

**GATHMANN'S SHELL.**

Prevents Explosion of Wet Gun Cotton Fired from a Cannon.

Severe Test at Sandy Hook Proves a Perfect Success—Barbed Cannon with Shell Inside is Exploded.

The work of excavating for the fragments of the Gathmann shell, the fuse of which was subjected to the severest government test at the Sandy Hook proving grounds, has been completed. It consisted in finding embedded in the sand the muzzle end of the Rodman gun, the blowing up of which with the shell inserted, after being buried 20 feet below the surface, was a part of the test; the twisted and battered remains of various portions of the shell, and about 20 pounds of the 82 pounds of wet gun cotton, with which the shell had been loaded. It has been asserted by the inventor that with his patented detonating contrivance, or fuse, at the base of the shell, the heaviest gunpowder shock that could be applied would fail to explode the wet gun cotton in the shell. In making this test the 16-foot gun was buried 13 feet below the surface, and back of the shell had been placed 100 pounds of smokeless powder. The muzzle of the gun had been tamped with sand. Immediately after the explosion pieces of the base of the gun were found on the surface and small fragments of the wet gun cotton were discovered. Excavations were begun at once to discover what had been the complete result of the test.

Several days were required for the work, which was under the direction of Maj. Heath and Lieut. Montgomery of the army. When the work was finished it was found that the breech of the gun for a distance of eight feet had been blown entirely away, but the muzzle end for the remaining eight feet of the gun's length had only been broken into large pieces, all of which were found within a radius of eight feet.

Where the muzzle of the gun had been, was found the lower half of the barrel, three feet long, which had not been moved by the explosion. Three feet away was a piece of the upper half of the barrel, three feet long. Three feet back of where the muzzle had been were found pieces of the shell, crushed and battered, while lying about were pieces of wet gun cotton about the size of walnuts; further back, toward where the powder charge had been, was found nearly half the aluminum bronze base of the shell, which was about two inches thick. The outside portion was partially melted where it had been exposed to the terrific heat of the powder charge for an instant, while the inside was perfectly bright, showing that the gun cotton had not exploded.

Louis Gathmann, the inventor, expressed himself as entirely satisfied with the test. The report of the army officers is availed with interest by military and naval men, as the demonstration that his explosive may be thrown safely with a gunpowder charge is likely to revolutionize ordnance methods.

**NEW SOCIAL RULE.**

Causes Not a Little Perplexity in Society Circles in Washington.

Not a little perplexity is being caused in social circles in Washington by the custom inaugurated by a certain set of introducing people. It is claimed by the originators of this custom that people in society ought to be acquainted, and therefore an introduction is an implication that the parties to it do not belong to the leading circles. The hostesses who have adopted this custom, however, brought no end of trouble upon themselves.

Recently a newly rich woman was endeavoring to entertain seven women in her drawing-room. Not one of the seven happened to know any of the others. The call was anything but satisfactory, and now these seven women all pass the newly rich woman by on the street without so much as a nod. Yet she is confident her theory is right, although it may not be applicable to the various social fabric of Washington, when people appear and disappear with startling rapidity.

**A MUNICIPAL COW.**

New Jersey Town That Has Aroused the Ire and Alarm of the Milkmen.

The first city in New Jersey to make an experiment in municipal ownership is Plainfield, and already the trial has proved so successful that opposition to it has developed. The city has bought a cow, the milk from which it supplies to the inmates of the city industrial home. The opposition comes from the milkmen. It has been found that the municipal cow yields enough lactical fluid every day for the use of the inmates of the institution and leaves plenty for cheese. The milkmen have held an indignation meeting, at which numerous arguments against the town cow were advanced. They fear that the city may buy another cow and go into the butter business and eventually get a herd of cows and supply the citizens with milk and butter at ruinous prices.

**Fruit Trees in Kansas.** Kansas has 7,500,000 apple trees in bearing, 4,000,000 peach trees, 1,200,000 cherry trees, and 630,000 plum trees. Kansas has 15 fruit trees for each of its inhabitants.

