THE COMMONWEALTH.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor. "EXCELSIOR" IS OUR MOTTO. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE $1.00.

VOL. XVIII. New Series---Vol. 5. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1902. NO. 44

COLD STORAGE X-RAYS.

Refrigeration Is Necessary in a Climate Like That of New Orleans.

X-ray apparatuses, not a few of which have been installed in New Orleans, are a little cranky about climatic conditions, in this section, and during the hot season the owners of some of the finer and more highly tensioned machines have been forced to use a considerable quantity of ice in order to keep these wonderful machines from sweating themselves to death, says the Times-Democrat.

The main trouble, meteorologically, is with the humidity.

The instruments are in the habit of becoming too moist, little watery bulbs accumulating at points where they interfere with the delicate mechanism of the apparatus. Drying processes have been resorted to in order to protect the instruments Chloride of calcium has been used extensively, but in some instances it has been found unsatisfactory.

Ice has been found to be much better. By refrigerating processes the temperature is equalized and the apparatuses are kept in a normal state. The use of ice protects the powerful X-ray producers from becoming too moist and has solved a problem which perplexed local operators no little when they found that chloride of calcium did not answer the purpose. The ice is put into the cabinet with discretion and in proper quantities, and the results in every instance have proved satisfactory.

The mechanism of an X-ray apparatus is incased in an almost air-tight cabinet. This is needful in the generation of electricity, and just so much as is needed and no more is allowed to flow into the casement where the mechanism is stored. What may be called breathing points are established at convenient places, but only a small quantity of air is allowed to pour through these tiny and half-closed openings. Small as these openings are they are sufficiently large to allow somewhat of the air's dampness to flow in with it, and hence the need of resorting to drying processes.

Local operators have overcome this disadvantage, and they have no more to fear now than X-ray machine owners in other sections of the country

CIRCUS PEOPLE LIVE WELL.

The Food Provided for Them Is of the Best, and They Travel in Style and Comfort.

"How does a circus man or woman live while on the road?" said a circus man, according to the Kansas City Journal. "Why, they live better than ever before. We carry almost 1,000 people, and I doubt if you can find one of that number who is discontented with his or her lot. Several years ago it was customary with the majority of circuses to provide inferior cars for their business staff and performers and compel the laborers to sleep under the big red wagons on the flat cars The passage of time has changed the order of things. Circus folk now travel as well, if not better, than the majority of men and women who are continually moving from one portion of the United States to the other in search of pleasure.

"Our business staff and performers live in spacious Pullman cars. The beds are soft and roomy, and the bedclothing is always fresh and clean. The circus has 12 Pullmans of this kind, and on each one is a porter, whose duty it is to polish the shoes of all the occupants each night, look after the laundry and make the beds and sweep and dust the cars. These cars are vestibuled and at the head of the train is an extra long dining car, where the majority of the people are fed. This diner is looked after by a competent steward, with a staff of good cooks and waiters, and breakfast and dinner are served there each day. The performers take their luncheon on the circus grounds immediately after parade.

"The laborers, including the drivers, canvasmen, hostlers, property handlers and animal men, are served with three meals on the grounds. The food provided is of the best, and there is always plenty of it. Every laborer has a bed The drivers and hostlers have swinging bunks in the cars directly above their horses; the animal men are accommodated in cozy little state rooms fitted up in the big elephant cars, while the property handlers and canvasmen sleep in coaches that greatly resemble tourist cars. Every one has good quarters and splendid food, and in consequence, it is seldom that a complaint is heard."

KEEPS BAD SETTLERS OUT.

The Laws of Australia Restraining Immigration Are Very Stringent.

The commonwealth of Australia has gone considerably farther than any other country in her restriction of immigration. The "Immigration Restriction Act," which went into effect toward the end of last year, was passed at the behest of the labor party and was aimed principally at "yellow labor," meaning Kanakas, Chinese and East Indians. In reality, however, it can keep out of Australia anybody, white or black, should it be so desired. The principal clause in the act provides that no person shall be allowed to land in Australia who, "when asked to do so by an officer (the word officer being defined as an officer especially appointed, or any custom officer), fails to write out at dictation and sign in the presence of the officer a passage of 50 words in length in a European language directed by the officer."

There are additional clauses providing for the rejection of undesirables, but the first is widely embracing enough for all purposes. The broad character of this clause was purposely designed so that any class of laborers, even Englishmen, might be kept out of the country if it seemed likely that they would work for less than the native. Some of the important industries, especially sugar-growing, have already been materially affected and great discontent has resulted. This is only one of several differences between the various states, which have not yet been able to get the national standpoint and look for the greater good of the whole country rather than that of one section.

BRUIN LIKES THE CAMERA.

