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All Mail Orders promptly and carefully filled.

THE J. L. HUDSON CO., "THE BIG STORE." DETROIT, - MICH.

LONG RANGE GUNS.

Good Lessons Taught Other Nations by the Boer Artillerists.

There are [illegible] in difficulties [illegible] of the Argyll [illegible] people [illegible] range [illegible] but [illegible] England [illegible] future [illegible] them. The Boers [illegible] farm [illegible] the [illegible] zle [illegible] the point remains that the Boers taught the world that heavy guns, no matter how [illegible] decided practical advantages. In 1885 an English 9.2-inch gun made a record with a range of twelve miles. A Krupp 9.6-inch four year later made a new record of twelve and a half miles. Recently there has been talk of a German gun that ranges fifteen miles. But an American ordnance factory is preparing a 12-inch gun, it is said, which is to carry a shell nineteen miles. Its length is to be equal to forty calibers and the 1,050-pound shell is to have an initial velocity of 3,000 feet a second. The difficulties in obtaining extreme ranges lies largely with the gun carriage. Most gun carriages permit an elevation of the muzzle of but seventeen degrees, whereas the last possible range of any given gun requires an elevation of [illegible] degrees. A larger arc of [illegible] is the lesson the Boer artillerists have enforced. The drawback of extreme ranges is the inaccuracy of fire. The Boers produced a great moral effect upon the British by landing shells at distances the British batteries could not cover, but they seldom made hits. They were content to demoralize their foe by subjecting him to a fire he could not reply to. At Ladysmith, for example, there were a few good shots at extreme ranges, so that the loss of life caused by cannot fire from great distances was trifling. As the range increases the chance of missing likewise increases, a very small error in the aim being multiplied more and more the farther the shot goes. At nineteen miles it is hard to believe that one shot in a thousand would hit an object no bigger than a house.—Baltimore Sun.

Greatness of California.

California has a coast line of more than 700 miles—a stretch of ocean front that would reach from Boston to Carolina. It has an average breadth of 200 miles, which gives it an area of considerably over 100,000,000 acres, or about the combined extent of all New England, New York, and Pennsylvania. Within these borders there are various kinds of climate, marvellous diversities of soil and products and conditions that excite interest and wonder. The census of this year shows that the state has increased rapidly in population, that it has taken higher rank in the value of agricultural crops, that it is first in vine culture, and that it has made most astonishing progress in manufactures.—Saturday Evening Post.

Spain's Boy King.

According to the [illegible] of Spain, the monarch becomes [illegible] and succeeds to full power when [illegible] completes his 18th year. Before Alfonso XIII. reaches that age he will have traveled a great deal, as it is intended that he shall visit every court in Europe. Thus he will complete his education, which is intended to fit him for the difficult position of reigning king of Spain. He will be wealthy, as his state allowance is $1,400,000 per year, with various palaces, castles and villas to live in rent free, and during his minority savings were and are still effected, for the queen regent does not allow waste, and the home life of the Spanish court is simple.

Onions as a Medicine.

Onions are a kind of all-round good medicine. A whole onion eaten at bed time will, by the next morning, break the severest cold. Onions make a good plaster to reduce inflammation and hoarseness. If an onion is smashed so as to secure all the juice in it, it will make a most remarkable smelling substance that will quiet the [illegible]

Curious Census Report.

A Kansas [illegible] husband [illegible] entered [illegible] for a divorce [illegible] on the ground that the plaintiff [illegible] entirely [illegible] that the success of [illegible] husband and wife [illegible] to work and [illegible] maintenance of their [illegible]

The [illegible]

BIVALVE'S ENEMY.

Curious Way a Starfish Devours an Oyster.

The oyster, when at home, lives in a hard lime shell which nicely protects him from the attacks of enemies. Man, with his tools, can open the shell and remove the soft animal, but besides man the oyster has few foes. Oddly enough, his greatest foe is as such he expected, an animal with a powerful jaw and strong teeth, but one wholly without jaws. It is the common starfish, so common every where at the seashore. Now, the starfish is a soft, flexible creature, very sluggish, seemingly helpless and utterly unable to attack such an animal as the oyster. Its mouth, which is the center of the disk, has no teeth or jaws. How can such a helpless creature open the formidable oyster shell and get at the animal concealed within? Its method of doing so is odd enough. It first clasps the oyster in its arms, wrapping its five arms around the shell tightly. Having thus seized the oyster, it quietly waits. For what it happens next even our scientists do not exactly know. The two halves of the oyster are held together by a hinge, which is opened by a spring. The spring is so adjusted that the shells will be pushed open unless they are held together by the muscles. Some scientists tell us that after the starfish has held the oyster for awhile the oyster opens its shell in order to get food, and the starfish that has been waiting for this now injects into the shell a little relaxing liquid. This acts as a poison, says H. T. Cook, in St. Nicholas, paralyzing the muscles and thus making it impossible for the animal to close its shells tightly together until the oyster is smothered. As soon as it is stupified by the suffocation the muscles relax and the shell opens. Whether all of these two arguments is true it is certain that after a little the oyster shells fly open. Now comes the oddest feature of all. The stomach of the starfish is very large and elastic, and it is now thrown out of the animal's mouth much as one would turn a bag inside out. This stomach is then thrust within the oyster shell and wrapped around the soft animal, beginning at once to digest it. The starfish does not take the trouble even to remove the oyster from its shell, digesting it in its own home and eventually crawling away, leaving behind the gaping, empty shell.

Alack! Alas!

If all motives were apparent,
More blessings would arise;
But false pretense oft ruins
A blessing in [illegible]

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

[illegible]

Jackson Hartford Times.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]