**To Write the Life of Pope.** F. Marion Crawford has been commissioned to write a life of Pope Leo XIII.

**Proof of the pudding lies in the eating of it.** Proof of ROBERT'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC lies in the taking of it. COST NOTHING if it fails to cure. 25 cents per bottle if it cures. Sold strictly on its merits by E. T. Whitehead & Co., Druggists.

Be calm in arguing, for fierceness makes error a fault and truth discourtesy.—Herbert.

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**WAR CASUALTIES.**

Views of Army Surgeons on the Effect of the Small Caliber Bullet—Rarely Fatal.

Army surgeons who have been discussing the effect of the small caliber bullet in war say their conclusions disturb many theories. They have found that "open order" formation and heavy attachments are the chief factors in preventing casualties. The anticipated "explosive effect" of the modern bullet is found to be extremely rare in modern warfare, even when wounds are incurred at ranges theoretically favorable for maximum destructive action. Wounds by the small caliber bullet are accompanied by but slight shock to the individual. The ratio of killed to wounded depends entirely on the question as to whether a vital point is or is not struck.

The small frontage of the modern bullet causes wounds of soft tissue, which are almost subcutaneous in their nature and heal rapidly and kindly. Perforating wounds of the brain, lung or abdominal viscera, if not immediately fatal, are recovered from without operation in a large number of instances. Modern bullets of hard exterior and small caliber, as compared with the old lead bullet, are more humane, rarely permanently crippling such as may be struck and are not killed outright. Finally, it is said that antiseptic treatment even more than the modern humane missile has alleviated the horrors of modern wars.

**ODD ACCIDENT TO A LAWYER.**

Match Safe in His Pocket Explodes, Resulting in Very Painful Burns.

Z. T. Clark, an Omaha lawyer, was practically blown up the other day by the explosion of the contents of a safety match safe, which he carried in his vest pocket.

He was just turning from the crowded street into his office at the Exchange building when a loud explosion was heard and a sheet of flame darted from his vest pocket and extended several feet into the air. The lawyer was knocked down or fell from sheer fright and the people surrounding him hastily scattered to a safe distance. Mr. Clark was badly burned about the hands and face, but is not internally injured.

The extraordinary accident is attributed to friction igniting the chocolate of potato tablets in the safety match case.

The lawyer said he was attracted to the match case several days ago because of the word "safety" on it, and he had carried it with a feeling of great security. He thought at first that he had been blown up by an infernal machine. His vest was burned away as it ignited from the flame produced by the explosion.

**OBJECT TO WOODEN DOCKS.**

Strong Protest Received by Secretary Long Regarding Work Authorized by Congress.

Secretary Long has received strong protests of late against the building of wooden docks at the League island and Mare Island navy yards, and the projected plans for the docks may be so arranged as to permit congress to consider the advisability of substituting stone for wood. The naval authorities are strongly in favor of stone docks, saying that the time has gone by for wooden structures. But after a sharp controversy in congress a compromise was arranged by which two new docks are to be built of stone—those at Boston and Portsmouth—and two of wood—those at League island and Mare Island. Now the localities getting wooden docks are exerting strong influence to have stone substituted, the influence being expressed by letters and visits of delegations. The naval authorities hold that they must follow the law, yet in doing so it may be possible not to begin the timber work until congress has another opportunity to consider the question, the excavations being made in the meantime.

**WANTS TO FIX HER HAT.**

Milwaukee Woman Lawyer's Odd Complaint Against Uncle Sam.

Miss Kate Pier called on Postmaster Stillman, of Milwaukee, the other morning and complained that the architects of the new federal building made a serious mistake when they omitted locking glasses in the elevators, and that it is very unpleasant for the women lawyers to go into court without knowing whether or not their hats are on straight. She wants mirrors placed in the elevators at once. Mr. Stillman promised to do what he could to have Miss Pier's wish gratified, and will immediately communicate with the authorities at Washington. There are several typewriter operators in the federal building who will no doubt join Miss Pier in her complaint, if necessary.

