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Graduate College of Civil Engineering, Cornell University.
Consulting Engineer for General Work, Specialties: Hydraulic, Sanitary Engineering and Bridge Designing.
Offices at Charlottetown and St John Island correspondents address to Charlottetown.

NOTICE

The property on the corner of King and Townal Sts, belonging to the estate of the late Catherine McKenna, (subject to a 3 years unexpired lease, from May 1st, 1898), will be sold by Public Auction on Tuesday, May 3rd, 1898, at 12 o'clock, noon.
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	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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	27	28	29	30	31		

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THE DAILY EXAMINER
MARCH, 17, 1898.

SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

Recent investigations of Mr. Camille Flammarion, the versatile French astronomer, have been applied to problems in plant growth. Cultivating plants under red, green, blue and colorless glasses, he has found not only that the growth is wonderfully stimulated under red glass while the development of woody fiber is greatest under clear glass, but that the color and shape of leaves, flowers and fruits are often effected by the color of the light. Lilies that were pink in ordinary light became white under green glass. The size shape and color of geranium and coleus leaves varied greatly in light of different colors as well as in that of varying intensity, temperature proving to have little influence. A German reviewer of these experiments finds that all plants may be divided into three principal groups. In the first, the influence of light on the nutritive process in the cell causes the colors of leaf and flower; in the second, the color is influenced by the direct effects of sunlight; and in the third, the coloring of certain parts is not dependent on light.

A disappointing feature of the "Turbina" whose performance not many months ago astonished the world, was the lack of any means of reversing the motor. Mr. Parsons at first thought to overcome the difficulty by the crude plan of using a separate engine for running system, but has now announced that he has succeeded in applying to the steam turbine a system of butterfly reversing steam valves by which the steam may be made to act on the blades of the motor in either direction.

Wearing for eight days a mask fitted with inverting lenses, projecting upon the retina erect instead of the usual inverted images, Prof. Geo. M. Stratton, of the University of California, soon learned to see objects right side up, but to his surprise everything appeared upside down when he first removed the apparatus. He concludes that seeing right side up is a mental rectification of the visual image actually projected upon the retina.

Precise measurement of the velocities of projectiles—which now reach half a mile per second—require ingenuity. The ordinary chronograph consists of a shutter suspended by an electromagnet. The shutter being dropped as the cannon-ball breaks the first of a series of wires, and given a knife-cut at the point reached in its fall as each of the other wires is broken. The velocity is calculated from the knife marks and the known speed of falling bodies. A new and more delicate chronograph—the invention of Prof. Cushing Crehore, of Dartmouth College and Lieut. Owen Squier, U. S. A.—depends upon the modern discovery known as the Parady effect a tribo of carbon bisulphide between the two Nicol prisms of a polariscope allowing the ray of light usually intercepted by the crossed prisms to pass when a strong magnetic field is produced. The magnetic field is given by a coil of wire surrounding the tube. The recording apparatus includes, besides the polariscope and tube, a camera with a revolving sensitive plate and a falling shutter with two apertures, one opening admitting the polarized light and the other a ray from the vibrating prong of a tuning fork. The vibration rate is known and the dots formed on the sensitive plate constitute the time-scale for the projectile record. The projectile breaks the magnetizing circuit—extinguishing the light—as it cuts the first wire, restores the circuit by a simple device as it reaches the second wire, breaks it again at the third, and so on, four circuits giving a record of eight time intervals. By suitable placing of the wires any portion of the projectile's path may be studied. A striking observation already made is that the projectile increases its velocity for two or three yards after leaving the cannon, slowing down to muzzle velocity in about 25 yards. A modified apparatus makes it possible to follow the ball's course inside the cannon. The quickness of the measurements is marvellous, ten points having been taken in 30 inches, the time interval being 1-2000 of a second.

Peat is treated in an English process, patented by Mr. Blundell, by being formed into paste, molded into tubes four or

five inches through, then cut into sticks and dried for three or four weeks. Thus prepared, the material can be used as fuel or it can be more profitably made into charcoal in retorts. Three tons of peat make one ton of charcoal. The process is to be tested in Italy, where are large deposits of peat.

A remarkable fabric now being made in Brussels is flexible, transparent, and impervious to water. Its surface, like that of glass, can be washed with a wet sponge. The material is made by a patented process, which consists in filling the meshes of a wide meshed fabric, such as muslin, with chrome gelatine, rendering the gelatine insoluble by exposure to light, and then giving both sides several coats of boiled linseed oil or fat varnish. The fabric is ornamented by printing, and is designed especially for portieres, window shades, umbrellas, and similar uses.

The theory that gold nuggets have been deposited from a solution around a nucleus has been a subject of investigation by Prof. A. Liversidge, the Australian mineralogist. He finds that etched sections of nuggets show more or less crystallization often large and well-defined crystals, some times with inclusions of quartz and other impurities, but never concentric layers. Gold that had been fused had a similar crystalline structure. He does not think this necessarily proves that native gold has been in a melted condition but believes that it has been deposited from solution and unusually in veins and cavities, although possibly around a nucleus.

The daily expansion and contraction of the Eiffel tower at Paris has been studied for ten years by Col. Bassot. The lighting-rod at the top is kept always in motion, expansion producing a torsion movement of about four inches from sunrise to sunset, and contraction reversing this as the mass of iron and steel cools at night. This trusting, which does not compromise the solidity of the structure, is greater in summer than in winter.

The phosphorescence of decaying wood proves to be due to minute vegetation, instead of to solely chemical causes as some have supposed. The mycelium of some undetermined fungus from pine has been cultivated by Kütcher, a German biologist, in decoctions of beech bark and agar-agar, the result being a white, brilliantly luminous growth.

