

## THE SOUNDLESS FIREARM

HIRAM MAXIM SHOWS HIS INVENTION AT WORK.

Will Fit on Any Gun and Practically Deadens All Noise of Discharge of Weapon.

The New York Sun gives a very interesting account of a test of Hiram Maxim's invention for deadening the sound of guns:

A merry party opening many bottles of champagne was what Hiram Percy Maxim's demonstration of his new gun silencer sounded like yesterday afternoon in the Potter building, at 38 Park row. Now and again, however, there came a report several degrees louder than the puffy pops and the audience understood that Mr. Maxim was just showing the difference between the old and the new way. But for the most part it was just that little puff-popping, and Mr. Maxim said that most of the noise came from the impact of the bullet against the sand in the target.

It was the first public demonstration which the inventor has given of the silent gun, which with smokeless powder leaves the marksman inaudible as well as invisible.

He held it in the offices of his attorneys, Redding, Greely & Austin, and in the next room a stenographer kept pounding the keys just in line with the course of the bullets. But Mr. Maxim's target did not let any of them pass. The guns which he used ranged all the way from a little .22 repeating Winchester to the new .30-30 Springfield army rifle, and took in the high power Mausers and Mannlichers which European armies use.

The silencer is a little black tube which screws on at the muzzle of the gun and has about twice the diameter of the barrel. The size and weight vary according to the calibre and power of the arm. For a .22 calibre rifle the tube is about four inches long and less than an inch and a half in diameter. For a .30-30 rifle, on the other hand, the silencer is two inches longer, but it has the same diameter. The weight varies from six to nine ounces.

First Mr. Maxim snapped his little Winchester repeater at the target without one of the tubes on the end. The noise wasn't pleasant to hear. Then he put on the silencer. You heard the hammer come hard against the cartridge, a little puffup, and that was all. He tried a short and a long rifle cartridge and the noise was not appreciably different.

Then he worked up little by little to the high power guns. He let a Winchester .30-30 go without the little black tube on the end of it, and after that came for a shot without the silencer. With it in place the noise was just the same as a champagne bottle popping. Mr. Maxim explained that even that noise came from the passage of the bullet through the air and then from the impact against the target. He had made a special kind of target arranged on the same principles as the silencer itself, but it didn't catch quite all of the sound.

Finally he picked up a Springfield .30, which he described as the best rifle in the world. It is the new United States army rifle and the most powerful military gun in use. The bullet has an initial velocity of about 2,700 feet a second and when you hear it start on its course under normal conditions the impact upon the ear drums is something that they don't readily recover from. And yet with that little black tube in place the sound is scarcely audible.

By way of showing that the air at the muzzle of the gun is disturbed by the passage of gas he held a card in front of the silencer. The bullet passed cleanly through as though it had been shot from a distance. But when he tried the same trick with the silencer off the card and the thing that held it was reduced to shreds.

The theory upon which the silencer works Mr. Maxim described as being identical with that of the negative turbine. The powder gases as soon as they enter the silencer from the barrel of the gun meet the spiral chambers in the interior of the tube and are set to whirling very rapidly. The tendency of whirling bodies is to fly out from the center, and inasmuch as the only means of exit from the silencer is near the center of its further extremity the gases are unable to escape until they have slowed down. The expulsion of the gas is therefore at a very much reduced velocity as compared with its speed under the normal conditions of gun fire and the shock to the atmosphere and the consequent shock to the ear drum are relatively less.

The course of the bullet lies along a line somewhat above the center of the tube, and the noise which the bullet makes in cleaving the atmosphere is the only sound, except that of the bullet striking against its target. If the target is at a great distance the only sound is that of the shrill ping as it passes through the air. Thus the invention complements the utility of smokeless powder in that it makes the invisible discharge inaudible also. The noise in the air is said to lead to confusion rather than to definiteness in an effort to trace the source of a bullet.

Mr. Maxim declares that his invention will not make things easier for the assassin. The noise of a high power bullet in the air is enough, he says, to make discovery possible. The fact that it is a puzzling matter to trace the immediate spot from which the gun was fired is not, so he thinks, of great importance save in the single instance of warfare.

### Negro Lynched at Lakeland.

Jacksonville, Fla., Feb. 13.—Jake Wade, the negro who was arrested yesterday in Gainesville, accused of being the assailant of Miss Irma Newell, at Lakeland, Fla., last Tuesday, was lynched to-day immediately following his identification by the young woman.

A posse of 25 men took him from the train and carried him to the Newell home. Miss Newell said that there was no doubt that he was her assailant. He was hanged to a tree and his body riddled with bullets.

## LOWE FOUND GUILTY.

Aiken Man Convicted of Murdering His Wife.

Aiken, Feb. 11.—The jury in the case against Sovereign Lowe, charged with the murder of his wife, Mrs. Rainey Lowe, rendered a verdict of guilty this afternoon, after having the case under consideration for less than two hours. The verdict carries with it a recommendation to the mercy of the court, and this will save the prisoner's neck. Lowe has not yet been sentenced, but he will receive a life sentence.