**Demand for Young Men.**

Have you observed the steadily growing demand for young men in all the occupations of life? It is now reaching out from the pulpit. The cry of congregations is for young men with modern ideas; the young doctors, the young editors, and the young business men are all coming to the front, while the "old ducks" are being slowly, it may be, yet surely, crowded into the background. The Glasgow Echo asks: What is to become of the old men, anyhow? Few of them have fortune enough on which to live the remainder of their days; and they are getting so far along in life that those who are seeking aid do not choose them because of their years.

**Oneholders of the Future.**

We have enough military heroes now to make presidents for the next generation.

**Are You Weak?**

Weakness manifests itself in the loss of ambition and aching bones. The blood is thin, the tissues are wasting—the door is being opened for disease. A bottle of Brown's Iron Bitters taken in time will restore your strength, soothe your nerves, make your blood rich and red. Do you more good than an expensive special course of medicine. Brown's Iron Bitters in solid bottles.

We must be doing something to be happy. Action is no less necessary to us than thought.—Hazlitt.

**LOST.** Many golden opportunities who suffer from rheumatism. By taking Rheumacide now they will be permanently and positively cured.

**EVENS UP THE SCORE.**

Mrs. Potter Palmer's Sharp Retort to the Infanta Eulalie.

Refuses to Attend a Reception in Honor of the Spanish Lady—New Princess Eulalie Offended Her.

"I'm glad to see that Mrs. Potter Palmer has had a chance at last to get even with that insufferable Infanta Eulalie," said a Chicago woman, who is in the front rank of the local "Four Hundred." "I'm not one of the many Chicago women who bow in adoration to Mrs. Palmer, but I have detested that Spanish woman ever since I set eyes on her at the world's fair. I remember very well the night Eulalie got off her famous 'dictum' on Mrs. Palmer, and such supreme rudeness is only possible to royalty. It was at a reception at Mrs. Palmer's house and Eulalie was one of the guests of honor. The Spanish woman was willing enough to accept Mrs. Palmer's invitation, but when it came time for her to be presented to her hostess she stuck up her nose in the air and said: 'I prefer not to meet this innkeeper's wife.'"

"Mrs. Palmer gets even very neatly. Her social position has been bettered exceedingly since the beginning of the world's fair; in fact, this engagement she has arranged between Prince Michael Cantacuzene of Russia and her niece, Miss Julia Dent Grant, the beautiful granddaughter of Gen. Grant, has put her in a notch pretty near the top. Well, when Sebastian Schlegler, of Boston, and his daughter, Baroness de Reibnitz, gave a reception in Paris in honor of Eulalie, Mrs. Palmer was invited. She promptly declined, and by way of explanation remarked: 'I cannot meet this bibulous representative of a degenerate monarchy.' This was as much as to say: 'America has conquered Spain and, besides, it is better to be an American innkeeper's wife than a Spaniard who too freely patronizes the innkeeper's goods.'"

**DEATH CAUSED BY POTATOES.**

Two South Dakota Boys Die After Eating Tubers That Had Been Frozen.

The first deaths in South Dakota from eating potatoes which had been frozen and afterwards thawed are reported from the ceded portion of the Yankton Indian reservation. Two sons, one aged 14 and the other 10, of J. D. Castel, a settler, were taken sick and died before a doctor could be summoned.

They were taken with violent pains in the stomach and bowels, and when dying exhibited all the symptoms of apoplexy. The physician pronounced it a case of poisoning of zymotic origin, probably from stagnant water. Investigation, however, proved that just previous to the sudden deaths a cave opening out of the kitchen had been cleaned out. In this cave a large quantity of potatoes had been stored, which by repeated freezing and thawing had become decomposed.

The children were fond of raw potatoes, and in looking over the pile found some apparently sound, which they ate, thus partaking of the zymotic poison, which acted as a poisonous yeast in their systems and resulted in their speedy death.

**TO BE ENLARGED.**

Soldiers' Home at Washington Will Undergo Alterations That Are Necessary to Be Made.

Necessary plans are being made for enlarging the soldiers' home in Washington, the enlargement being made imperative by the great number of regulars who were incapacitated during the recent war with Spain. The home is supported by contributions from the army itself, a small sum being deducted each month from the pay of every man in the regular army.

