton and Mr. Clarence A. Benseoter, both of Knoxville, Tenn., were united in marriage. Rev. Dr. Perry, of St. Andrew's Episcopal church, officiated.

Immediately after the ceremony the couple left for a honeymoon jaunt which will include a visit to Niagara Falls and Boston, returning to Lookout Mountain, Chattanooga, where they spend the remainder of the month.

The groom is the popular assistant general passenger agent of the Southern Railway, with headquarters at Knoxville. He stands very highly among all the railroad men and is considered everywhere as a man of fine business qualifications. He was at one time assistant general passenger agent of the old E. T. V. & G. road and was later made division passenger agent of the East Tennessee division of the Southern.

The bride, who is a grand-daughter of Tennessee's famous war governor, Wm. G. Brownlow, is one of Knoxville's fairest daughters.

Soon after the wedding was over congratulations poured in by wire on the happy couple, among the messages being one from the employees of Mr. Benseoter's office at Knoxville.

Miss Edmee Boynton, sister of the bride, and Mr. Hunter D. Bell, both of Knoxville, attended the wedding.

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