A Colorado Bear That Pauses and Poses Whenever He Sees One Leveled at Him.

Bears have exhibited many strange characteristics, many of which have been described by persons who are intimate with bruin in his native lair, but State Game Warden Harris, through Deputy Warden James Bush, has found a bear in Routt county that is vain of his appearance. He is a silver tip, too, but he is quite time, and never strays from the property of Elliott Hawarden, the strange hermit who refuses to allow anyone to harm any of the wild animals that live on the two sections he owns, relates the Denver Post.

This particular bear has had his picture taken so often, says Warden Bush, that he knows just what is required of him, and tourists who stop at the Hawarden ranch have only to find Old Graybull to get a first-class bear picture. The old fellow stops short and poses whenever he sees a camera poised at him.

No one knows just how old this bear is, but Warden Bush declares he is at least old enough to vote. By associating with some dogs a few years ago he caught the mange. Hawarden during that same season was obliged to feed him to keep him from starving to death, and at length he became so tame he would come right up to the cabin door. While bruin was eating the old man sprinkled him with fluid which is a cure for mange and the bear has ever since been most grateful for his care.

VERY CLEVER SWINDLE.

How a Frenchman Outwitted the Customs Officers of Paris with His Vegetable Cart.

For some years a little wagon has come into Paris daily from one of the suburbs and in accordance with the regulations it has been examined at regular intervals by custom house officers, says the New York Herald.

Their task, however, was easy, for they never found in it anything but fruit and vegetables, which are free of duty, and so they naturally regarded the driver as an honest countryman, who was taking to market the produce from his little farm.

The other day through a mere accident, they found out their mistake. A brewer's wagon came in collision with the little cart, and as its heavy shaft shattered one of the sides, a stream of rich oil gushed out on the sidewalk. As there is a heavy duty on oil the custom house officers arrested the innocent looking countryman and discovered, to their amazement, that there was a false bottom in the cart, and that concealed from view was a tank capable of holding several quarts of oil.

Subsequent investigation showed that oil had been brought for a long time in this surreptitious manner to a dealer in Paris, and the authorities are now carefully examining every little wagon that enters the city, in order to find out whether it also has a double bottom or not.

Went Abroad for Success.

An American woman inventor, who could get nothing for her divice in New York or Chicago, has scored abroad. The French government and the Paris Gas company have bought the right to use a patent gas meter, the invention of Miss Jane Hyatt, an American, who invented but could not get it adopted in this country. She has received $40,000, and is to have a royalty for a term of years.

WHY PYRAMIDS WERE BUILT.

Ostensibly for Use of Astronomers, But in Reality to Advertise Fame of Pharaohs.

The interest of the Delhi and Benares observatories lies for us in the fact that they recall a time far in the past when astronomers sought for exactness by the erection of huge structures of stone. Of these the great pyramid is by far the greatest and most perfect example. Britain has its own monument — Stonehenge — which has been claimed as, if not indeed an astronomical observatory, at least an astronomical temple, and many attempts have been made to determine the date at which it was erected. The difficulty, not to say the impossibility, of solving this problem in the present state of the monument may be inferred from the fact that the dates which different careful observers have deduced for its erection extend over a period of more than 2,000 years, says a writer in Knowledge.

The real work of astronomy was never done in edifices like these. Nor, indeed, does it require much knowledge of human nature, essentially the same 5,000 years ago as to-day, to see that the true secret of the pyramid, the amply sufficient cause for its building, was the vanity of the ruling Pharaoh. Alike at Delhi, at Ghizeh, and on Salisbury Plain, as by the Euphrates, to "make a name" was the exciting motive. Astronomers may have been employed to superintend the work, astronomy, or the cult of the celestial bodies, may have been the excuse, but the real object was advertisement.

WHY AMERICANS STAY ABROAD

Not So Much for Sight-Seeing and Historical Interest as for Economical Living.

What charm, one asks one's self in wonder, makes people remain for long years wandering firesideless from Cairo to Cornhill? It cannot be the climate, for our own is quite as good. Historical associations, we are assured, compensate many of those people for the absence of kith and kin. Experience, however, has taught me that the majority of them are as splendidly indifferent to history—and art, too, for the matter of that, unless as it is applied to the decoration of the human form—as they are to the Rosetta stone, writes Eliot Gregory, on "Rolling Stones," in Century.

The families that one finds residing in Italy, for instance, long since abandoned such foolishness as sight-seeing. That useless fatigue is left to the newcomers; the habitues I have met no more dream of visiting the vatican galleries or of reading in the library of Lorenzo the Magnificent than they do of settling down seriously to study Italian.

