

Equatorial Africa promises another treasure to civilization, announces the New York Press. It is a much scented plant, the branches of which carried about the person will frighten away mosquitoes.

Miss Alice Rideout, the young Californian who is to model the statuary figures for the Woman's Building of the World's Fair, Chicago, Ill., had a novel introduction to the art in which she has since become so proficient.

The depreciation of farming lands in England has gone so far, asserts the Boston Cultivator, that in many localities they are worth only half what they were twenty years ago.

The Richmond (Va.) State says: "A queer story comes from Lowell, Mass., to this effect: Twenty years ago a man gave a deed of his body to a New Hampshire doctor for the consideration of \$10.

Cattle-thieves are annoying the ranchers of Wyoming to such an extent that one of the latter predicts that something in the nature of a civil war will occur unless the depredations are stopped.

With proper legislation and a just construction of the law, Alaska, says Maurice E. Kenealy, an editor in that far-distant Territory, is destined to become one of the richest possessions of the United States.

SUN SHADOWS. here never was success so nobly gained, Or victory so free from earthly dross. But, in the winning, someone had been pained!



ARD and stern were the tones of Mr. Orrin Halpine's voice as he called out: 'Hat! Yo' lazy, shirkin critter! What d'ye mean b' layin' abed this h'ar time o' day? Git up! D'ye heah me?'



pins, quarrelling over the possession of a little, scrawny, bear-eyed kitten one of them had found at Gray's boarding camp the day before.

"Oh, God! I s'pose all ov' em'll be like him. Pore mammy-pore, broke down, tired mammy! Jes' t' think of all they g'rows up brutes, like the'r pop!

The girl at the window rose slowly to her feet, wiped her eyes, and clambered down the little ladder, near the foot of which stood the family wash-stand, consisting of a rule bench, on which stood a pail of water, with a gourd in it, and a tin basin.

Tillie cried a good deal, but her heart did not break; and when the baby came, three months later, her sorrow only expressed itself in the wish that Fred might have been there to see the little one.

suddenly asked her to marry him—principally because Susie had refused him, but Tillie did not know it—she consented, and for a while was just as happy as though Fred Barnett had never come to Woodson's Gap.

After breakfast, which Orrin Halpine's ugly temper made more than usually unpleasant, Hattie took a pail and walked down to the spring, near the stage-road.

Where would it all end? Her mother would miss her if she went away; but she asked, a little bitterly, "How long?"

The ice is not usually cut until it is twelve inches thick. Twenty years ago it was usual to have the ice attain this thickness before Christmas, and it has happened that the ice crop was all cut and safely harvested before New Year's Day.

The ice having attained the desired thickness, all hands are set to work with snow-plows to clean off the snow. After that the ice-scrapers and planes are sent over the field so as to plane off all the rough ice and frozen slush which may be on the surface.

When the entire field is cut with these parallel grooves to a depth of ten inches, or within two inches from the water, a similar process is gone through with it at right angles with the first grooves, only, instead of running the grooves two feet apart, they are now made nearly four feet apart, cutting the whole field into beautiful blocks of ice four feet long by two and from eight to sixteen inches thick, according to the severity of the winter.

The man now comes for breaking up the field of ice for storing. Instead of breaking off each block of ice, however, as it is cut, the field is divided off into "platoons of ice," forty-eight feet long and twelve feet wide, each platoon containing seventy-two blocks of ice.

The barges are brought down the Hudson in fleets towed by powerful tug-boats, and are distributed to the various piers convenient to the ice wagons and the city deliveries. The Knickerbocker Ice Company alone has 600 wagons for the distribution of ice to retail and

THE MIDWINTER HARVEST.

GATHERING AN ICE CROP ON THE HUDSON RIVER.

Twenty Thousand Men Engaged in Harvesting the Crop—Cutting and Delivering the Ice Crop. The principal supply of ice used in this city comes from the mid channel of the Hudson in that section running northward from Marlboro and stretching eighty miles away to Coeymans.

