

Beauty of Mars

A Vision of Wonderful Color and Growing Grandeur Revealed Through the Telescope

By Percival Lowell

VIEWED under suitable conditions, few sights can compare for instant beauty and growing grandeur with Mars as presented by the telescope. Framed in the blue of space, there floats before the observer's gaze a seeming miniature of his own earth, yet changed by translation to the sky. Within its charmed circle of light he marks apparent continents and seas, now ramifying into one another, now stretching in unique expanse over wide tracts of disk, and capped at their poles by dazzling ovals of white. It recalls to him his first lessons in geography, where the earth was shown him set shorthly amid the stars, only with an added sense of reality in the apothosis. It is the thing itself, stamped with that all-pervading, indefinable hall mark of authenticity in which the cleverest reproduction somehow fails.

In color largely lies this awakening touch that imbues the picture with the sense of actuality. And very vivid are the tints, so salient and so unlike that their naming in words conveys scant idea of their concord to the eye. Rose ochre dominates the lighter regions, while a robin's-egg blue colors the darker; and both are set off and emphasized by the icy whiteness of the caps. Nor is either hue uniform; tone relieves tint to a further heightening of effect. In some parts of the light expanse the ochre prevails alone; in others the rose deepens to a brick red, suffusing the surface with the glow of a warm late afternoon. No less various is the blue, now sinking into deeps of shading, now lightening into faint washes that in places grade off insensibly into ochre itself, thus making regions of intermediate tint the precise borders of which are not decipherable by the eye.

Superimposed upon its general opaline complexion are now and then to be seen ephemeral effects. At certain times and in certain places warm chocolate brown has been known to supplant the blue. Often, too, cold white dots are scattered over the disk, dazzling diamond points that deck the planet's features to a richness beyond the power of pencil to portray. So minute are they that good seeing is needed to disclose them. It is at such moments that color best comes out. To those who know the sun only as golden and the moon as white, even in its color scheme Mars would stand forth a revelation.—The Century.

The New European Question

By Sydney E Crooks

THE object, then, of the present negotiations between the governments of Stockholm, Berlin, and St. Petersburg is to assure to Sweden a standing and a security equal to that which the treaty of last November bestowed upon Norway; and the means by which that object is to be attained is a declaration on the part of these three Powers that they intend to respect the status quo in the Baltic. So far as it goes, all this is quite satisfactory, but it does not go very far. Germany, Russia, and Sweden are by no means the only Powers with definite political and commercial interests in the Baltic.

Denmark, for example, is emphatically a Baltic Power. A glance at the map shows that the entrance to the Baltic is hers to open or close at will. Great Britain, again, has always made it a cardinal point of her policy to maintain the freedom of the Baltic. Less than three years ago the Channel Fleet was sent to Swinemunde as a warning to all whom it might concern that any attempt to declare the Baltic a closed sea would be regarded as an act hostile to British policy. France, too, is equally concerned in preserving the Baltic as a mare liberum. Moreover, in any comprehensive discussion of the Baltic question as a whole, the problem of the Aland Islands is bound to arise. They lie, it will be seen, off the southern coast of Finland and command the approaches to Stockholm. By the Treaty of Paris, to which Great Britain and France were signatories, Russia, to whom the Aland Islands belong, agreed neither to fortify them nor to use them as a naval or military base. Different opinions may be held as to whether, in the conditions of to-day, it would be better to reaffirm that agreement or to abrogate it or to modify it. But obviously the matter is one in which Great Britain and France have a claim to be heard that cannot be ignored or denied.—Harper's Weekly.

Communicating With the Dead

By Sir Oliver Lodge

COSS-CORRESPONDENCE—that is, the reception of part of a message through one medium and part through another—is good evidence of one intelligence dominating both automatists. And if the message is characteristic of some one particular deceased person, and is received through people to whom he was not intimately known, then it is a fair proof of the continued intellectual activity of that personality.

So long as communications consisted of general conversations with what purported to be the surviving intelligence of deceased friends and investigators, we were by no means convinced of their identity even though the talk was of a friendly and intimate character—such as in normal cases would be considered amply and overwhelmingly sufficient for the identification of friends speaking, let us say, through a telephone or a typewriter. We required definite and crucial proof—a proof difficult even to imagine, as well as difficult to supply.

The ostensible communicators realize the need of such proof just as fully as we do, and are doing their best to satisfy the rational demand. Some of us think they have already succeeded; others are still doubtful.