One hears, especially in the less expensive little cities, some twaddle about culture; but you may take my word for it, in nine cases out of ten, the real attraction of the place lies in the fact that a victoria can be had for $80 a month and a good cook for one-tenth that sum.

NO FOREIGN REPAIRS.

Ships of the American Navy No More to Be Inspected at Will in Alien Ports.

The navy department has come to the conclusion that it is not a proper thing for foreign officers and others to have the privilege of examining our ships in all their details while those vessels are on foreign stations, says the Army and Navy Journal. At a foreign dockyard a ship is open to inspection and comment and all information desired can be readily obtained. The bureau of construction and repair has brought this matter to the attention of the secretary of the navy and has pointed out the inadvisability of the policy of permitting American men-of-war to be extensively repaired abroad. In the future, therefore, all repairs of any moment required by our vessels cruising abroad will be carried out in home dockyards where it is practicable.

The San Francisco has been sent to the Norfolk navy yard in furtherance of this new policy, and it is understood that our naval vessels as fast as they require overhauling will be promptly sent to a home station for the purpose. It is felt that the time has come when secrecy in detail may be of prime importance to our naval authorities.

Taxation in Colombia.

A story of the Colombian idea of taxation is told by Peter McQueen, the Boston traveler, after a visit to the seat of the South American revolution. "Some American friends of mine," he said, "were visited by the city officials of Colon. 'Senor,' said the leader of the delegatiou, 'we have come to collect $12 in gold from you, your share of the cost of collecting the garbage for this year.' 'But, my dear sir,' said the American, in surprise, 'you have not collected the garbage once during the whole year.' 'That's true,' said the collector, scratching his head; 'well, let's make it six dollars, then.'"

OVERDRAWN ACCOUNTS.

The Capital of Physical Strength Is Often Absorbed in Fruitless Effort.

You have a deposit of nervous energy placed to your account in the bank of your body. It may be large, in which happy case you are a millionaire in strength and accomplishing power. Or it may be so microscopic as to need careful husbanding and little expenditure to keep it from dwindling out altogether, says the New York Herald.

But many millionaires become paupers and some "dime savings" swell into millions. It depends upon the way the capital is managed. You may think you have so much that there is no need to be economical. You get up in the morning and feel the blood bounding through your veins like mountain cataracts, and you think you can turn the mill wheels of the world.

You work day and night, or you play day and night, which is sometimes more exhausting, and go at the limit of your speed all the time. You are overdrawing your bank account of energy, and that needlessly, for you probably have enough to last a long and useful lifetime. It pays to sit around and sharpen your tools, and it adds cent per cent. to your body bank deposit.

Another with not half your brains or bustle will get ahead of you in the end, for he makes every act, every thought, go straight to the mark. He wastes no effort. Everything he does means something; it helps toward some given end. You spend a great deal of ammunition on your quarry because you are over-anxious. He keeps cool, takes steady aim and wings his bird.

You get wrinkles and frost-tipped temples and become a bankrupt in vitality when you should be in your prime. You have overdrawn the best and most valuable bank account the Lord ever placed on the books of life—the ability "to love and to work and to play and to look up at the stars."

VOGUE FOR WHITE.

Cloth Costumes That Are Right In It with the Leaders in Fashionable Dress.

The leaders of fashions are insured one style at least this year which is not likely to be imitated by the common herd; that is the white cloth costume, reports the New York Post. Nothing is more ultra fashionable just now than white broadcloth or zibeline gowns, and among the most elegant cloaks are those of white cloth. Innocent of other decoration than stitching or elaborated with the costliest lace, embroidery or fur matters not, for either may be made equally chic. An example of the more elaborate style is shown in a carriage gown of white cloth. The lower half of the skirt is formed of an applique of the cloth in lace pattern upon a ground of white net underlaid with black chiffon. The bodice in blouse effect and the full lower sleeves are of the same net and applique, and there are sleeves caps and yoke of cloth. As rich in its way is an evening cloak in three-quarters length. A broad band of Irish lace insertion heads the hem at the bottom. From a yoke of white tucked taffeta falls a cape of cloth and lace. Fastening this cape to the back are two large green buttons, from which depend streamers of silk cord and taffeta. The effectiveness of the lace is increased by being underlaid with black chiffon and a touch of the chiffon shows beneath the full sleeves. A natty little short cloak of white cloth is made very full with collar shawl effect and all the edges scalloped. Hungarian embroidery is a smart decoration for gowns of white cloth. Two of these intended for house gowns were simply made with full sleeves gathered into deep embroidered cuffs and blouse with embroidered fronts. With one a bright red leather belt was worn and with the other one of white leather.

WOULDN'T SPEAK FIRST.

They Had Been Mad at Each Other and She Let the Bear "Chaw" Daniel.

