

COULD CRIPPLE RUSSIA.

Country's Money Supply Makes Her Depend on Powers.

That every power in Europe is jealous of Russia and would be glad to see her schemes of conquest in the Orient defeated and the nation humbled in the dust it too apparent to require emphasis.

He assumes that Russia is an undesirable and dangerous element in Europe and Asia, and as a means of thwarting her further advance proposes that other nations stop supplying her with money.

"It is admitted in France and America," M. Bjornson goes on to say "that without French gold the Russian institution would have gone to smash long ago."

"But what the best government, what the most powerful hand cannot perform becomes chaos and misery under a feeble autocratic power or a bureaucratic institution that is mercenary and mendacious, unstable and oppressive."

When they had recovered sufficient strength to undertake the journey home they were sent to Hongkong, whence they obtained passage to the Caroline Islands, and soon after were taken home by a vessel plying in the island trade.

Spain's Hostility to Us.

The predicted hostility to the government's appointment of Mgr. Nozalada, formerly Archbishop of Manila, as Archbishop of Valencia, in succession to the late Cardinal Herrero y Espinosa, has materialized and is increasing.

The Governor of Madrid has closed the Zarzuela Theatre because the audience nightly demanded anti-Nozalada songs, which resulted in excited demonstrations.

The authorities have threatened to shut all the offending theatres. A number of dramatic authors met and agreed to prohibit the performance of their works throughout Spain unless the Zarzuela Theatre was at once re-opened and the anti-Nozalada songs were allowed.

After a conference with the Governor of Madrid, however, they decided to suspend the execution of their threat.

The incident is symptomatic of the general anti-clerical troubles which are disturbing the country. The authorities fear that the troubles will develop seriously.

The opposition to the appointment of Mgr. Nozalada is based on his attitude toward the Americans before and after the surrender of Manila. He is accused of disloyalty to Spain, and of pandering to the Americans for the purpose of ingratiating himself with them.

Belated French Honors.

On New Year's Day, among the medals distributed by the French government were four given for deeds of valor some years ago. One was to an old soldier of the Eighteenth Infantry who was wounded in the assault on the central redoubt of Sebastopol on September 8th, 1855;

ADRIFT FOR TWO MONTHS.

Adventure May Explain How Pacific Lands Were Peopled.

James W. Davidson, our consul in Formosa, has just told of a very remarkable journey made by sixteen natives of the Pelew Islands, who were picked up nearly dead on the island of Formosa.

Some Formosans saw the poor wretches one morning on a beach of their northeast coast; also three canoes, the like of which they had never seen before.

The canoes were fitted with outriggers which helped to steady the little vessels among the waves. In other respects, also, they differed from canoes common in that part of the Malay archipelago.

The men were scattered along the beach in a very weak and famished condition. Only two or three of them could speak, but no one understood their language.

Every one was greatly surprised when it was possible at last to learn the story of their adventures. The men had been fishing a few miles from one of the Pelew Islands, where they lived. A heavy gale came up and carried them away from their fishing grounds.

They had in their canoes a considerable quantity of fish, and during their long journey, while the sport of the waves and winds, they lived on fish, though when their original supply was exhausted they were unable to catch a sufficient number to meet their needs.

They drifted this way and that for sixty days, and had not the slightest idea where they were when they finally came within sight of the mountains of Formosa. The next day they were cast up on the beach; and it speaks well for the strength of their craft as well as their own powers of endurance that they should have held out so long.

When they had recovered sufficient strength to undertake the journey home they were sent to Hongkong, whence they obtained passage to the Caroline Islands, and soon after were taken home by a vessel plying in the island trade.

This is one of the involuntary voyages of which so many records have now been collected that anthropologists believe they adequately explain the means by which the widely severed bits of land in the wastes of the Pacific received their inhabitants.

In some way or another the persons found on these bits of land must have been brought there, but the problem how they were transported could not be satisfactorily explained as the result of the expertness of oceanic peoples in navigation.

About 10 years ago a patient German student named Otto Stutig collected a great many instances of the involuntary voyages of these oceanic peoples from one island to another. He found that many of them while out at sea in their small craft, had been carried over 1,000 miles to other islands—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

The Paris of Siberia.

Harry de Windt, the explorer, writes thus of Irkutsk, which he calls the Paris of Siberia: "It is an unfinished, aliphod city, a strange mixture of squalor and grandeur, with tortuous, ill-paved streets, where the wayfarer looks instinctively for the 'no-thoroughfare' board. There is one long, straggling main street, with fairly good shops and buildings, but beyond this Irkutsk remains much the same dull, nearly-looking place that I remember in the early '90's before the railway had aroused the town from its slumber of centuries. Even now the place is absolutely primitive and uncivilized from a European point of view, and the yellow Chinese and beady-eyed Tartars who throng the business quarters are quite in keeping with the oriental filth around, unredeemed by the usual Eastern color and romance. On fine mornings the marketplace presents a curious and interesting appearance, for here you may see the celestial in flowery silk elbowing the fur-clad Yakute and Bokhara shaking hands with Japan."