In this stretch of eighty miles along the Hudson River the Knickerbocker Ice Company has about fifty ice storing houses with an ice storing capacity of from 7000 to 65,000 tons each with a total storing capacity of nearly 5,000,000 tons of ice.

In order to avert as far as possible, however, the danger arising from an open winter, the ice companies fill their houses as full as possible each winter, so as to have a good stock to carry over to the next year to meet such emergencies.

Besides the 20,000 men employed in harvesting the ice crop, there are from 300 to 500 horses engaged in the work. Stables and houses for their accommodation are built along the river bank at convenient places, while blacksmith shops and repair shops are scattered for the shoeing of horses and repairing of harnesses and tools.

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The delivery of ice in the city employs a small army of workmen all the year, the number being between 2000 and 3000 in all the companies. The ice is brought from the storehouses along the banks of the Hudson almost every day during the summer in barges.

The barges are brought down the Hudson in fleets towed by powerful tug-boats, and are distributed to the various piers convenient to the ice wagons and the city deliveries. The Knickerbocker Ice Company alone has 600 wagons for the distribution of ice to retail and

wholesale customers. These wagons, with all the harnesses of the horses, are made at the company's shops, where all the repairs and shoeing are also done.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

Steam pipes are made of ramic fibre. Blotting paper is made of cotton rags boiled in soda.

A man breathes about eighteen pints of air in a minute, or upward of seven hogheads in a day.

A company has been formed in Chicago, Ill., to manufacture a metallic substitute for wooden railway ties.

An underground hydraulic power distribution plant is being talked of for Berlin, Germany. Such systems have already been successfully used in England.

The largest animal known to exist in the world at the present time is the gorilla, which averages 100 feet in length, the smallest is the moad, which is only 1-12,000 of an inch in length.

Field flasks of aluminum instead of the ordinary glass flasks are being introduced experimentally in the German army.

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A comparatively new system of construction, the invention of Mr. Monier, is being applied to the building of houses, bridges, fortifications, reservoirs, sewers, etc. It consists of a network of iron rods covered with cement concrete, and the most remarkable feature in connection with it is the great strength of the constructed material, relatively to its weight.

The Farms of the Future.

"Do you not think, Senator, that the tendency of the times is toward small farms rather than large ones?" "No," replied Senator Casey (of North Dakota), "I do not. I think everything points to expansive farming. The farms of the future in this country will be large ones rather than small ones. Farming becomes more of a business every year, and the probabilities are that from now on farming will be one of the best paying industries in the United States.

The increased consumption of wheat on the world over averages forty million bushels every year, and this increase will go on. The time will come when there will be less wheat than the world wants, and prices will have to go up to induce the farmers to raise it. As it is now it does not pay to raise wheat in most parts of the United States. The State Board of Agriculture for Ohio lately investigated the matter and found that it costs \$20 per acre to raise wheat in that State, and the Secretary of the Board of Trade of Toledo made a similar investigation and found it cost \$20 per acre to raise wheat in Southern Michigan.

Colonel Ethel Allen's Sword.

The sword which Colonel Ethel Allen carried when he demanded the surrender of Fort Tejon during "in the name of the great Jehovah and the Continental Congress" is, by gift and inheritance, the personal property of a young newspaper man of Jackson, Mich., Hannibal Allen Hopkins. The sword is an old-fashioned blade, nicked and venerable, twenty-seven inches long, and slightly curved. The handle measures seven inches, making the total length of the weapon thirty-four inches.

Experiments are being made in Austria with the view of replacing steam by electricity for rapid railroad travel.

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PENSIONS!

Act of June 27, 1890. - Pensions soldiers and sailors of the war of the rebellion who served 90 days in the war; honorably discharged from the service, and who are incapacitated for performance of manual labor, and for the widows, children, dependent parents, fathers and mothers. All pensions under this Act will commence from the date of filing the formal application (after the passage of the Act) in the Pension Bureau. No application for pension under this act will be good unless filed in the Pension Bureau on or after June 27, 1890.

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HART H. SANDOZ, U. S. Pension Claim Agent, Office with Hon. John N. Odgen, Opelousas, Louisiana.