On the whole, I am of those who, though they would like to see further and still stronger and more continued proofs, are of opinion that a good case has been made out, and that as the best working hypothesis at the present time it is legitimate to grant that lucid moments of intercourse with deceased persons may in the best cases supervene, amid a maze of supplementary material, quite natural under the circumstances, but mostly of a presumably subliminal and less evident kind.—Harper's Magazine.

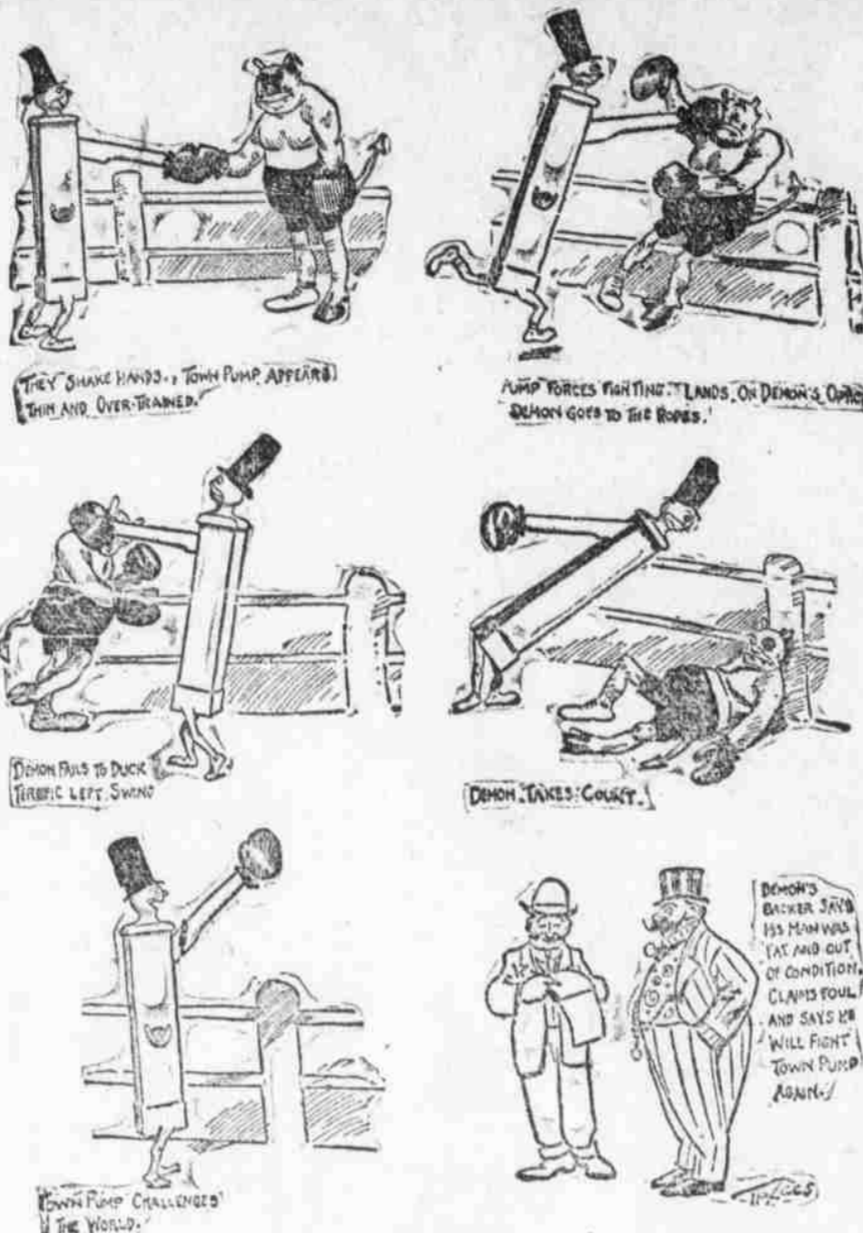
Odd Things About Fishes

By John N. Cobb

FISHES have been put to many queer uses while still alive; but probably the strangest was that suggested to the War Department by an inventor. The propulsion of submarine torpedoes was the subject under discussion, and he proposed that a shark be imprisoned in a tub at the rear end of the projectile, its movements to be controlled by the active application of electricity. In case the shark attempted to swim away, it was to be given an electric shock, and in this way kept on its course until the torpedo had reached its target.

