

Bay. He likes rowing because he can exercise and at the same time be with Mrs. Roosevelt. Accompanied by Mrs. Roosevelt, he often rows ten or fifteen miles. Having a light boat, he makes a portage across a neck of land and has the interest and excitement of exploring inlets and little bays along the coast. "Rowing is comparatively inexpensive," Mr. Roosevelt said. "A boat does not cost very much as an original investment, and its keep is practically nothing. There is plenty of exercise and pleasure in a good row." The President's children also accompany him on rowing expeditions, and occasionally he and the boys row away to some distant point and make camp, remaining over night.

President Roosevelt, while fond of everything in the way of recreation, preferably seeks those outdoor pleasures in which his family can participate. His sons have grown large enough now to ride with him, row with him, and walk with him. And he acknowledges that the older boys can tire him out on a long tramp. "It beats all how those youngsters can get over the ground!" exclaimed Mr. Roosevelt. Mrs. Roosevelt is often his companion on long horseback rides, and when he is out for hurdle jumping his sons accompany him. They are becoming expert horsemen.

Tennis is supposed to be the favorite amusement of the President, because there is a tennis court adjacent to the executive offices, and Mr. Roosevelt, the French Ambassador, Secretary Garfield, Messrs. Pinchot, Murray, Cooley, and others are frequently seen playing the game. "Tennis is something that is quick to get at," explained the President. "It takes only a few minutes to get ready and on the ground. That is one reason why I like it and why I often choose tennis for exercise." Tennis is the game of the President's busy days. When the pressure upon his time is such as to make it impossible for him to don his riding clothes, or take a long tramp over the Virginia and Maryland hills, he sends around for three or four men who play tennis, and a game is arranged. It takes only a moment for Mr. Roosevelt to throw off his business clothes and put

on a sweater and appear on the tennis court ready for a match. "Tennis is a game which requires attention," he said, "and to play a fair game one must give his mind to it, and the rest from business cares is achieved."

President Roosevelt, when asked as to his reported dislike of some games, said he did not criticize a sport because he did not indulge in it. There are of course many kinds of sport and exercise in which he does not participate, preferring those which are best adapted to his mode of life and the work he is doing, and which keep the mind occupied and the body and muscles active. The President encourages all kinds of sport and outdoor exercise for boys, and tells them, "When you play, play hard, and when you study, study hard. But do not let your play and your sport interfere with your study. No flinching; no fouls; hit the line hard."

If there is one thing that gives the President greater pleasure than anything else, it is the pursuit of big game. It needs no assertion from him to prove this, as the state dining room at the White House and his own home at Oyster Bay are adorned with the heads of grizzly bears, black bears, elk, moose, mountain sheep, antelope, and deer, showing that he has pursued successfully the fiercest and most cunning animals of this country. Mr. Roosevelt has discussed the hunting of big game in his books, and has said about all that he wishes to say publicly on that subject. He has urged laws for the preservation of game of all kinds, and expresses great regret over the practical extermination of the buffalo, which he thinks was a noble game animal. He has experienced the exhilaration of success in hunting big game, and felt the thrill of life and courage that follows the conquest of a dangerous wild beast. Moreover, hunting means camping and roughing it, something the President thoroughly enjoys. It is camp life, life on the plains and in the woods, he says, that teaches one to respect the equality of man. There men have to prove their equality, and are measured by standards that are never false.

Soon after Mr. Roosevelt was elected Vice

President, and before the inauguration, he indulged his desire for a hunt and went into Colorado, where he shot a number of mountain lions and bob cats. When he became President he for a time decided to give up hunting, shrinking from the term "sporting President" which might be applied to him. But he later decided to be himself and not to change his course of life and pastimes because he held the highest office in the land. He obeyed "the call of the wild" when the longing for the camp, the horses and hounds, the long tramp with gun on his shoulder, and the sharp conflict with the fierce wild beast was more than he could withstand. Such sport he loves, and its occasional indulgence gives him the keenest enjoyment.

One form of outdoor life advocated by the President relates to the study of natural history which time spent in the woods and fields affords. He likes to take walks with persons whose bent lies in the same direction, and who can discuss with him the many wonderful things in nature. This furnishes a wide field of investigation and discussion, and is a form of relaxation which gives the President a great deal of pleasure. He does not class it as a sport, but as an outdoor recreation, useful and entertaining.

Wrestling and boxing are sports that the President has cast aside, although they were enjoyed by him in his younger days, and he likes a good bout with the gloves even now. That was his indoor college sport, and the memory of brisk give and take matches lingers with him still. But he now turns to the life outside of four walls amid the forests and fields, and whether mounted or on foot indulges in the exercises which give him health and enjoyment. Few indoor sports tempt the President.

"How about jiu jitsu?" he was asked.
"Good!" was the reply. "Did you ever try it?"
"No."
"Well then, don't; you will find it mighty severe."

Jiu jitsu is a style of Japanese defense, and became

Continued on page 17

HOW DID THE ANCIENTS DO IT

By R. H. BECKMAN

IN 1870 Ismail, Khedive of Egypt, offered to present an obelisk to the city of New York; but the terms of the gift were strictly F. O. B. Alexandria. In former years other rulers of Egypt had made similar offers to the Governments of London and Paris, and it had taken the former seventy-five years and the latter twenty-five to arrive at the point of calling and taking home their presents. Ismail's offer may have been prompted by a sincere desire to show his good will toward America; but it is doubtful if he thought for a moment that another of his sacred antiquities would be removed before at least a century could elapse. The reason for his conviction was that the obelisk was a single block of granite, weighing two hundred and twenty tons, and that New York was over five thousand miles away. Even if some master of the science of engineering could figure out a way of transporting the gift, the expense of the undertaking would be prohibitive. But during the course of the year that followed the Khedive learned many things about the people of the United States.

Very soon after the gift was announced W. H. Vanderbilt offered to furnish the necessary funds, and Lieutenant Commander Henry H. Goringe, of the United States navy, was given leave of absence from the service to go and secure the prize. To understand fully the enormity of the task one must know that "Cleopatra's Needle" is a monolith nearly seventy feet high and ten feet square at the base, and that at that time it was standing a short distance from the sea shore at Alexandria. Aside from the physical difficulties that were entailed, the United States was greatly harassed by creditors of the Egyptian Government, who tried by every conceivable means to prevent the removal of the property to which they laid claim. But these were eventually silenced, and on October 29, 1879, work was actually begun.

The knowledge and experience of the ages were at the command of Lieutenant Goringe in his enterprise, and still it seemed at times as if he had been set to do an impossible task. There was the possibility that in lowering the obelisk to a horizontal position it might break of its own weight; but by computation it was found that the section through the center of gravity was strong enough to support the weight of the ends with the addition of twenty-eight tons suspended at the center of gravity of each end. Had it not been for this comparatively simple problem in physics the whole scheme might have failed. But to make assurance doubly sure the big



stone was sheathed with heavy timbers and bound about with iron strips, and by means of pulleys, steel cables, and hydraulic jacks the block was safely lowered to the ground.

It had been the original intention to transport the obelisk over land to the Government dock. The distance was less than a mile, and for the most part the route was over comparatively unfrequented streets. An iron truss cradle moving on cannon balls instead of wheels, in channel irons instead of on an ordinary rail, had been brought to Egypt for the purpose. At the last moment, however, the foreign merchants of Alexandria feared that the tremendous weight might crush the sewers, and refused to give the necessary permission. Guarantees of repairing all damage done were of no avail, and the transporting cradle was thrown away, and the dangerous method of sea transport in a wooden caisson at a distance of ten miles was the only resource. To clear a path to the sea shore expert divers were employed. Then with the aid of more mathematics and modern ingenuity the obelisk was lowered into the caisson and placed on the launching ways and slowly dragged out into deep water.