The case was given the jury this afternoon after about two days and several hours had been consumed in the trial of the case.

A very large crowd was in the court room when the verdict was read. The spectators have evinced the keenest interest in the case throughout the trial.

Four addresses were made to the jury in the summing up by the attorneys. Messrs. Smoak and Croft, appointed attorneys for Lowe, each spoke, Messrs. Byrnes and Toole speaking for the prosecution.

It is said that the verdict of guilty with recommendation to mercy was a compromise, but it has not been learned yet how the jury stood. Very few people following the case expected a verdict of guilty, carrying a death sentence.

The verdict is generally satisfactory. The defendant sat composed during the trial and the verdict did not greatly affect him.

### The Last White Man Executed.

The Laurens, S. C., News of last week contains a full account of the last legal execution of a white man in Laurens county, together with the story of the crime and the trial. It is of special interest now, as illustrating the contrast between the administration of justice then and now, and the work of the courts in its relation to crime.

The execution took place in 1854. The prisoner was one Dr. Thos. Kinman, described as a man of intelligence, of fine personal appearance, and possessed of considerable wealth in land and negroes in that county. The crime with which he was charged was stealing a negro—a capital crime under the laws at that time. He had been arrested in the spring, but released under bond, and when his case was called for trial on Monday of the October term of court he was on hand, and was then committed to jail.

The evidence against him was purely circumstantial, and as given in the record, seems to have been weak. It was in effect that a man had driven through the country with a covered wagon, in which he had a strong, able-bodied negro. This negro he sold, taking the money, and then the negro escaped from his new owner, joined his old owner again at some prearranged place, and was again sold in another place. This performance was repeated several times, until finally Kinman was caught. At the trial none of the witnesses could possibly identify him, and he was convicted principally on the evidence of three passes which had been given the negro, such as were required at that time of every unknown negro found on the road. These were signed by fictitious names, but the handwriting was described to be Dr. Kinman's by witnesses.

In the charge of the judge to the jury he made a strong summing-up of the evidence, as was the custom at that time, and the jury returned a verdict of guilty within thirty minutes. Kinman was sentenced to death. A new trial was petitioned for and refused; then the case was carried to the court of appeals which reviewed it and sustained the verdict. And within a short time after the first trial the sentence was executed. Seated on a wagon beside the driver, with the coffin in the wagon behind him, the unfortunate man was driven to the place of public execution, where he mounted the scaffold in the presence of a vast multitude, and himself giving the signal for the fatal drop. On the scaffold he confessed that he was guilty as charged.

This is in strange contrast with the administration of justice in our courts at the present time. To convict a man of wealth and social standing, even of the crime of murder, is simply impossible now, and so is a speedy trial in a criminal case, where the defendant has money enough, or can raise it, to employ a lawyer. There are the law's delays, the resort to technicalities, the appeal from one court to another, and all the red tape of the courts, until it has become almost impossible to secure a conviction in any criminal case, and if the case is of such a nature that a conviction can not be avoided, the pardoning power of the governor is held ready to complete the defeat of justice.

Before the Civil War the courts of South Carolina ranked highest in the country for swift and sure administration of justice according to law, as the trial of Dr. Kinman illustrates. And at that time in no State of the union was life and property safer, and less of crime than in South Carolina. Now, under the administration of the law which only in few cases results in conviction and in no case in speedy enforcement of the law, South Carolina leads in murder and manslaughter, and has the reputation of being a lawless country, where crime is rampant. And the same applies more or less to every State and especially to the Southern States.

If there could be a return to the sure and swift administration of the law, as it was a half century ago, it would stop the deluge of lawlessness which has swept over the country and still grows worse from year to year.—Augusta Herald.

### Refuses to Increase Rate.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 12.—The Georgia railroad commission to-day refused to permit the Central of Georgia railroad to increase its flat passenger rate from 2 1/4 to 2 1/2 cents a mile. The commission also refused to allow the railroad to discontinue certain trains on its Washington (Ga.) and Macon branches.

# Genuine Peruvian Guano



Untouched by the Chemist or the Manufacturer

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COTTON, TRUCK

Peruvian Guano Corporation

CHARLESTON, S. C.

### GOATS TO THE RESCUE!

Plan Announced to Save Uncle Sam's Forest from Fire.

"Wanted—By the United States government, 3,000 Angora goats, able to eat anything, from a red shirt or a circus poster to the bushy chaparral of the national forests; back alley goats of Jersey City, Hoboken and Harlem especially desired."

This is the advertisement which may be looked for within the next few days, when the government has completed a scheme formed of herding out 3,000 Angora goats on the bush-covered foothills of California to eat away the bushy growth and thereby protect the forests.

The goats will be spread out over an area and then properly guided, so as to eat lanes in the forests. These lanes, it is calculated, will be 300 yards wide and will serve to divide the forests into patches, so to speak, so that if one patch gets afire the flames will not spread to the adjoining patches.