Since the close of the campaign in Cuba and Porto Rico it has been found the present buildings are entirely too small to accommodate all who apply, and this is especially true of the hospital. The governors of the home have decided to increase the hospital facilities 50 per cent, and two large wings are to be added to the main buildings. Contracts to carry out this work are now being let, and the hospital will be supplied with all appliances for modern surgery. Numerous applications for admissions to the home will necessarily follow the closing of the campaign in the Philippines.

**Pay of Foreign College Professors.**

College professors in the United States are poorly paid, as compared with the more liberal procedure at foreign universities. The same grade of professor who receives from \$2,500 to \$4,000 (nearly the maximum) in this country, is paid from \$4,000 to \$6,000 in England. Several chairs in both Edinburgh and Glasgow draw from \$8,000 to \$12,000, and in Aberdeen a number of chairs, both scientific and medical, run about \$5,000. The leading chairs in the University of Berlin are worth from \$10,000 to \$15,000 a year, chiefly from a share in students' fees.

**Newspapers in the British Museum.**

The late Mr. McLean's bequest of £50,000 to the British museum will enable the authorities to provide adequate room for the files of newspapers, of which there are about 85,000 volumes already in the museum, while the yearly accessions amount to something like 1,800 volumes.

**Sugar in Man's Blood.**

A male adult has half an ounce of sugar in his blood.

You assume no risk when you buy Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. E. T. Whitehead & Co. will refund your money if you are not satisfied after using it. It is everywhere admitted to be the most successful remedy in use for bowel complaints and the only one that never fails. It is pleasant, safe and reliable.

The absent are never without fault nor the present without excuse.—Franklin.

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**SHEEP ON THE FARM.**

They Will Get the Owner Out of Debt and Enable Him to Save Something for Old Age.

The value of sheep to the farmer is a matter upon which there exists some divergence of opinion, but it is a fact beyond question that where soil and situation are suitable, few if any sections of the farmer's business lead to more satisfactory results. A Canadian farmer writing on this subject has apparently great faith in sheep, and says: "A flock of good sheep of the right sort well managed, will get the farmer out of debt, keep him out of debt, lay him up something for old age and leave the farm fertile, clean and productive for those who come after." This reminds me of one great benefit of keeping a ewe flock on an arable farm, for after the crops have been gathered by running over the stubble they will eat up no end of the seed pods of weeds, etc., and will at the same time consume and make into valuable manure a very large quantity of remnants of the grain crop and annual weeds that would otherwise be left unconsumed or utilized in any way except being turned in by the plow. Good sheep of the right sort are to be found in every breed, though one must study the land on which they are to be kept, but the best should be aimed at whatever the breed.

Profitable sheep-keeping can only be assured when first-class sheep are kept; these cost less to keep, thrive better and their aptitude to rapid development and power to assimilate and apply the food they consume in a profitable way are certain to give a larger profit for the food consumed than sheep that are of an inferior type. Of course we do not mean to say that only pure-bred varieties should be kept, for there is probably not a more profitable sheep for the ordinary grazer than that of the first cross between two pure breeds. Tests innumerable and show-yard results have shown that this is the case. Indiscriminate selection, however, will breed out the parents should be well bred and of a good thriving type.—Prairie Farmer.

**CELLARS UNDER BARN.**

They Are Very Useful and Should Be Far More Popular Than They Are at Present.

New England is the home of the barn cellar. The farmers of this region have found them so advantageous that their use ought to be much more widely extended. Contrary to the opinion of many, the land need not slope greatly in order to make a farm cellar possible. It is an advantage to have more of the cellar walls above the surface of the ground than it was formerly regarded as expedient. This gives a chance for larger cellar windows, giving more light and better ventilation. The diagrams accompanying this show how a cellar can easily be made on even very gently sloping ground. Fig. 1 shows the slope. Fig. 2 shows how the cellar is constructed, the earth excavated in the section marked "A" being placed in front of the barn (not in the rear, as is usually the case) in the section marked "B."