"Yes," said the mountaineer's wife, with a sigh, according to the Detroit Free Press, "I dun lost my old man two y'ars ago, an' hev bin a widder woman ever since. Powerful tough to be a widder woman when thar's so much to be done."

"Did you lose your husband by sickness?" I asked.

"No, sah. No, Dan'l died befo' he had time to be sick. He was cut down like a flower, as they say."

"Meaning that he met his death by accident?"

"I don't reckon yo' could call it an accident, sah. He didn't shoot hisself, and no tree fell on him. We was sitting right yere on this doah-step when we saw a b'ar out thar' by the mewl-shed. Seein' a b'ar hain't an accident, I take it."

"No."

"Dan'l had lent his rifle that day, and so he gits up and starts fur that b'ar with his knife. Would yo' say that tacklin' a b'ar with a knife was an accident?"

"Hardly."

"Well, the b'ar was mad and ready to be tackled. Dan'l was a purty hefty man, but not hefty 'nuff fur that b'ar. When he found it out it was too late to git away. He fit and fit, but it was no use. When a man gits chawed up by a b'ar they don't call it an accident, do they?"

"Not always," I said, "but did you sit here and see it all?"

"Fur shore."

"And Dan'l was killed?"

"Right out thar', sah."

"But you got the ax or a club and tried to help him out, didn't you?"

"Not at all, sah—not at all."

"But it seems to me that a wife should go to her husband's rescue when she sees that his life is in danger."

"Yes sah, but yo' don't understand the case. Dan'l and me had bin mad at each other fur fo' days and neither wanted to speak fust. I allowed that when he wanted help he'd yell out, and he allowed that he'd see me up a tree befo' he'd be the fust to speak, and between me and Dan'l and the b'ar we made a widder woman of me and an angel of Dan'l!"

BRAIN FOOD NONSENSE.

Another ridiculous food fad has been branded by the most competent authorities. They have dispelled the silly notion that one kind of food is needed for brain, another for muscles, and still another for bones. A correct diet will not only nourish a particular part of the body, but it will sustain every other part. Yet, however good your food may be, its nutriment is destroyed by indigestion or dyspepsia

You must prepare for their appearance or prevent their coming by taking regular doses of Green's August Flower, the favorite medicine of the healthy millions. A few doses aids digestion, stimulates the liver to healthy action, purifies the blood, and makes you feel buoyant and vigorous. You can get this reliable remedy at E. T. Whitehead & Co's, Drug Store.
Get Green's Special Almanac.

Always lose your temper. You are far better without it.

BETRAYALS OF CHARACTER.

There Is Much of a Person's Temperament Revealed in the Walk and Carriage.

That one's chirography betrays more or less the idiosyncrasies of the writer is a generally accepted belief, but there are many other little things that show character even more unmistakably. Take a person's walk, for instance. It is apt to be very typical, says an exchange. The way Mrs. A—— plants down each foot as she walks along, with a decided little swish of her gown, does not only show decision, but it is indicative of temper as well. Miss B——, who walks rapidly and then slowly, and accelerates her gait only to moderate it a few minutes later, expresses variableness by her walk. One can see at a glance by Miss C——'s swinging, boyish stride that she is a bit mannish, and equally by the mincing step and bend of the body that Miss D—— is self-conscious and probably coquettish. The high-held head, stiff shoulders and unbending knee are never the accompaniments of a gentle, yielding nature, while the gliding, sinuous movement almost always indicates what in feminine parlance is called a "catty" disposition. Although the walk of a man might also be analyzed and found to express decided characteristics, women show their peculiarities in this way in a much more pronounced fashion, as their drapery is a part of them and has a way of accentuating their individuality.

OLDEST MAN IN RUSSIA.

A Serf, Who, at the Age of 127 Years, Retains Many of His Faculties Unimpaired.

The czar of Russia recently received in audience a man who, from personal knowledge, could tell the ruler about the times of Catherine the Great, the Napoleonic invasion and the war of the Crimea. His name is Sinip (when he was born Russian peasants had no family name). He is 127 years old, and his former owner, Prince Wolkowski, was able to furnish the following authentic data about him from his own archives: "Sinip was born 1775 as a serf, and drinks vodka and smokes as long as he can remember," reports a London paper. "Three pints are his limit, but he never was drunk in his life." As the czar was able to perceive himself, Sinip's eyesight and hearing are perfect to this day. Every Sunday he walks eight miles to church and never has required charity of any kind. He still earns his bread by knitting and sandal making; also tends to the horses and poultry. The old fellow's memory is most remarkable. He told Nicholas several facts regarding the Napoleonic invasion not contained in general history. Sinip's father died at 80; his mother at 120, working as a field hand up to a few days before her death, and Sinip himself never had a day of illness.