Another remarkable use to which a fish has been put is as a barometer. The loach is very susceptible to atmospheric changes, and when retained in an aquarium is likely to throw itself out at the approach of or during any remarkable change of wind or weather, or, if in a pond of stream, will sometimes jump on the bank. It has been kept alive in aquaria as a living barometer from the supposition that certain movements indicate particular changes that are about to occur in the weather. In Russia the dead body of Cottus, the miller's thumb, is used as a weathercock. Hung by a single thread will point to the direction whence the wind blows.—Sunday Magazine.

THE FIRST FIGHT PICTURES.



—Cartoon by Triggs, in the New York Press.

Ringside photographs of the terrific go in Ohio, between "Town Pump," the Temperance Champ, and the celebrated "Demon Rum," showing how "Demon" was put to sleep.

PUBLICITY SAVES LIVES ON RAILROADS

Officials Find the Wrecks Are Less Frequent and Discipline Better.

Chicago.—Publicity is credited with having decreased accidents on the Harriman system of roads between twenty and fifty per cent, within the past three years. This result is indicated by a report made by Julius Kruttschnitt, director of maintenance and operation, to E. H. Harriman, of a novel plan which has been tried on that system of roads.

Besides decreasing accidents, publicity has served, it is said, to improve discipline and increase efficiency and also has protected the roads against newspaper misrepresentations and unfair hostility on the part of communities. When the plan of giving the fullest publicity to wrecks was first broached by Mr. Kruttschnitt, it was coldly received on all sides. Finally he succeeded in getting it tried on the Union Pacific, and now all the Harriman lines follow it.

The new method depends for its success largely upon speedily finding out the cause of the accident, placing the blame where it belongs, and letting the public know all the newspapers care to tell about it. This method is so different from the one usually employed by railroads that it caused a great deal of comment, but Mr. Kruttschnitt is a firm believer in the efficacy of public sentiment when based upon a right understanding of facts.

When an accident occurs on any of the Harriman roads the superintendent, master mechanic and engineer of the division go at once to the scene and organize a board of inquiry, composed of themselves and one or more leading citizens of the community. If this board fails to ascertain the cause of the accident, a second board is formed of the general superintendent, general superintendent of motive power, engineer of maintenance of way and one or more citizens of the community. Should this board in turn fail, a third board is formed with the general manager at its head. In only one instance has

the general manager thus been called upon to act.

The board of inquiry does its work quickly and not infrequently a newspaper representative is a member. The newspapers are furnished with a correct bulletin of the facts. This practice has greatly diminished the newspaper appetite for wreck data, unless the accident is in reality a big story.

The effect upon the discipline has been marked, for every man in the operating department knows that if he is derelict in his duty his home community will know of it, and he will be disgraced among his friends. Men can stand being hauled onto the "carpet" in the general manager's office, but they cannot stand the light of local publicity.

3317 VICTIMS OF NEW YORK RAILWAYS IN ONE MONTH

Report Shows There Were 250 Accidents in City in August.

New York City.—There were 5280 railway accidents in New York City in August, according to figures submitted to the Public Service Commission by its secretary. They resulted in the injury of 3317 persons. Of that number 2247 were passengers. 529 were railway employees and 531 were neither passengers nor employees. Forty-four persons were killed, fifteen received fractured skulls, four lost legs or arms, thirty-four had legs or arms broken and dangerous injuries were inflicted on 133 other persons. The total number of persons dangerously wounded was 235.

The report shows there were during the month 121 car collisions, 894 persons and vehicles struck by cars, 652 persons injured when boarding cars and 1233 when alighting from cars. Forty-one of the victims were hurt by getting in contact with electricity.

CENSUS OF STANDING TIMBER.

Estimates Say the Supply Will Last About Twenty-three Years Longer.

Washington, D. C.—The National Conservation Commission has caused the first comprehensive attempt at a census of the standing timber in the United States ever undertaken. The commission needs the information to help complete its inventory of the country's natural resources, which it will include in its report to the President, and since that report is to be submitted on January 1 next it needs the information at once. In consequence the work on the census has been started with a rush.

Estimates as to the amount of standing timber in the United States range all the way from \$22,682,000,000 to 2,000,000,000,000 board feet, a difference of more than a trillion feet in the views of the best qualified authorities in the country.

In the opinion of the forest service the most carefully prepared estimates yet made are those by Henry Gannett, published by the twelfth census in 1900, which placed the total stumpage at 1,330,000,000,000 board feet. Mr. Gannett was recently chosen by the President to compile all the information gathered for the commission. The census is expected

to give an accurate basis for computing how long our timber supply will last.

The consensus of opinion is that the present annual consumption of wood is about 100,000,000,000 board feet, or something more than that. One leading authority has placed it as high as 150,000,000,000 board feet. Assuming a stumpage of 1,400,000,000,000 feet, an annual use of 100,000,000,000 feet and neglecting growth in the calculation the exhaustion of our timber supply is indicated in fourteen years, and assuming the same use and stand, with an annual growth of 40,000,000,000 feet, a supply for twenty-three years is indicated. Letters to county clerks asking for statements of forest areas in their counties have been forwarded. Seven thousand lumbermen and timber land owners have been asked to supply similar information. In all, nearly 150,000 letters have been sent. These letters also ask for a wide variety of information, including not only the lumbering and milling industries, but all others, even indirectly dependent upon the use of wood.

Russia's Naval Budget
Amounts to \$14,067,500.
St. Petersburg, Russia.—The naval budget was submitted to the Duma. It amounts to \$44,957,500, an increase over last year of \$616,000. The construction account is \$8,155,000, of which \$2,771,000 is for new construction. This decrease is due to the fact that the appropriation for construction of 1908 has not been touched. The present program includes the building of four battle-ships, five torpedo boat destroyers and three submarines.

Whole Village Frozen to Death in Siberia.
Seattle, Wash.—Frozen stiff and having evidently been dead for a long time, all the inhabitants of a village of Siberian Eskimos were found on the Siberian coast by a party of Indians who went in a canoe last June to see their comrades. Their provisions exhausted, the Eskimos had eaten the walrus skin covers from their houses and the clothing that covered them. This tale is told by the Rev. Edward O. Campbell, a Presbyterian missionary.

Modern Farm Methods As Applied in the South.

Notes of Interest to Planter, Fruit Grower and Stockman

Drops of Dairy Cream.

The land of the cow might not have as much sentiment in it as the land of cotton, but it will have more money in it if it is connected with good dairy cows and good dairymen.

Occasionally a cow that milks hard had better be milked by a couple of valves; she will milk easier after the calves are weaned, and the temporary loss of milk may be made good.

Before blaming a cow for kicking, learn whether long fingernails are causing her pain and whether she is being milked with a slow, steady squeeze or a succession of quick jerks.

Professor Frazer, who has been doing great work in Illinois in promoting better dairying, figures it out that a dairyman can well afford to pay \$150 for a good bull to use in grading up common cows for dairy use.

A cow that sucks herself is sometimes prevented from doing so by putting a bull ring in her nose and looping several harness rings on the first ring. The success of the plan depends on how the rings are managed.

Farmers with several dairy cows to feed need not worry much if some of their cotton land could not be planted to the fleecy staple. The land can be put in peas, which will make good feed for next winter and save buying expensive feed of other kinds.

Failing to milk clean causes serious loss. Clean milking develops the udder; gets the last milk in the udder, which is the part richest in fat. Careless milkers who stop milking too soon will not keep up the flow of milk and cannot make good profits for the owner of the cows.

The best cow in the herd may be supposed to be the poorest and the poorest may be supposed to be the best. It is only by testing them that reliable conclusions may be formed. Ask your State Experiment Station for help or suggestions about doing the testing.

Knowing how to do a thing is having it half done. The State experiment stations and the Department of Agriculture at Washington have very helpful literature on dairying, that can be had for the asking. Why not have success half won in the dairy before the hand is put to its daily tasks?

Without some provision to control the temperature of milk and cream, do not hope for uniformly good results. Temperature control is as important as cleanliness, and much cheaper. Use cellars, wells, dry holes in the ground, or any other device that seems practical, if running water and ice are out of the question.

The worst trouble about dairying is that it requires work seven days in the week, and the best thing about it for a progressive man is that the more intelligence and practical information he has the greater will his success be. Competition from incompetent dairymen cannot cut down his profits to the extent that would be true in most other lines.

It seems likely that one of the early advances towards delivering bottled milk in good condition will be effected by using paper bottles, which are to be used once and then thrown away. It is supposed they will cost from fifty to seventy-five cents per hundred, which will be as small as the cost of cleaning the bottles now used. Besides, there will be no worry about getting bottles back from customers. The paper bottles will be so thin that one can hold them toward the light and see how much cream there is on top; and a fork can be run through the side to let the cream flow out, while the skim milk will remain in the bottle for other use.—Progressive Farmer.

Bristles For Hog Raisers.

Build up strong frames with food that is less starchy than corn. The clovers and peas supply good material for developing a strong frame in the growing pig.

