

USEFULNESS OF MICROBES

Billions of Them Working in Behalf of the Human Race.

The New Science of Industrial Biology Likely to Revolutionize Manufacturing Methods—Experiments in Massachusetts Laboratories.

BOSTON, July 20.—A paper recently read before the Boston Society of Natural History by Samuel C. Prescott, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, deals with a subject of unusual interest...

Investigations into the processes of baking, brewing, and wine-making, the preparation of skins for tanning, the dairy and sugar industries, and a great number of changes and reactions formerly believed to be purely chemical in character, have shown that the real work is done by living organisms...

THE NAVY IN THE SIXTIES.

Some Interesting Figures on the Work of the Six Squadrons.

Early in the war six squadrons were established, which were maintained until the summer of 1865. These were the North Atlantic, South Atlantic, East Gulf and West Gulf, the Mississippi and the Potomac flotillas, and the Atlantic Squadron.

During the four years of the war 216 vessels were built by the Government carrying a total of 1,575 guns. Of these 176 were ironclad vessels with 206 guns. The remaining 40 were purchased by the Government at an aggregate cost of \$13,366,618.83.

THE GENUINE BULLFIGHT.

A Real Contest Graphically Described by an Eyewitness.

The Sport Indulged in by Royalty Since the Time of Hercules—Great 'Fiestas' in Seville and Madrid—Thousands Wildly Cheer the Victor.

As the bullfight, or rather a modification of that sport, seems creeping into favor in this country, the real Spanish contest as described by an eye witness to a thrilling encounter, is both interesting and enlightening.

"During medieval times, kings were frequently indulged in the game. The sport was introduced into Italy in the time of Pope Borgia, himself a Spaniard, whose son, Caesar, once took the bull's head completely off with one sweep of his two-handed sword.

"The best bullfights, perhaps, are to be seen in Seville, and the next best at Madrid. The 'season' begins on the first Sunday after Lent, and a bullfight takes place on every Sunday (weather permitting) until the heat of summer becomes excessive.

"A bullfight may be described as a tragedy in three acts, which ordinarily lasts about twenty minutes. In the Plaza de Toro is an immense amphitheatre, open to the sky, with an arena in the center. The seats rise tier above tier in circles, and will accommodate many thousands of spectators.

A LOST MISSOURI ISLAND.

Strange Disappearance of a Landmark Discovered a Century Ago.

One of the most noted localities on the Missouri River in the palmy days of exploring on that stream was Cow Island, an island located in the river about seven miles above Weston and opposite the old town of Iatan.

ALLOTING PUBLIC LAND.

Methods Used by Ancients Compared With Those of Today.

Reference has been made in the rush which will take place next month in Oklahoma for the new lands opened to settlement there. And nothing could more clearly point out the difference between the ancient methods of allotting public soil and those in vogue today.

ALWAYS AN OMEN OF LUCK.

The Horseshoe Long Regarded as a Safeguard Against Evil.

Deep-Rooted Superstition Which May Be Traced to Remote Ages—Strange Customs in England—Oakham's Collection of Hoof-Plates.

There is a superstition which has been traced to remote ages, and which is still prevalent in some parts of the world. It is the belief in the magic power of the horseshoe.

THE FINAL AND FATAL STRUGGLE.

"Finally the 'matador,' or 'espada,' comes forward, and now it is death either to man or bull. The 'matador,' who is the hero of the occasion, if he is the chief actor in the drama, rests respectfully falling back at his approach.

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SOME COSTLY INTRODUCTIONS.

Large Sums Paid in England for a Social Handshake.

According to an article on costly introductions, which appeared in a London weekly, \$15,000 is the record sum paid for the privilege of shaking somebody's hand.

THE TORTURE OF THE ANIMAL.

"Then the second act begins. The mounted pleaders come forward and command the attention of the bull. The horses they ride are blindfolded to make them stand the charge without flinching.

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QUAINT MEDICAL RECIPES.

Heroic Treatment for Ills Administered in 1847.

An Odd Collection of Remedies Compiled by John Wesley—Honey a Cure for Hives—Apple Juice Said to Be Good for Weak Eyes.

In these days of hygienic reform, and "methods" of treating disease without medicine at all, it is interesting to read of the heroic treatment of 150 years ago.

THE INVISIBLE INDIAN.

Wonderful Tricks Played by Native Thieves in Bombay.

A very interesting and valuable report was issued several years ago by the Inspector of Prisons of the Indian Empire, in which almost incredible accounts are given of the practice of this extraordinary art by the thieves of lower Bombay.

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