### The New Hebron Church Muddle.

It will be seen that at a quarterly conference, of which Rev. C. B. Smith was president, the building committee was appointed for this church. Brother Smith was at the time uninformed as to where the money to build the church was to come from, but the next day he was given the particulars. He could have easily have called another quarterly conference at once and set the matter straight, but rather it seems that he let it alone and even allowed the church extension board at our last conference to donate \$70 to this church. It is clear that encouragement has been given the people of that church to continue in their work.

It is a most unfortunate affair. Clearly, the church can not accept money from a municipality, since to give it is unlawful, therefore to receive it is equally unlawful. But one course, it seems to us, is left, raise the money by private subscription to pay for the church.

The Orangeburg Evening News admits that it originated the statement that the church had been accepted by the Methodist conference, which it now admits is untrue. The spirit of the allegation was unkind and slanderous. We admit that a great blunder has been made, but it is not too late to correct it, and we assume that it will be corrected. The Methodist church can not be a party to any unlawful act.—Southern Christian Advocate.

### Hotel Indefinitely Closed.

"By order of the Royal Bengals, the T. P. A. and U. C. T., this hotel will be closed on January 23 indefinitely."

The above sign is posted on the door of a hotel not 1,900 miles from Columbia and shows what united action on the part of the traveling men can do. The hotel referred to was not conducted in a way to show an inclination on the part of the management to make the members of the traveling fraternity in any way comfortable, but a desire was shown to make every cent that possibly could be made, evidenced by the fact that no blank envelopes were ever kept on hand, but the proprietor was always ready to sell a stamped envelope for 3 cents, when the cost of same was just a little over 2 cents. This condition at last became unbearable, and the traveling men induced another party to open a hotel, the final result being the posting of the sign mentioned above.—The State.

### Catarrh Cannot be Cured

with local applications, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh. Send for testimonials free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O.  
Sold by druggists, price 75c.  
Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

## 4 PER CENT. AND SAFETY

This bank gives you protection for your savings and pays you 4 per cent. interest for the privilege of serving you. When you hoard your money it earns you nothing, and you assume all risk of loss from carelessness, thieves, fire and poor investment. Which is the better way—to bring your savings here where they will be absolutely safe and earn you an income, or put them away in some place of fancied security where they will bring you in nothing but worry?

EHRHARDT BANKING CO., - Ehrhardt, S. C.

## I HAVE MOVED

I have moved my hardware store into the brick store next to the Peoples Bank, on Main street. Have just received a new line of all kinds of Hardware, Tools, Farm Supplies, etc., and can save you money. Don't fail to see me before buying anything in my line.

J. A. HUNTER

The Hardware Man Bamberg, S. C.

## DON'T THROW IT AWAY

That broken gun or pistol, or perhaps it's a bicycle that is not in working order. Don't throw it away, but let me repair it so that it will give you as much service as though it were new. I am fully prepared to execute repair work promptly and satisfactorily, and solicit your patronage.

## J. B. BRICKLE

The Repair Man Bamberg, S. C.

# Horses=Mules

We received recently another car load of Horses and Mules, direct from East St. Louis, the largest Horse and Mule market in the world. This load was carefully selected by our Mr. W. P. Jones, specially to suit the needs of the people of this section. We now have the largest and best lot of stock in Bamberg County, and can suit anybody in a Horse or Mule, no matter what their wants may be..... We also have on hand a good assortment of Buggies, Wagons, Harness, and other horse accessories. Come to see us. The prices and terms will be made right.....

# Jones Brothers

Bamberg, South Carolina

### SHOULD BE HANDLED.

Two Rowdies Behaved Very Badly at a Country School.

Spartanburg, Feb. 10.—A special dispatch to a local paper from Landrum, in the upper edge of this county, says that two boys visited the Bennett school, near that place, several days ago and frightened the girls by their outrageous conduct, which was extremely disgusting. One of the boys fired a shotgun into the crowd, several of the shot striking Miss Smith, a pupil of the school, in the face. Fortunately the young lady was some distance away when the shot was fired and was not badly injured. These young rowdies should be severely handled by the law.

### Negro Saved from Stake.

Tampa, Fla., Feb. 10.—Charley Crumley, the negro arrested on suspicion of being the man who attempted to criminally assault Miss Irma Newell yesterday, was taken from the jail at Lakeland this morning by a mob of 1,000 men, bound to a stake, fagots heaped about his body and all poured over the mass with the intention of burning him. However, Sheriff John Logan, his brother, Alton Logan, and Special Deputy E. McMullen pleaded for calm action, and the negro, declaring he could prove an alibi, was spared.

Crumley was marched back to jail and a number of prominent men have sworn to prevent any further attempts upon his life. Many armed men are in the town.

Miss Newell declares that Crumley looks like the man who attempted the crime, but is not certain.

Two companies of the Second regiment, Florida National Guard, have been ordered to Lakeland from here to assist the authorities in protecting Crumley.

## DR. O. D. FAUST

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Office in Telephone Building.

### Shoe & Harness Repairing

I have moved into the store lately occupied by The Bamberg Herald, where I am better prepared to serve you than ever. All sorts of harness and shoes repaired and satisfaction guaranteed. I manufacture harness of all kinds, bridles, halters, etc. Give me a trial.

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