

WOLBERT,
FOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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IN ADVANCE

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The most impressive act of American heroism in China was the scaling of the wall of Peking by Calvin P. Blais, a musician of the Fifteenth Regiment Band. When the Americans reached the south wall of the Chinese capital, young Titus, a lad of nineteen, rushed forward with others to the wall, which is thirty feet high. Being the best climber, he outfooted his companions; and, on reaching the top of the wall, he threw down a rope and helped the regiment up. It was a gallant deed, and his lad was exposed to Chinese bullets from the moment his head rose above the battlements. The young man, a native of Iowa, and joined the regiment a short time before it sailed for China. His name will stand in the list of national heroes.

The tramp question in the United States has been a most serious one ever since the introduction of railroads. It is estimated that no less than 10,000 are carried nightly on trains, and that 10,000 more are waiting to steal a ride at the same time. The Pennsylvania Railroad has taken a firm stand in the matter, and has equipped a special police force for the purpose of preventing trespassing. Some of the farmers, however, do not approve of this action, as they obtain much of their extra help in harvest times from the drifting population.

In the botanical garden of Berlin is to be seen a cactus which has grown for seven years in a glass flask sealed by fusion; it was presented by a German pharmacist, Ludwig Rust. He explains the growth of the plant by the fact that the soil in which it grows contains a certain quantity of spores of fungi, which germinate from time to time and cover the sides of the flask with a greenish layer. These, in dying, furnish the carbonic acid necessary for the life of the cactus. This explanation appeared satisfactory at first, but it was then asked from whence came the carbonic acid for the fungi; again, the phenomena of nutrition which take place in the green parts of the plant require an excess of carbonic acid. This, in fact, to be furnished by the process of putrefaction which takes place in the soil. Another question which is more difficult to answer is the origin of the water which is necessary to maintain the life of the plant; this may be derived from the decomposition of the cellulose. However, these questions may be answered, the fact remains that the plant lives and develops in a hermetically closed medium. The experiment is not difficult to carry out, and its study may lead to interesting results.

A scientist looking for microbes says there are absolutely none on the Swiss mountains at an altitude of 2,000 feet. Here is the place for purity party and scaremongers who are forever horrifying the public with the dismal fear of microbes. They would have to take their supply with them, most of which are useful to man. It is pleasing to observe that the microbe does not give himself lofty airs, but, as a fellow creature, comes down to our level and dwells cheerily in our midst.

NEW FRUIT TREE.—A new fruit tree is described by Andree in the Revue Horticole. The name of the plant is Feijoa sellowiana; it is indigenous in La Plata, South America, but also thrives in Southern France. The tree which blossomed and bore fruit in Andree's garden attained a height of 34 meters and had the form of a shrub. The fruit is an oblong, egg shaped berry 4 to 5 centimeters long and 3 to 5 centimeters wide, retaining its color even in the ripest condition. The meat of the fruit is firm, of white color and sweet taste, containing much juice and giving off an extremely agreeable and penetrating odor. The flavor is said to remind one of the pineapple.

Buffalo, N. Y., is made the eighth city of the United States by the new census, having passed Cincinnati and San Francisco.

While the Marriage was
Going On.

Recalling the historic incident clustering about South Carolina's Executive Mansion, Mrs. Thaddeus Horton writes, in the October Ladies Home Journal, of the shocking tragedy that occurred there toward the close of the war. This was the death of the daughter of Governor Pickens immediately after her marriage to Lieutenant Le Rochelle. "On the afternoon preceding the evening of the marriage the Northern Army began shelling Columbia, but preparations for the wedding continued. Finally the guests were all assembled and the clergyman was proceeding with the solemn ceremony, and had just joined the right hands of the happy pair, when suddenly there was an awful crash, and a ball from the enemy's cannon penetrated the mansion and burst in the middle of the marriage chamber, scattering its death dealing missiles in every direction.

There were screams and a heart-rending groan; mirrors crashed; the house shook; women fainted; and walls rocked to and fro.

"When the first confusion was over it was discovered that in all the crowd only one person was injured, and that was the bride herself. She lay partly on the floor and partly in her lover's arms, crushed and bleeding, pale but very beautiful, her bridal gown drenched with warm blood, and a great cut in her breast. Laying her on a lounge, the frantic bridegroom besought her by every term of tenderness and endearment to allow the ceremony to proceed, to which she weakly gave consent, and lying like a crushed flower, no less white than the camellias of her bridal bouquet, her breath coming in short gasps, and the blood flowing from this great, angry wound, she murmured 'yes' to the clergyman, and received her husband's first kiss. A moment more and all was over.

"She was laid to rest under the magnolias, and the heartbroken bridegroom, reckless with despair, returned to his regiment."

Practical Joke Drives A Young Woman Insane.

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 29.—As the result of a practical joke Pearl Boyd, a pretty young girl of Nome, is now a raving maniac and her lover, Paul Laird, lies in a suicides grave. Pearl was noted for intrepidity and declared that nothing could frighten her. Laird determined to frighten her, and it is said, cut the hand from the body of a dead Eskimo, which he found lying on the tundra. He took the hand and placed it in the girl's bed. When the young woman discovered it, late at night, her reason fled. With loud shrieks, she sprang upon the bed and tore the hand to pieces with her teeth. Laird, who watched the scene from outside the window, fainted; and when he recovered put a bullet through his brain.—Statesman.

Muddled Legal Phraseology

"If I were going to give you an orange," said Judge Foote of Topeka to D. O. McCray, "I would simply say, 'I give you the orange'; but should the transaction be entrusted to a lawyer, to put in writing, he would adopt this form: 'I hereby give, grant and convey to you all my interest, right, title and advantage of and in said orange, together with its rind, skin, juice, pulp and pits, and all right and advantage therein, with full power to bite, suck, or otherwise eat the same, or give away, with or without the rind, skin, juice, pulp or pits, anything herein-before, or in any other deed or deeds, instruments of any nature or kind whatsoever to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.'"

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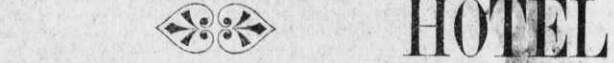
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