

tion of great power for the sake of an ideal—an act of a sort too seldom seen in this age. And along with Pinchot stands Glavis. This is not a heroic age, perhaps, but in both these men the nation will see much of heroism.—The Public—Chicago.

ABSOLUTE ZERO.

The Freezing Point of Helium Gas is Just Above It.

Although familiar to scientists, it is not generally known that the true zero of heat has been determined. By this absolute zero is meant a temperature which cannot get any colder, which means that no heat whatever exists or can exist at that point. This point is only about 450 degrees below the zero of our ordinary Fahrenheit thermometers or 273 degrees below the zero centigrade. To realize what it signifies a few words must be placed here defining heat itself.

Heat is caused simply by the thousands of little molecules in any body or thing vibrating very fast and thus sending out waves into the ether. When these waves strike any matter they cause that matter to become hot, as we say. Now, the faster these molecules vibrate the more heat is given out and the hotter is the body itself. The slower the molecules vibrate the colder the body. So, if a condition could be reached where the molecules did not vibrate at all, why, there could be no heat, and therefore the body would be absolutely cold. This condition of affairs is reached at the above mentioned number of degrees below our ordinary scales. It is needless to say, however, that this absolute zero of heat has never been attained on this earth, the closest ever reached by man being one degree above it. This is 272 below zero centigrade and is the freezing point of helium gas, which a German professor claims to have frozen at that temperature.

From this theory of heat a peculiar view is obtained of our bodies and articles of matter. We would find, if we had a microscope to see small enough, that every bit of matter at any temperature that we can now get is a seething mass of moving molecules and vibrating particles. One proof of this is when a metal expands on becoming warmer. If we weigh it we find that a hot body weighs no more than the same body cold, yet it gets larger, both longer and broader. To do this it must be composed of moving particles that on becoming excited get farther apart. Another proof is that liquids and gases have been forced through every solid that exists almost. Thus water has been forced through lead, sulphur dioxide through iron, etc. The computed size of these molecules is rather interesting. It is claimed that if a drop of water represented the earth the number of molecules in the drop would be about equal to the number of grains of sand in the earth.—Exchange.

Changing Her Mind.

By an unwritten law it is held to be the privilege of woman to change her mind, a license of which she rarely fails to avail herself. The German proverb has it that "women are variable as April weather." According to an old English adage, "A woman's mind the winter winds change off." In Spain it is much the same; "Women, wind and fortune soon change, and she can laugh and cry both in a wind." The old Latin poet Catullus was of opinion that "what a woman says to her ardent lover ought to be written on the winds or on running water." Even the gallant Sir Philip Sidney wrote: "He water plows and sows in the sand And hopes the flickering wind will not to nod Who hath his hopes laid on a woman's hand."—Kansas City Star.

A High Day.

"Yassah, I suttin'ly would do dat job for yo', colonel, and proud o' de chance to extinguish miusef." Would horrow right in on it dis minute, sah, if 'twazn't for one thing" said a certain lopsided colored citizen who was so unafraid of manual labor that he would often fall asleep in its presence, "and dat is, sah, dat I never likes to stigmatize miusef by working on a holiday."

Wild Animals in New York City. It is a remarkable fact that there are always more wild animals about than any but the expert has an idea of. For example, there are within twenty miles of New York city fully fifty different kinds—not counting birds, reptiles or fishes—one-quarter of which at least are abundant, or more particularly within the limits of Greater New York there are at least a dozen species of wild beasts, half of which are quite common.—Country Life in America.

Getting Used to 'Em.

"I just have heard of the arrival of the third child in the Jones family," remarked the woman. "The announcement of the firstborn was made by beautifully engraved cards tied with tiny white ribbon, the second was by telegraph, and this third one, though a much wished for boy, was made merely by a postal card."—New York Press.

She Could Talk.

Cynicus—That girl never says much, does she? Sillicus—Why, she talks all the time. Cynicus—That doesn't alter my contention.—Philadelphia Record.

Little Stories of Big People



JULIA WARD HOWE

the famous poet declared in a recent interview. "I expected their slogan to be some startling thing, and, lo, it is old—old and familiar.

"They remind me, my suffragette friends, of a witness at a Boston inquest.

"Witness," said the coroner, "do you know what motive the deceased had for committing suicide?"

"Yes, judge, your honor," said the witness pompously. "Deceased told me his motive, sir."

"The coroner, the court officers, everybody, looked interested.

"What was, then, deceased's motive?" said the coroner.

"Why, your honor, he said he wanted to kill himself," was the reply.

James M. Beck, who has been retained as general counsel for the sugar trust, once made use of a humorous anecdote to introduce an address. Unavoidable duties had prevented him, he said, from making any but the most hurried preparations for the occasion and so he would commend to the audience the motto of a good old woman he had heard of. Her pastor came to comfort this woman, who had suffered a sad bereavement.

"Well, my good woman," the pastor remarked, "in your bitter trial I hope you have found some ray of comfort from the Scriptures."

"Indeed I have, dominie," was the confident though tearful reply.

"That's grand, sister!" exclaimed the pastor sympathetically. "But tell me what passage of the word helped you most."

"G'n and bear it."

Mr. Beck is a lawyer of much experience, but he does not look it. A slight figure and a beardless face make him look almost like a boy, and he has not the manner which is supposed to go with "trust busting." When he gets to work on a case, however, he quickly shows his metal.