This gives a gradual rise to the back doors in the front of the barn, and at the same time allows plenty of room for the cellar below the barn.—N. Y. Tribune.

**Alfalfa and Corn for Hogs.**

Farmers of the corn belt can get a good pointer on pig feeding from the alfalfa belt. I have seen a pig that was fattened September 20, 1898, and raised on a ration two-thirds of which was alfalfa hay, which is as large as any pig I can find in the corn belt fattened in June, July or August. The pupils of King Corn and Queen Alfalfa are announced to take place on my farm at an early date. The fourth cutting of alfalfa is the best hay for hogs in winter. This cutting is done late in the fall and is raked immediately and shocked, thus curing without very much sun. The leaves and all are saved in a succulent condition, thus making a feed that is relished by the pigs.—Homestead.

**Charcoal for Hogs.**

Unquestionably charcoal is a valuable hygienic agent for pigs. It is a corrective and certainly prevents some diseases arising from disordered digestive functions. Wood ashes act similarly, or at least minister to similar wants. Both charcoal and ashes are freely used by our best swine growers. There is no need of big quantities. The best way is to keep both substances within reach of the pigs and allow them to consult their own tastes and needs. If you use commercial charcoal throw half a sack at a time in a clean, dry corner and replace when used up. All the wood ashes from the house fire can be used in the same way.—Prairie Farmer.

**Cattle Eat Russian Thistles.**

A Nebraska correspondent of the National Stockman, whose stock has been wintered largely on Russian thistle, thinks that it isn't a bad kind of a weed, after all. And many in the west are coming to the same opinion. The Russian thistle is proving a blessing instead of a curse to the drought-stricken or desert lands. Moreover, it is not "taking the country" in any section, as was predicted a few years ago. The various laws enacted against it are practically dead now, because there is no need to enforce them.

**Don't wait until the honey flow is on you before ordering surplus supplies.**

The great success of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy in the treatment of bowel complaints has made it standard over the greater part of the civilized world. For sale by E. T. Whitehead.

The art of being able to make a good use of moderate abilities wins esteem and often confers more reputation than greater real merit.—Rochefoucauld.

**AGREABLE ADVICE IS SELDOM USEFUL ADVICE.—Missillon.**

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**PISO'S CURE FOR COLIC.** Best Cough Syrup. Use in time. Sold by druggists.

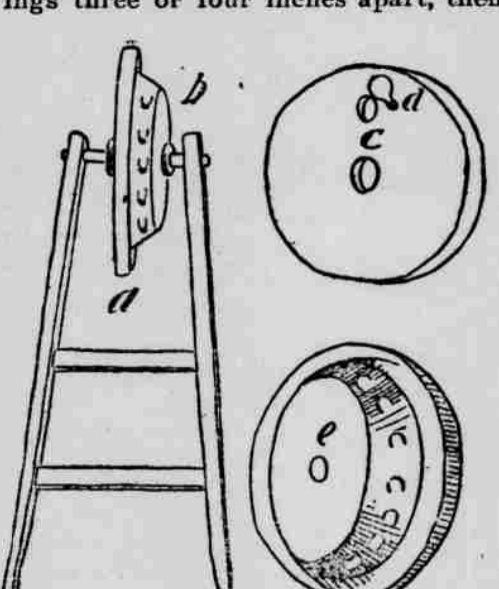
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**FARM & GARDEN.**

NOVEL CORN PLANTER.

This Machine is Described as a Great Labor Saver in Planting a Silo Crop.

Make a frame (a) like a wheelbarrow frame three inches larger than the pan used. Take a tin pan and put on the axle of the wheelbarrow against the wheel (b). The hole in the bottom of the pan must be in the center and must fit the axle. Cut into the flaring side of the pan inch openings, the shape of the end of your thumb, only do not remove the piece of tin. Leave one side hanging so that you can spring this tin open or push it shut, to regulate the dropping of the corn. Make these openings three or four inches apart, then



THE PLANTER IN DETAIL.

open and shut them according as you wish the corn dropped. By wheeling this harrow along in your marked field it can be easily adjusted to drop the corn just as you wish it.