A Prize Blizzard Story.

Charles Young of Monongahela, has badly frozen feet as a result of a foot bath which he took one night. When about to retire he got a bucket of hot water in which to bathe his feet. The room was cold and he lay back on the bed, drawing the covers partly over him. With his feet in the water he fell asleep. He awakened in the morning to find his feet frozen in the bucket, the water having turned to a solid cake of ice.

Physicians say they may not have to amputate the frozen members.—Philadelphia North American.

Plant Without Roots.

There is a plant in Chili, and a similar one in Japan, called the "flower of the air." It is so called because it appears to have no root, and is never fixed to the earth. It twines round a dry tree or sterile rock. Each shoot produces two or three flowers like a lily—white, transparent, and odoriferous. It is capable of being transported 600 or 700 miles, and vegetates as it travels suspended on a twig.—Exchange.

WOMAN'S STRANGE SCHOOL.

Mrs. Linda Julian Trains Circus Performers.

Havana, Ill., boasts of one of the strangest schools in the world. It is nothing more nor less than a training place for people who furnish the thrills in circuses. In this unique institution contortionists are kept in training and taught new tricks to make the public hold its breath.

And the strangest part of the whole thing is that the school is conducted by a woman. This woman is Mrs. Linda Julian, a bareback rider and a woman who has been in the circus business for the past thirty-three years.

When she began her riding, nearly a half century ago, the circus business was not at its present height. It was then a sort of strolling business, and the people who followed it were for the most part shiftless, and were looked upon as people of very little account. But as other things began to develop and change for the better, the circus also became more important and in many respects more respectable.

Linda Julian, as she is billed on the flaming circus posters, has taught many people how to ride in her time and has amused thousands by her feats of riding.

Near the center of the town Mrs. Julian has what is called the winter circus. It is a big, red, barnlike structure. The inside of this corrugated iron building presents a sight to gladden the heart of the average boy and stir the blood of the jaded amusement lover. There in the middle of the place is a padded circus ring. Above are all sorts of trapeze bars, slack wires and all the paraphernalia used in the most approved circuses.

To one side there is a fine, comfortable stable, in which live the seven handsome horses belonging to Mrs. Julian. Three nights each week during the winter months, this place is filled with people from the town, traveling men and visitors who go to look on while the circus people try their new tricks.

CHANGING ASPINWALL TO COLON

Former Name Used in Honor of Builder of the Railroad.

It is a shame that we should have dropped the name of Aspinwall and taken up Colon. William H. Aspinwall, builder of the Panama Railroad, was one of New York's foremost merchants in the early days of the last century. Howland & Aspinwall had the biggest Pacific trade of any house in New York, besides doing an enormous business in the East and West Indies, England and the Mediterranean. The Panama Railroad Company (Mr. Aspinwall) built the city on the island of Manzanillo and called it Aspinwall, the foundations being laid in 1849. The natives of Colombia began to call it Colon when Empress Eugenie in 1870, presented to it a

statue of Columbus, whose name in Spanish is, as every schoolboy knows, Colon. Mr. Aspinwall was father of our General Lloyd Aspinwall, of unenviable fame.

Fined for Pulling Wrong Tooth.

Mr. C. H. Russell Grant, house surgeon at the Dental Hospital, Great Portland street, W., was summoned at Marlborough street for assaulting Matilda Nelson. Complainant's story was that she went to the hospital to have two teeth extracted, and paid 2s. 6d. for gas. She afterward found that a sound tooth had been removed and the troublesome one left in her head. She pointed this out, and asked to be again put under gas. Defendant, she says, offered to remove the tooth, but refused gas. He caught hold of her arm and tried to pull her into one of the rooms, and when she refused to go, turned her out of the hospital. The defense was a denial of any assault or of any intention to withhold gas. Mr. Kennedy, having said he was perfectly satisfied there was an assault, imposed a fine of 40s.—London Chronicle.

Get More Fresh Air.

"It is safe to say," declared a physician, "that one-half of the women are simply starving for fresh air, and if they would throw away their pill bottles and headache powders and exercise freely in the open air for at least two hours daily they would feel like new women at the end of a year. Nature cannot be cheated nor can impaired forces be restored by swallowing medicine every time warning pain and illness overtakes the offender. A busy woman may be compelled to neglect some duty or pleasure for a time in order to obtain the outdoor exercise, but under the circumstances it will be excusable, and in the long run she will make up for it, because of increased bodily vigor."

Two Strangely Confusing Verbs.