Lord Curzon, who, it is reported, will wed Mrs. Astor, divorced wife of John Jacob Astor, when traveling in Korea some years ago had been particularly warned not to admit to the president of the Korean foreign office that he was only thirty-nine years of age, an age to which no respect attaches in Korea.

When he put to him the straight question "How old are you?" Mr. Curzon unhesitatingly responded, "Forty."

"Dear me," replied the Korean official, "you look very young for that. How do you account for it?"

"By the fact," was the reply, "that I have been traveling for a month in the superb climate of his majesty's dominions."

Lord Curzon was once talking about widowers. He said that a widower was more despised and abhorred than any other human type. In a widow, he pointed out, we all find something seductive. But a widower is as uninviting to us as a toad.

"What young maid in her dreams of life," said Baron Curzon, "never imagines herself being wooed and won by a widower? There was once a widower who proposed to a young woman and, being rejected, tried to bring her to look favorably on his suit by praising his children.

"He said he had four children, and each was beautiful and clever and good.

"But the young woman sneered and retorted that children were like tooth-brushes—we take no interest in any but our own."

Joseph M. Huston, architect of the Pennsylvania state capitol, whose trial is attracting no little attention, was once asked to draw up plans and estimates for a church in a western town.

Mr. Huston complied. His plans were beautiful, and the cost of the building was \$75,000. The committee in the west wrote that they liked the plans very much, but the price, they said, was high.

Couldn't Mr. Huston let them have a church like that for \$10,000? Mr. Huston wrote back, "Say \$2.50 more, gentlemen, and let us throw you in a nice spire."

Will Try to Swim English Channel. Brent Hayes, an actor, new in this country, will next summer try to swim the English channel. Hayes has already made many preparations to attempt the feat. He has made several records for endurance swimming.



JAMES M. BECK



LORD CURZON



J. M. HUSTON

BASKETBALL SEASON ON.

Grand Struggles in All Big Leagues Anticipated.

HOW THE TEAMS SIZE UP.

In West Chicago Appears Strongest. In the East No One Team Stands Out as Best, but Cornell and Columbia Look Good.

Judging by the intense interest that is being displayed and the large attendance at every game, the 1910 basketball season will be the greatest the strenuous and popular indoor game has ever had. In fact, basketball now occupies a more important place in the curriculum of college athletics than ever before. In the east a grand struggle is anticipated for the chance of playing against the winner of the western title for the national championship.

Yale, Cornell, Princeton, Pennsylvania and Columbia universities are all represented by strong teams this season; but, while the honors seem to lie among these teams, there are many other five's to be reckoned with. Take, for instance, the West Point cadets. Uncle Sam's boys have one of the strongest teams in the east, while Williams, Dartmouth, Penn State, Brown, Georgetown, Rochester and Syracuse are all to be reckoned with before the season's honors in the east are decided.

Of the so called big six Princeton's team is the weakest at present, but the Tigers have several good players, and the team may show improvement later. Cornell is represented by one of the strongest five's that ever represented the Ithacans on the floor. In Captain Crosby Cornell has one of the best all around players the game has ever brought to light. He is a splendid shot and Cornell's main offense.

As he is a first class man himself, it is up to him to develop some good guards and another forward. Last season he had a few green men and whipped them into such shape that at the end of the season the team disputed the championship with Pennsylvania.

While Yale has lost Eddie Van Vleck as center, the coaches have any number of good subs left. The team for the present is made up of Captain Eames, guard; Holdenridge and Hyde, forwards; Scudder, center, and Legg and Murphy, guards. All these were regulars last year except Scudder and Murphy, who were substitutes. Fred Murphy, the baseball captain and football halfback, is the best basketball guard in college, and it is expected that he will play in the championship games. Yale expects to have a better basketball team than for two years, although there is no professional coach, graduates helping Captain Eames.

Although Pennsylvania is minus the services of the famous Klenath, one of the best basketball players any university ever had, and the two guards, McCrudden and Kiefeber, McNichol, Hough and Spier are left, however, while Miller, captain of last year's football team, also showed up well last year in the few games that he played. This in itself is a strong nucleus for a varsity team.

The prospects for a strong team at Columbia are very bright. Captain Ted Kiendl has two of last year's subs and one regular left to help him out. With Mahon and himself for forwards these two positions will be well taken care of. Columbia's recent easy defeat of Princeton in New York by a score of 40 to 9 shows that the Blue and White men will be in the thick of the fight from start to finish.

In the west a grand struggle for the conference championships—Chicago, Wisconsin and Minnesota—is in order. Of the trio Chicago appears to be the strongest. Although former Captains Schommer and Georzen are both out of the game for good, the Maroons have a strong nucleus upon which to build up another powerful five in Captain Hoffman, Page and Fulkerson, guards; Hubble, subcenter, and Clark, Kelly, Cleary and Henry, forwards. This squad of veterans will be re-enforced and strengthened by several likely candidates from last year's freshman five.

Minnesota has nine veterans of last year's team in Grimes, Mencka, Grant, Rosenwald, Anderson, Lawler, Walker, Hanson and Giltinan. Long, Robillard and Clark are some of the freshmen who are showing exceptional quality on the floor.

Wisconsin will have a powerful five this season and will undoubtedly make things warm for their rivals.

Nelson May Be Referee of Big Fight. Battling Nelson says he may be the third man in the ring in the coming Jeffries-Johnson fight for the world's heavyweight championship.

Johnson made the suggestion a short time ago that I act as referee in his fight with Jeffries," declared Nelson recently. "Since then I have also seen Jeffries, and he also is agreeable to my officiating."

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