

FRANCEANS DRINK ETHER.

French Physicians Alarmed at the Growing Popularity of the Drug... French physicians are at present wondering whether there is any method by which the present rapid spread of etheromania can be effectually checked.

For some years the habit of drinking ether was confined to England, but recently it spread over the continent of Europe. Finding an especial congenial home in Paris, where it soon took fast hold of a large number of persons of both sexes.

In Paris hundreds of persons drink ether every day, as in other cities men drink beer and whisky. The favorite plan being to mix it with a little spirit and sugar. This makes a seductive drink and one which rapidly brings about intoxication.

In Chicago, the oldest living pioneer of the city of Milwaukee. His grandfather was the first white woman born in the city, and for that reason her father gave her the name of Milwaukee.

In the latter part of this century, in a democracy like ours, particularly a woman is no longer embarrassed if she continues to cling, maybe, though not in the old-fashioned manner.

A queer conscience case recently came before the pension bureau. The Chicago Inter-Ocean. A veteran in San Antonio, Texas, returned \$79 pension money, to which he said he was not legally entitled.

Many a husband and father of the labor kind no sooner sees that his wife can and does carry the water part of the household on her shoulders than he seems wholly willing she should.

The sounding of the mayor's horn at Ripon is one of the most ancient customs in the kingdom. It formerly announced the setting of the watch; but it has now lapsed into the formality of three blasts given at nine o'clock every evening at the mayor's residence by his official horn-blower.

CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

Oxford University's freshman class numbers 125. Mrs. Kate B. Johnson, of Neosho, Kan., has been elected County Treasurer on the Republican ticket.

A monument to Shabbona, chief of the Pottawattamies and a friend of the white pioneers of the Illinois river valley, is to be erected in Evergreen Cemetery, Morris, Ill.

The Veteran Volunteer Firemen's Association of Louisville has just received an old leather bucket which was once used by George Washington in fighting a fire in Alexandria, Ky.

The Memphis Scholter relates that there was a tremendous run on the gas supply of that city the other day after somebody started the report that it was a sure cure for yellow fever.

A suggestion has been made in Seattle Wash., that one of the islands near Alaska be named after William Henry Seward, the great Secretary of State, whose work it was to annex Alaska.

A tablet was unveiled in the Horace Mann School for the deaf in Boston, in memory of Francis Green, the first American to call public attention to the importance of educating deaf children.

Frank Mark, of St. Louis, is the only pensioner in Missouri who is awarded \$100 a month, yet he was in the army only sixteen days and did not fight a battle. He lost both arms in a cannon practice.

A Kansas farmer, John Graham, of Abilene, has grown a sweet potato which he says is the largest in the world. It is twenty five inches in circumference and nine inches in length. It weighs nine and three-quarter pounds.

The city of Baltimore, with nearly a half of the total population of the State of Maryland, has less than one-fifth of the membership of the House of Delegates and about one-ninth of the membership of the State Senate.

Uriel B. Emith, who is seriously ill in Chicago, is the oldest living pioneer of the city of Milwaukee. His grandfather was the first white woman born in the city, and for that reason her father gave her the name of Milwaukee.

"Professor" John H. Draper, a colored resident of Baltimore, was fined \$5 for contempt of court because he refused to pay more to be married than they will to hear the gospel preached. He says he makes more by performing marriage ceremonies than he does by preaching.

In an article on the consumption of cattle in the United States, the National Century, James Long says that it is not improbable that there has been annually lost through the consumption of tuberculous milk more than would be occasioned by war with a first-class power.

A prominent capitalist, who was recently offered for \$70,000 an interest in a Klondike scheme warranted to pay \$100,000 a month from the start responded with this message: "Pay for it out of the first month's earnings. Send the surplus at once." The negotiation failed to go through.

Miss Augusta Mann, of New Berlin, Conn., charged with an assault with intent to kill, declined in court that there were two things in the world she hated, and they were men and dogs. "I never see either," she said, "but what I ache to kill them." How unwomanly in her not to love dogs!

Jeweled belts are lovely, but are going to become so desperately common that no one will want one. At present the handseamer's once are rather too dear for the ordinary purse. Metal belts threaded with ribbon are particularly becoming.

The Mecklenburg County (N. C.) Commissioners have given a plot of land thirty feet square in front of the new Court House in Charlotte for the erection of the monument to the heroes of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. Four thousand dollars of the \$5,000 desired for its erection has been subscribed.

KEEPING FLOWERS FRESH.

Place the stems in Water and Place in a Vase. Flowers rose will keep fresh longer if their stems are in wet sand. Put the flowers into a vase as usual, then carefully sift into the vase by means of a funnel sufficient sand to fill it nearly to the top, shaking it so that the sand will settle down among the stems.

A writer upon the subject says: When roses are worth six or eight dollars a dozen in midwinter, it is worth while knowing how to make them last. Three dinner parties one Christmas week with the same dozen and a half Mermel roses, and the flowers were much admired each time. It was after 21 each night before they came off the table. They were removed to a wide-mouthed kitchen bowl that held a generous supply of water, and with strong shears the rose stems were slipped off an inch or so under the water.

