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TREASURE TO BE FOUND

Great Fortunes That Have Been Lost For Centuries Still Sought.

The word "treasure"—meaning something very valuable, and preferably a few million pounds' worth of gold bullion, fastened up in strong chests; and, again, meaning specially such treasure as has been lost for centuries past and can only with difficulty be regained; and, once more, referring to such bullion at the bottom of the sea, perhaps in the holds of Spanish galleons—that word "treasure" is one which strikes quickly into our imagination and makes the most placid wonderer if there is not something of the kind hidden in him after all, despite his constant occupation by day in the routine of an office. Then let us consider treasure for a while. Where is the lost treasure? How did it get there? And how can we get it out? These are important questions.

There were the riches of Croylard among them; and, valued as these things were, that time—as John knew so well—how much more so, magnificent relics of the thirteenth century, would they be today? What a scene of strife and excitement would there be at Christie's auction rooms could but one of them be put up for sale there in these times! And it is considered probable, also, that some pieces of the ancient regalia of England were lost with all the rest.

Miscellaneous Reading.

PLEASE TO WILSON

Federal Government Should Not Issue Liquor Licenses in This State. In a letter to President Woodrow Wilson, of the United States, last Tuesday, Governor Bleasdale pleads with him to instruct the revenue commission not to issue any more internal revenue licenses in South Carolina to retail liquor dealers, declaring that such a course would assist him greatly in enforcing the liquor laws.

"HEAT OF BATTLE" IS REAL

Soldiers Wet With Perspiration After Three-Minute Fight. The expression, "the heat of battle," often used by poets and historians, is usually taken in a figurative sense and supposed to refer not to actual temperature of the air, but to the mental and physical exertion, but under which they labor. But a veteran of the Civil War, who ought to know, declares that the heat of battle is an actual bodily heat.

How Houdin Conquered an Entire Nation With His Little Black Box.

"These are great times," exclaimed the Electrician to his friend the Old Fogey. "With machine guns and other instruments of war we certainly are going some in the fighting game!" "Yes," agreed the Old Fogey, as he adjusted his glasses, "but do you know that, before such things were dreamed of, an entire nation was conquered with a magnet and a little black box?"

GREATEST OF ALL DISASTERS

Flood of the Hoang-Ho in China in 1887 Heads List. "Talking of floods, what was the greatest disaster nature ever hit the world with? I don't mean the deluge or anything so far off as that, and I don't mean wars, either. They're our own work. But what was the biggest loss of life that ever happened because of a flood or a fire or an earthquake, or anything of that sort, as far back as the ordinary records go?"

A SPORTING BUSINESS

Methods Used in Whale Hunting. "The average newspaper reader knows that the knowledge will doubtless come as a surprise that within the last decade an old industry has been revived so wonderfully that it threatens its own early extinction by its amazing success. Yet such is the case, and the industry in question is the romantic one of whale hunting. Only about a quarter of a century ago it seemed as if the wonderful old sporting business had died out, or was at its last gasp, because the product obtained from the whale cost too much in the getting, a hindrance that was fatal."

THE WHITE MAN'S MAGIC

How Houdin Conquered an Entire Nation With His Little Black Box. "These are great times," exclaimed the Electrician to his friend the Old Fogey. "With machine guns and other instruments of war we certainly are going some in the fighting game!"

French Pioneer Who Had Commission to Plunder Spanish Ships.

Brief news dispatches told the day of the sailing of the steamer laden with \$5,000,000 in gold for a port on the Caribbean Sea—and a pirate to fear! What a prize that vessel would have been in the brave days of old, when Jean Lafitte, the patriot pirate of the Gulf, ruled over a little outlaw kingdom of his own within a few miles of the city of New Orleans.

Highest Mountain in United States.

The highest mountain in Oregon is Mount Hood, 11,235 feet above sea level. Compared with Mount Whitney, to the south in California, and Mount Ranier, to the north in Washington, each rising well above 14,000 feet, Mount Hood does not appear as a skyscraper. However, according to the geologists of the United States geological survey and other authorities, Oregon had at one time, probably before the dawn of life upon the earth, a great volcano which towered as far above Mount Hood as does Mount Ranier, possibly even several thousand feet higher.

Epitaph For a Grouch.

Once there was a man who was Not a Grouch. When good things came his way he raked them in and never said a word. He never saw the beauty in the fields or the woods, and no sunset ever phased him. He never heard a bird sing, never said hello to a stranger, and never gave a child a piece of candy. His morning and evening salutation was a grunt. He dragged along through the years until the thing was over—but he didn't die. He just sort of shriveled up and blew away. And the happy on-lookers who gathered near, saw a green vapor hover for a few minutes over his old clothes and then pass with a weird and mournful sound into an abandoned well. And they filled the old well with tin cans and erected a monument over it. In the shape of a cucumber. And this was the epitaph: "Here Lies a Grouch. Blessed are the Grateful."—Marion, (Kan.) Record.

Repeating attempts had been made to organize a military expedition to destroy Lafitte's private army, but such to nothing. In September of that year a British brig anchored six miles from Barataria Pass, and its captain came ashore and offered Lafitte a captain's commission in the British navy and \$30,000 if he would join the British in an attack against New Orleans.

Lafitte pretended to consider the offer, sending word meantime to a member of the legislature of the British captain's offer and declaring that he would never accept it. He sent another letter to Governor Claiborne, who had offered \$1,000 for Lafitte's head, and for whose head Lafitte in return, in a spirit of bravado, had offered a reward of \$50,000. Lafitte suggested that the governor extend clemency to his pirates, who in return would aid in the defense of the state against the British. The offer was rejected, and an expedition under Commodore Patterson, of the United States navy, tore down the brick house, confiscated much plunder and drove out the pirates, who had holed their ships in a line of battalions, but afterward changed their minds and fled to hide among the numberless waterways and bayous.