"There are two verbs that are always confusing," said the man who minds his ps and qs. They are rent and marry. "I want to rent a house," says your friend, the broker, and no one can tell whether he desires to be a landlord or a tenant. The verb applied to either the act of letting someone have the property for hire or the act of paying someone hire for property.

"Marry is no better. I just married a charming woman," says your friend the preacher, and if he has been a bachelor you do not know whether to congratulate him or inquire the amount of his fee.—Birmingham News.

Bigger Than the Biggest.

One time the late ameer of Afghanistan asked the English diplomat agent at his court to give a description amid a circle of Afghan people of the largest gun in England. The Englishman described the 100-ton gun and when he had finished the ameer observed to his admiring subjects: "I have seen a gun the cartridge of

which was as large as the gun which has just been described to you. It would never do for an ameer to be astonished, much less to confess himself beaten.

The Snake's Terrible Fangs.

Snakes never close their eyes, because they have no eyelids. Light is shut out by contraction of the pupil and admitted by its expansion. A rattlesnake's fangs are among the curiosities of the creation. One, five-eighths of an inch long, has a hole through it for the venom's discharge. Each has its individual poison sac, located at the base, and the contents are forced out by the act of striking prey or an enemy.

Siberian Butter Making.

From \$12,625,000 to \$15,573,000 worth of butter is now exported from Siberia, or more than twice the value of the wheat export of 1900, the last favorable harvest year. The Siberian cow yields little milk, but the quality is notable for richness. About 19 pounds of milk in winter and 22 pounds in summer are sufficient to make a pound of butter, while in Denmark 28 pounds are needed.

Arizona Forever.

The inherent brains and resources of Arizona are forcing her to the front. In every capacity she is asserting her superiority and knocking the persimmon. Last Friday Clay McGonagill, at the steer-tying tournament at El Paso, roped and tied his steer in 28 seconds flat. Our Arizona cowboys, like all other Arizona institutions, are strictly in the lead. They may not have that quality of stove polish on them that distinguishes Eastern society, but they simply have the "stuf" in them to "get there."

You cannot shut Arizona off. She has the copper, she has the gold, the silver, the lead, the stock, the captivating climate and the brains, the vigor and originality, the self-reliance, and she is irrepresable. All eyes are upon her, a million hopes are staked upon her resources, her sunshine and her wild, free magnificence, and they will all be realized. The rich man comes here to grow richer, the plain man is here to better his circumstances, the invalid comes here for health and strength, the disconsolate come to Arizona for the comfort and cheer our salubrious climate and hospitable society affords.—Tombstone Epitaph.

Marriage and Happiness.

We do not wish to be discouraging, but we must confess that we do not believe society will ever rest on any other basis than Christian marriage as we now have it. Polygamy still survives in countries of different religions, and has been signally revived in our own. Certain nameless relations, false and delusive images of marriage, which can never eventuate in homes, forbid the wild hope of time-limited unions. Nothing but marriage as we have it is thinkable; and the only question with the philosophic mind is how to make it tolerable when

Unprofitable amusements that follow.

The Wool in India. Oriental rugs and India shawls are beautiful and durable, the shawls quite as beautiful and warm as the rugs, but while Oriental shawls have become more popular in this country, India shawls for a long time have been falling in public favor. There is, today, no general demand for them at all.

A Burmese at the St. Louis Exposition when a statement similar to one above was made to him, said: "I admit there is no general demand for India shawls now. That is because women don't wear shawls more. But the special demand of artists and museum collectors—is as good as it ever was. The consequence of this is that shawls haven't deteriorated in quality. On the contrary, they have proved year by year."

"And a fine shawl brings today a high price as it ever brought you have a fine shawl—a really fine one—fetch it to me, and I'll sell it for you. There are, though, very few shawls in America."

"Good India shawls are made of the wool of the Thibet goat. The wool is delicate and curly. One pound yields, at a shearing, half a pound of it. But do you know how much the half pound is worth? It is worth \$4.25 and sometimes it is worth \$5."

Radium and the Earth's Heat. Whether the internal heat of the earth was in the first place due to the presence of radioactive matter or to other causes, is a very debatable question, for the answer involves the calculations of the origin of the earth and the discovery of the distribution of radioactive matter in the earth through grave doubt on the validity of the calculations of the age of the earth which are based on the assumption that it is a simple cooling body, and tends to show that the present internal heat will be maintained for a much longer interval than was at first supposed.

On this theory of the maintenance of the internal heat, no definite limit can be set for the age of the earth, but some deductions can be made of the probable variation of the internal heat within time.—Harper's Magazine.

Fast Roadbeds.

A great deal of speed can be put into the track itself. This came an era of improvement in the roadbeds and grades were cut down and filled up to as near a dead level as possible and cut-offs were built to eliminate bends and curves. So with "a fast track" and high-speed locomotives the modern express trains and "specials" have reduced the distance between points and added to the fast train service without sacrificing either comfort or safety.

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