

Do Old Men Die From Idleness?

HERE is certainly far more evidence for the belief in the dreariness of old age after active work has been laid aside than from the shortening of life which results from the enforced inactivity. Two notable instances, and perhaps freer from doubt than most as to whether it is ennuui alone that kills and not the disease of old age of a more specific malady, are those of Napoleon the Great and Bismarck. The one lived six years in St. Helena, the other eight years at Friedrichshagen, each "eating out his heart." If ever there were men who ought on the supposition to have been killed by the total suspension of their activities these two ought to have been, but it would be extremely difficult to show that they were. Though Napoleon was no more than fifty-three, yet it was the specific disease of cancer of the stomach of which he died, and the connection between his exiled loneliness and the direct cause of his death does not seem very apparent. On the other hand, Bismarck, at the age of seventy-five, when he was dismissed from the Chancellorship, could not have had a likelihood of more prolonged years than he actually achieved out of office even if he had continued in office until the end. A wise man, if not too dyspeptic, will never lose touch with actual life. There are old men with young hearts, and the elder when he has a young heart is perhaps the most delightful type humanity can show us.—London Saturday Review.

Concerning Spinsters.

By Lilian Bell.

IT my strong fortress for the unreconciled spinster is not built by the work of her hands, whether it be egg-gathering, planting seeds or picking flowers. It lies in the cultivation of her imagination and her sense of humor. If you have these two you may laugh at fate, for you are clad in an armor which never rusts nor disintegrates. If you are inclined to be bitter, to view yourself as the football of destiny, kicked from one discomfort to another; if you think people snub you; if you suspect your friends of growing cold toward you, or even of deliberate slights—if you are in the habit of sitting in the dark and brooding over these things, the fault of the whole matter lies within. It is your fault because you take a morbid point of view. Think how unwholesome and malarial your mind must be. Consider the stagnant state of your heart. Think of the microbes which are eating your soul away. Such a disagreeable person as you are determined to be deserves to be slighted and snubbed and left out of parties and picnics. Who wants such a walking funeral about?

Don't lay it to the influence of the hall bedroom. That would not be fair. But you may lay it to the influence of the boarding-house, which generally consists of hall bedrooms. If there is any one thing worse than the boarding-house habit, it can only be the wrapper and curl-paper habit of certain slovenly women. If a woman wears a wrapper mornings and keeps her hair in curl papers at breakfast, she deserves never to get a husband. And if a woman with a husband does it, she deserves to lose him.—Harper's Bazar.

America the Cradle of Asia.

By Prof. Stewart Culin.

OUR idea that America is a new world, not only from the viewpoint of European discovery, but actually, so far as concerns its inhabitants and their civilization, is one that has been accepted almost without question. It is, indeed, a fundamental notion, having back of it all the impetus of religious sentiment and historic tradition. Almost from the period of discovery, learned writers have endeavored to confirm the theory of an Asiatic immigration, adducing the resemblance of the arts, religions, and symbolism, and the supposed identities of the language and physical types of the Indians with those of the inhabitants of Asia.

Preoccupied with the notion that America is the new world, they have seemingly lost sight of the fact that these resemblances offer quite as good proof of American intercourse with Asia as they do of an Asiatic invasion of our continent.

In supporting the latter view the writer is aware that it premises the same, if not a higher, antiquity for man on the American continent as is revealed by the most remote historical perspective of Egypt or Babylon; that he is called upon to establish the American origin of the particular things to which he refers, their birth and subsequent development in America, and furthermore to demonstrate the probability of their transfer from America to other civilizations.

The games of the Eastern continent—and I speak now not so much of the present day, but from what we know of the remote past—are not only similar to, but practically identical with, those of America, and are not only alike in externals, but, if we may so apply the word, in their morphology as well. And, it may be added, they extend over into Asia from America as expressions of the same underlying culture. They belong to the same culture.