The obvious advantages of the phonograph have been at last recognized by the French town of Emaucy, whose municipal council has adopted the apparatus as a recording secretary.

Trying a Dead Man.

It is probably an unusual thing in any country for a court to sit in judgment on the dead, but in a Berlin letter to the Chicago Record an account is given of a trial in which the accused was a dead man.

It was not his first trial. That had taken place in his lifetime, and its result had been a sentence of imprisonment for 18 months. The delinquent was bureau chief in the tax office of Schweidnitz, Silesia, and it was proved that he had embezzled funds and forged documents. Soon after his sentence, however, he showed signs of unsettled reason, and at length died a maniac.

His widow, anxious to clear his memory from the stain that rested upon it, had the case reopened and proved by expert testimony that her husband had been demented at the time he committed the crime.

Thus occurred the peculiar circumstance of a dead man on trial. The trial resulted in the reversal of the former sentence, the court pronouncing the deceased not guilty.

Bad Blood is a Good Thing

to be rid of, because bad blood is the breeding place of disfiguring and dangerous diseases. Is your blood bad? It is if you are plagued by pimples or bothered by boils, if your skin is blotched by eruptions or your body eaten by sores and ulcers. You can have good blood, which is pure blood, if you want it. You can be rid of pimples, boils, blotches, sores and ulcers. How? By the use of

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"After six years' suffering from blood poison, I began taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and although I have used only three bottles of this great medicine, the sores have nearly all disappeared."—A. A. MANNING, Houston, Texas.

THE LITTLE BOY THAT DIED.

Dr. Chalmers is said to be the author of the following poem, written on the occasion of the death of a young son whom he greatly loved.

I am all alone in my chamber now,
And the midnight hour is near,
And the faggot's crack, and the clock's
dull tick
Are the only sounds I hear;
And over my soul in its solitude
Sweet feelings of sadness glide,
For my heart and my eyes are full when
I think
Of the little boy that died.

I went one night to my father's house,
Went home to the dear ones all,
And softly I opened the garden gate,
And softly the door of the hall!
My mother came out to meet her son,
She kissed me and then she sighed,
And her head fell on my neck, and she
wept
For the little boy that died.

I shall miss him when the flowers come
In the garden where he played;
I shall miss him more by the fireside
When the flowers have all decayed;
I shall see his toys and his empty chair,
And the horse he used to ride;
And they will speak with a silent speech
Of the little boy that died.

We shall go home to our father's house—
To our Father's house in the skies,
Where the hope of our souls shall have
no blight,
Our love no broken ties;
We shall roam on the banks of the river
of peace,
And bathe in its blissful tide,
And one of the joys of our heaven shall be,
The little boy that died.

AN ANSWER AND PROPOSITION.

Sir.—At last the nine days wonder occasioned by the failure of "Mariner and His Aces" to disturb by their braying the cows ruminating by the road side leading to the village of Annandale, on the warm sunny afternoon of the 7th day of November, 1897, has been dispelled. For after staying in the womb of oblivion for nearly four months, he has been born again to the reading public, as a full fledged navigator. The difference between a "Mariner" and a "navigator" I leave him to explain. He speeds on and says the matter was ventilated last fall. So it was, until I clogged the ventilating pipe with a proposition! He goes on and says the specification calls for a can buoy outside the bar; and that a beer cask with some slabs on it is the one I use; and that during the fall of the last year the late contractor had charge of the buoys he lost the can buoy and having no spare one, mark you—put out a rum puncheon for that fall and that it is still there. Now, if I use this rum puncheon where does the beer or ale cask come in and vice versa. Well, now "Navigator," if you answer my proposition and give me the privilege of seeing your amiable countenance, in answer to some of your assertions, I am afraid I will be tempted to call you a liar; but as it will hurt your nerves to do this in public, I will refrain. You assert first that the present bar buoy was first put out in the fall of 1896. Now sir, that is false. It was made by Mr. John Howlett, according to a plan sent by Mr. Lord, to Mr. John Swallow the then contractor, in the year 1890. So much for falsehood number one. Again he rambles on and says that there should be two black spar buoys, one on each side of the bar. Will Navigator inform me where the side of the bar are? They cannot be needed on the inside or outside as there is a can buoy outside and a cask buoy inside. Perhaps he has some ulterior motive in wishing the spar buoys scattered some where along outside the harbor; anyway they are not named in my bonds, so that I never leave nor never will put them out. But perhaps, he meant one of the inside sets of spar buoys one of these buoys being red, the Agent of Marine and Fisheries having ordered it to be painted that color. I beg leave to inform him that I have chain moorings enough for all the buoys and enough spare chains for to moor all his shipping at any time he feels inclined to ask for them. And in order to end this Apostle of Calumny's career, at once, I make him the following offer: let him, and the quadruple alliance that he writes for, come to Mr. E. McFarlane's, store, on Monday, March the 28th, at 7 o'clock p. m., and their answer the following charges and assertions they have made regarding the Grand River buoy service, myself, and the harbour master: 1st that the present bar buoy is not lawful; 2nd, where they ever saw a specification of this harbour; 3rd how I disobeyed my instructions in painting a spar buoy red; 4th, answer the proof I have that the present bar buoy can be seen further than the old one; 5th, which contractor first painted all the spar buoys 6th, which contractor first kept a spar buoy 6ft above the water; 7th, which contractor first used a chain mooring on a spar buoy; 8th, why do you not obey the 10th commandment of the decalogue?

I will bring my bonds and you will have the privilege of seeing how I observe my obligations to the public. And now, with an apology to my pen for using it to hurl such a base calumniation from my path, I will close with a hope that I will never have to solicit the attention of your readers with a reply to Navigator again.
Geo. E. SAVILLE,
Buoy Contractor.
Annandale March 14th 1898.

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