Then the bowl of roses were carried to the coolest cellar, but not one that felt to the freezing point, placed in the big wash-bowl, a little sprinkle of water dashed over the whole, and the cover put on tightly. They were left untouched until the next afternoon, when they reappeared again as fresh as before. Of course if the florist had sold roses that he had been holding for several weeks in his dark ice-room, they would not have endured the gas and the candles and hot air conditions of a modern house so many days.

LET THEM CRY.

That babies ought to cry occasionally is a fact well known to doctors, but one which seems to be very much against the creed of mothers and nurses. The model babies who never cry are unnatural specimens. Crying is the only exercise a young baby gets; it expands the lungs, causes a better circulation of the blood, and helps on muscular growth. Of course, fretting when there is discomfort is to be promptly attended to, and screaming (which is a cause of fretting) must not be allowed, but a really healthy little cry when nothing particular is the matter save that baby needs that mode of expression for his pent-up feelings—this is not a thing to make everybody and try to divert the little one's attention or to stop him or get out of the way as if there was a fire or a runaway locomotive coming.

The noise is not present, but if we were once assured that it was a harmless pastime for baby, most of us could reconcile ourselves to it once in a while. Not at night. If there is one lesson more important than another it is that darkness and stillness go together. But although the idea may be a novel one, there is something to be said in favor of little babies being allowed a small crying spell, that is, an exercise spell—during the day, purely upon the grounds of health.

THE TRAVELS OF COLUMBUS.

On Aug. 3, 1492, the caravel set sail from the island of Saltes, and Columbus started on his memorable journey with only the conjectural map of Paolo Toccandelli of Florence.

On the third day the rudder of the Pinta broke. After being patched it again broke, and the caravel was obliged to remain for three weeks at the Canary islands.

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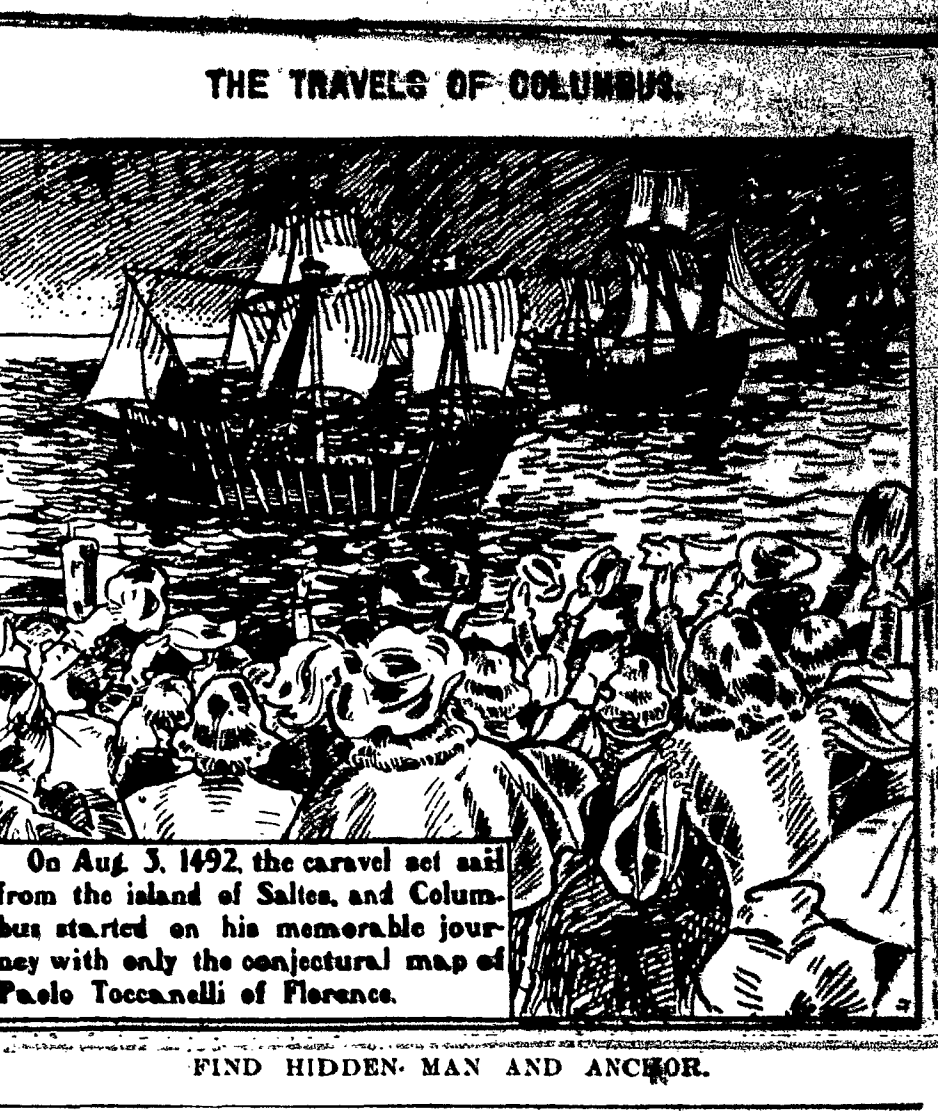
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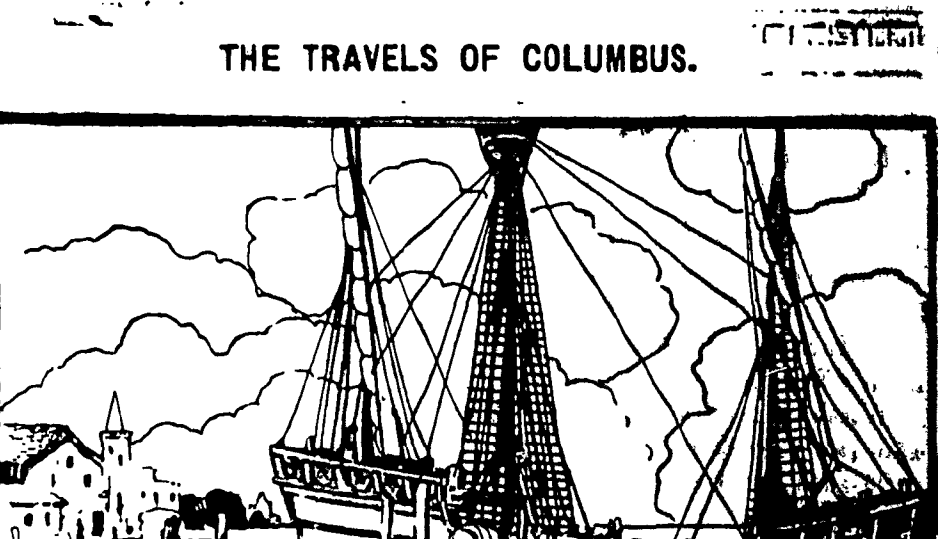
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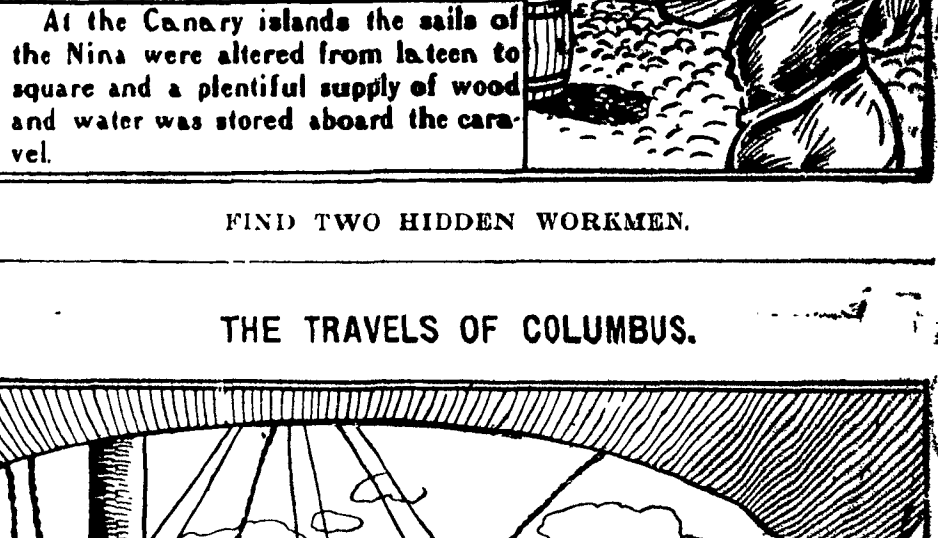
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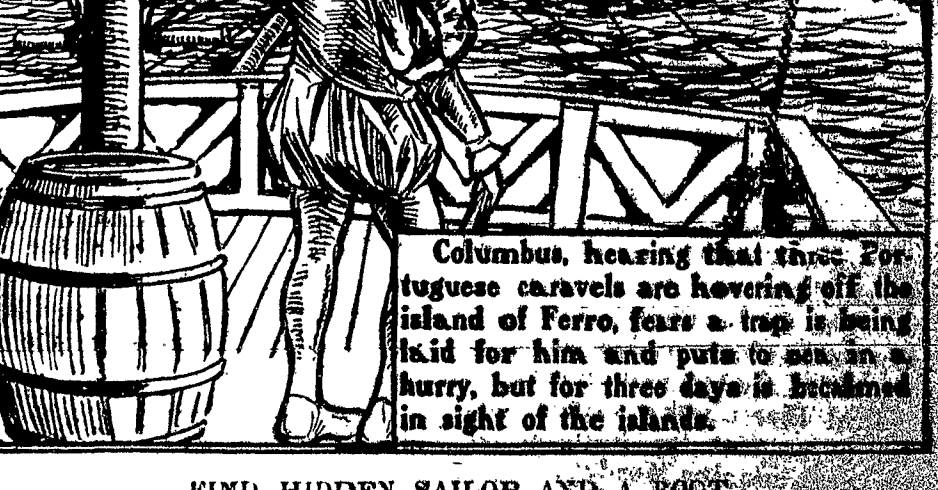
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