Man evidently wandered far and wide over the world before history began. Shall we, with our American explanations in mind—and they hold good not alone for games, which are but the "stalking-horse" of the student—shall we not assent to the claim that ancient America may have contributed, to an extent usually unimagined, her share of what is now the world's civilization?—Harper's Magazine.

Whither Are We Bound?

By Garrett P. Serviss.

THE importance which relatively few persons are aware of attaches to the expedition which has just gone to Chile from the Lick Observatory in California. Its object is to find out whither we are all bound.

Everybody has heard that the Solar System is flying swiftly toward the south. It is a plunging flight that carries us more than 43,000 miles straight through the ether every hour of the day and night. It is a motion that has nothing to do with the earth's annual revolution about the sun, except as it prevents that revolution from carrying the earth back turn and turn to the same spot in space.

In truth, we never get back to the same place. Every new year comes in with the globe at a point more than 300,000,000 miles nearer to a very bright northern star, named Vega, than it was a year earlier. As far as the evidence now in hand goes, the flight of the sun toward the north is as straight as that of an arrow, but the path described by the earth, since it is compelled all the while to circle round and round the flying sun, is a great spiral.

And thus we sweep onward, moving continually into new regions, running through what perils nobody can guess—perhaps none at all—and impelled by a force as mysterious as that which drew the unfortunate ship in the Arabian Nights to be wrecked on the Mountain of Adamant.

It is this strange voyage of the sun and its worlds through the unexplored ocean of immensity that the Californian astronomers have gone to South America to investigate.

The only way in which we become aware of the great flight of the Solar System is by watching the counter motions of the stars. We are like people on the deck of a ship moving swiftly through a crowded harbor. The direction and velocity of our motion are indicated by the changes in the apparent positions of the other craft and the shores around us. Ships ahead of us, which we are overhauling, loom continually larger; those behind, which we are leaving, dwindle in the distance.

This does not quite apply in the case of the stars, because they are almost infinitely far away, and the change in their brightness resulting from our approach to those in the north, and our retreat from those in the south, is too slight to be noticed even from year to year. But, luckily, the waves of light do the work for us. The light of the stars, toward which we are going has its undulations practically shortened by our swift approach, and the light of those which we are leaving behind has its undulations practically lengthened, and the spectroscopic not only detects these changes in the light-waves, but enables us by their means to measure the rate of our motion, and also to deduce its exact direction.

The problem is complicated by the fact that the stars also are in motion, like the sun, going in various directions, and with various speed, but that is a detail with which astronomers can deal.

Now, the precise object of the expedition to Chile is to examine the light of the southern stars from which we are flying away. They have been much less studied than have the northern stars, to which we are drawing nearer. It is as if the people on the bow of a ship, after watching for a long time the effects of their approach to objects ahead, should visit the stern in order to note the recession of objects behind. Through a combination of such observations the speed and direction of the ship's motion could be deduced.

But there are many other absorbingly interesting questions relating to the organization of the universe, and our place and rank in it, which will be brought nearer to solution by the success of the exploration of the southern heavens now beginning.

TRAIN FALLS FROM BRIDGE

Perhaps as Many as One Hundred People Killed.

Madrid, By Cable.—Fourteen bodies and 50 injured persons have been extricated from the wrecks of the Bilbao train, which overturned at Nejerilla river Saturday night.

According to official information, 30 persons were killed and 69 others seriously injured. Many of the injured will die. Of the three hundred passengers on the train it is stated that only six escaped unhurt.

The train, which was composed of two engines and sixteen coaches was crossing the bridge when the couplings between the engines broke. The second engine left the track and fell, followed by the entire train into the bed of the river. Fortunately the water was low. The nearest medical attendance was a mile and a half distant. Those passengers who were least injured aided the others and did all possible until the arrival of relief trains bringing nurses, doctors and soldiers from Bilbao.

The train fell 50 feet from the bridge to the river bed, the coaches piling up in a mass of splintered wood and iron work. The scene is described as horrifying. