



THE NATION'S RIVER. Advantages of the Potomac as a Deep Water Outlet.

CONTRAST WITH THE MISSISSIPPI. Why Western Products Should Be Exported From Washington.

A COMPARISON OF FIGURES. Written for The Evening Star.

THE ASSERTIONS that the Potomac is the nation's best navigable river, that its commercial capacity is four times that of the great Mississippi, and that Washington is the nearest deep water harbor for the export of western grain and other products, are statements which are at first thought seem incredible.

The widespread lack of appreciation of the merits and possibilities of the Potomac arises from the fact that, while intended by nature as a great highway of commerce, it has never been used as such.

More than a century ago, before the era of railroads, before the United States had acquired control of the Mississippi, and also before the construction of the Erie canal, General Washington was an ardent advocate of a canal from the head of navigation of the Potomac to the Ohio river, to strengthen the political and commercial ties between the Atlantic states and the west.

Another striking evidence of General Washington's appreciation of the importance of the Potomac river for commercial purposes lies in the fact that the first step taken in regard to a convention to frame a constitution for the United States was the growth of the navy for regulations governing the navigation of the Potomac and Chesapeake bays.

Its Commercial Capacity. There is, perhaps, no better way to demonstrate the great commercial capacity of the Potomac than by a contrast with the Mississippi. The trunk line of the Mississippi river system below St. Louis has as tributaries forty-four other rivers, intersecting twenty-two states. It is a trunk line of a system comprising 10,000 miles of inland navigable rivers, and connecting

THE CARELESS SPRINKLER. From the Filagreed Blatter.



"Beg pardon, but perhaps you can tell me where Dr. Newdeath lives?" Certainly.

From Up-to-Date. Miss Fodderingham—"What a thoroughly up-to-date girl Miss Kittish is."

Scientific Girls. Miss Fodderingham—"What a thoroughly up-to-date girl Miss Kittish is."

great lakes and Erie canal, as well as by the New York and Pennsylvania canals.

Table showing export statistics for corn from various ports: From Portland, P.C. 1.6; From Boston, 4.5; From New York, 4.5; From Philadelphia, 10.0; From Baltimore, 23.5; From Norfolk, 18.5; From Newport News, 17.9; From New Orleans, 27.8.

As the exports from Baltimore, as well as Norfolk and Newport News, have to be shipped through the mouth of Chesapeake bay, the total exports of corn from that one point were, in January, 50.2 per cent, of a total of more than half of the corn exports of the whole United States.

Washington Harbor. There are very few harbors on either the gulf or Atlantic coast superior to that of Washington, either in present depth of water or in possibilities for the future when proper improvements are made.

Coal Shipments. Few harbors have so great and important tributary coal fields as Washington. The great coal areas of West Virginia, tapped by the West Virginia Central railroad, could here find a deep-water harbor.

THE DEPTH OF THE POTOMAC. In very marked contrast with the above are the facts relating to the Potomac taken from a letter in 1880 by Lieut. Col. Peter C. Hales, the government engineer then in charge of the improvements on the Potomac.

THE HORSE'S SIXTH SENSE. Strange Action of Two Horses Crossing the Erie Canal.

THEY never complained that they would rather not have danced the cotillon than to have had to dance it with Dick; they were never bothered about a man's mental acumen, or whether or not he was a good talker.

THEY were four grown sons and two daughters, and five other young men—"hands."

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SOME SOCIAL TOPICS

Experience of Young Men and Women of the Period.

DID YOUR PARENTS HAVE MORE FUN?

Some Reasons Why Social Affairs Are Apt to Be Formal.

PAST AND PRESENT

WHAT HAPPENED when our mothers were discussing down stairs in the big reception hall just what we were discussing up stairs in the little parlour.

Just at this point my mother called me, so there was no time for further discussion. On the way home she told me that she and Mary's mother had been comparing notes on the same subject.

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larity of a corn husking cannot obtain in Boston, New York, Washington or even San Francisco. The modern society gets the more intolerant of the informality of youth it grows, until it is a crabbed old maker of rules.

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WHAT WE OWE TO HOLLAND.

Many Dutch People Intermarried with the Puritans.

The Holland tongue is a dialect of the Teutonic, or primitive German, but took a distinct form at the close of the eleventh century. It is a fusion of dialects, a mixed language, like our own English. In sound it is neither soft nor musical, yet dignified, and its vocabulary is very rich.

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MITE OF A MONKEY BABY.

The Second Born in Twenty Years in the New York Zoo.

The Missing Link has fine features and form, and if it were not for its size and its tail it might readily be taken for a human baby. From head to heel it measures only four inches. Its head is like a big marble, and on it is funny black fuzz, its fingers are like pins, and they cling to its mother's body with fearful eyes.

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