In removing his gift to Paris fifty years before, Louis Philippe used a specially constructed craft, and the undertaking cost his Government five hundred thousand dollars. The British engineers, with a view to profiting by this experience, built a vehicle around their obelisk that could float it, and it could be towed by steamer so arranged as to give the crew an opportunity to save themselves in case of disaster. The caisson with the obelisk inclosed was abandoned in mid ocean and later was picked up and towed to England by some sea adventurers, who received some twenty-five hundred dollars for their work.

Departing from these precedents, Lieutenant Goringe resolved to stow his obelisk in the hold of a ship which could proceed to America under its own power. For this purpose he procured a vessel, and, opening up her bow while she was on the floating dock, he trundled the obelisk into the hold on cannon balls. The pedestal on which the obelisk was to rest, a solid block of granite weighing fifty tons, was embarked by means of two enormous cranes. Then, when the steel plates in the bow had been replaced and the ballast adjusted, the Dessoug was ready for sea. Not the least of Lieutenant Goringe's difficulties was to secure a crew willing to undertake the voyage. The officers and engineers came from Great Britain, and the crew consisted of representatives of nearly every nation; but nearly a fourth of them besides the quartermaster could not speak or understand a word of English. Fearing

that once on the high seas they would quickly follow the obelisk to the bottom, forty-eight men deserted after they had solemnly enlisted for the voyage.

In June, 1880, however, the Dessoug cleared Alexandria and started for home. The obelisk caused no trouble whatever; but the voyage was not without its misfortunes. After an encounter with water-spouts, the vessel was nearly wrecked by a broken shaft; but on July 25 New York was reached and the work of land transportation begun. By slow stages the obelisk made its way from the Hudson River and 96th-st. to its final resting place near the Metropolitan Museum of Art in Central Park. The distance of eleven thousand feet was covered in one hundred and twelve days, or an average of ninety-seven feet a day. The longest day's run was six hundred feet. The pedestal was mounted on enormous wheels and hauled by sixteen teams of horses.

Thus with all the knowledge and all the experience of the ages to aid him and with the expenditure of one hundred thousand dollars, Lieutenant Goringe achieved successfully the remarkable task of bringing "Cleopatra's Needle" from Egypt to America in fifteen months.

The Marvel of Antiquity

AND here we stop and wonder just how much we have profited by all this knowledge and all this experience which the ages have handed down. Thirty-four hundred years ago this same piece of granite was quarried at Syene, near the first cataract of the Nile. The stone is so hard that it cannot be cut without turning the best modern steel chisels, and it is doubtful if the steam sawing of the present day could produce in ten years a single obelisk such as the Pharaohs set up by dozens. After it had been quarried this same obelisk was carried six hundred miles down the Nile and erected at the Temple of Heliopolis to bear testimony to the glory of King Thothmes III. Here it remained until the coming of the Romans, when in the eighth year of the reign of Augustus Caesar it was removed to Alexandria to grace the triumph and symbolize the supremacy of the Caesars.

History tells practically nothing as to how these huge monoliths were quarried, finished, or transported; yet what proved so difficult an undertaking for the engineers of England, France, and America was accomplished ages ago by nearly every nation that conquered the East. After the overthrow of the Egyptians Sardanapalus carried an obelisk fifteen hundred miles to Nineveh; the early Roman Emperor took away with them as many as fifteen, twelve of which now remain in Italy; and Constantine secured two for Byzantium. Not only was the transportation of these huge masses of granite comparatively easy of accomplishment in former ages, but the speed with which it was done cannot be equaled to-day. One of the largest obelisks, for example, is that erected to Queen Hatsu at Karnak, where it may still be seen. The inscription tells that it was quarried, finished, and carried several hundred miles to the temple at Thebes in seven months.

How did they do it?