The Southern hog raiser is less likely than the Northern hog raiser to begin too soon to feed little pigs a heavy ration of slop and corn or slop and cornmeal, which feeding develops the pig with weak bone.

Leave the weaning of pigs to the sow if she is in good health. She has many generations of mothers or grandmothers that have been attending to that very matter in a most practical way from the hog standpoint.

The money invested in a sow calls for interest on the investment, whether she raises one or two litters a year. There is no reason why a well nourished sow in the South cannot raise two litters. Make the investment that she represents give returns every six months, instead of every twelve.

Do not throw away your best opportunity by using a scrub or a grade

boar. Use a pure-bred sire always; as soon as convenient, get pure-bred sows, so that the whole herd may have the advantage of well-bred ancestors on both sides for many generations back. Each generation of good ancestors increases the probability of the pigs developing into what the market calls for most.

The hog raiser who grows alfalfa has an opportunity for making money that is exceptionally good. Raise alfalfa for hogs if possible; and if it is not possible, raise some of the clovers and peas. In any case grow bur clover, since it will make bone and muscle cheaply during weather that is too cool for the other leguminous plants mentioned.

It is a small task to keep pigs growing after they are weaned, if there is good grass for them to graze. The Southern farmer can have grazing not far from twelve months in the year if he will use bur clover and rye for the cooler part of the year. Bur clover should be in every Bermuda pasture. The rye can be seeded on any land in the fall after a crop of corn, cotton or vegetable is laid by.

Do not have acres of land lying about while hogs are languishing for exercise. Exercise is necessary for their best development and for getting large litters of lively pigs. The mistake of close penning is most often made with the boar. He will get better pigs and more of them if he has ample opportunity to exercise every day while grazing. This can be done without much expense, even if he is to be kept by himself.

State Assistance to Timber Owners.

It is the desire of the North Carolina Geological and Economic Survey to assist land owners to make their timber lands profitable. It is difficult, however, to give satisfactory directions for the management of timber lands by letter on account of the different conditions existing in every piece of woodland. For this reason the State Forester will personally examine lands when requested to do so by the owners, provided there are at least 500 acres at one place to be examined. The acreage need not necessarily belong to one person. The Forester will give the owners advice and prepare plans for them showing the best methods of cutting and protecting the timber in order to make the yields more profitable.

The future value of forests can be greatly increased by better methods of management, this being especially true of hardwood forests. One-tenth of all the property in the State consists of timber lands and of industries which are dependent upon them, and nearly one-third of the total area of the State is still in forest land, a considerable portion of which is not suitable for farming purposes. It is to the advantage of the land owners who have timber lands that cannot at once be cleared or which could never be profitably cultivated that these be put in the best possible condition for profitable timber growth. There is little or no producing cordwood for sale (although every farmer should produce enough for his own use); but valuable kinds of timber that have not reached their full growth will steadily increase in amount of timber and there is apt to be a gradual but steady advance in its price.

Home Market For Alfalfa.

The spread of alfalfa growing may cause some to inquire what will be done with the increasing supply of alfalfa hay. It is being shipped a thousand miles into Mississippi, which does not indicate that there is at present any need to worry about where the market will be found. The home market will take all that will be grown for some years to come. If the time should arrive when the home markets do not readily take all that is offered, livestock would be raised to eat the alfalfa on the farm, with big profit. The question is, not what will be done with the alfalfa, but how much of it can be grown and who will pocket the big profits. The recently published article on alfalfa growing and its spread aroused much interest, and shows that many are getting ready to find out what they can do in this line.—Chas. M. Scherer.

Waxed Butter Paper.

Try getting waxed paper from dairy supply houses to wrap butter in. Then, when the butter has been formed into bricks, it can be delivered to consumers or grocers in a condition that will please the eye and make it sure that a lot of dust and dirt has not got on the butter on the way to market. There's money in looks. It's the easiest money there is to be got.—Progressive Farmer.

Pert Paragraphs.

Many a hobo would make a good Emperor, but the distressing thing about it is that there is more call for harvest hands in this country than for emperors.

"Some men," said Uncle Eben, "ain't satisfied to quit when dey's done bought a gold brick, but keeps payin' storage on it an' holdin' it fur a rise."—Washington Star.

Proverbs and Phrases.

Failure in laudable attempt is far from being a thing to be ashamed of.—Reade.

When you are dealing with a mule it is wise to see to it that said mule has no kick coming.

Queer that your next door neighbor should think you are a mean, interfering wretch when you tell her that little Johnnie has a fire under the front porch.