For filling the pan, bore a two-inch hole (c) in the board wheel and have a cork, or, better, have a swing slide (d), held on by a screw, as seen in illustration.

The corn may be covered with a harrow across the rows, but it is better to use a Planet Junior cultivator having the roller attachment and follow the rows. Take the two oblong teeth and turn them to throw the dirt inward, and the roller coming along behind flattens the earth down upon the corn.

A mistake is sometimes made in allowing the machine to drop too much corn. To avoid this, count the number of kernels dropped the first three or four feet when beginning a new field. This machine is a great labor saver in planting for silo or other use, and is a good working machine.—Orange Judd Farmer.

**IMPORTANT CANAL.**

Its Completion Will Prove of Considerable Benefit to the Wheat Growers of Our Country.

Canada has begun the construction of a canal which is likely to have an important effect on American commerce and the interests of American wheat growers. The canal is to be a short waterway from the St. Lawrence to the upper lakes, avoiding lakes Erie and Ontario. The canal already built between Montreal and Ottawa is to be extended along the line of the Ottawa river to Lake Nipissing. Thence the route will follow French river to Georgian bay and Lake Huron.

When this canal, which is to be twice the depth of the Erie canal, is built, grain laden barges and steamers will be able to pass directly from Duluth, Port Arthur and other points on the upper lakes to tide-water. Later it is intended to deepen the canal so as to allow the passage of ocean steamers. When this is done, steamers may be loaded with grain at Duluth and proceed to Liverpool without breaking bulk.

From Chicago to Liverpool by the new route will be 700 miles shorter than by way of the Erie canal. The saving in time will be even more than this comparison of distances indicates; for the artificial waterway by the Ottawa route will be only 30 miles as compared with 260 miles by the Erie canal. When allowance is made for the delay in transshipment, it is probable that grain will reach Liverpool from Chicago by the new route a week sooner than by the Erie canal. The new waterway will somewhat disturb American commerce. On the other hand, it will be of great value to American farmers in the increasing competition with other wheat growing countries.—Youth's Companion.

**Timothy Grass and Clover.**

Timothy and clover have been seeded on the same land, as a rule, ever since they became known, but they do not mature at the same time, is a mistake to grow them together if some other grass can be substituted for the timothy to sow with the clover. Orchard grass blossoms at the same time as clover, and, as it is a grass that seldom fails, grows rapidly and is relished by stock, it should receive more consideration than is given it. It grows in tussocks, but that should be no objection, as it yields well and is adapted to nearly all soils.

**When Clover Grows Slowly.**

Should clover make slow growth it is usually an indication that the soil lacks potash or lime. An application of a ton of unleached wood ashes per acre will be found serviceable, as ashes contain both lime and potash. In procuring ashes, however, care must be exercised, as they vary in potash according to the wood from which they are produced, and there are many inferior grades on the market, the leached ashes being used to adulterate the unleached.

Women as well as men are made miserable by kidney and bladder trouble. Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy, promptly cures. At druggists' in fifty-cent and dollar sizes. You may have a sample bottle by mail free, also pamphlet telling all about it. Address, Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

Agreeable advice is seldom useful advice.—Missillon.

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**Know a Thing When You See It.** The Value, Superiority, Variety and Range of our work guarantee Pleasure & Profit to those who buy from us. **For Every Dollar Spent With us You Get Four Dollars' Worth.** Repairs of all kinds as well as first-class manufacture. **Bicycles Repaired on the Shortest Notice.** Try us once and you will come again. **The Carolina Buggy Company.** SCOTLAND NECK, N. C.

**White & Paul,** SCOTLAND NECK, N. C. HAVE RECEIVED FULL LINE OF **Spring & Summer Goods.** DRESS GOODS, Clothing, Dry Goods, Notions, Boots, Shoes, Hats, and a Fine Line of Neck-wear. Mar 7 1900. **The Scotland Neck Bank,** SCOTLAND NECK, N. C. SOLICITS THE ACCOUNTS OF BOTH INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESS FIRMS.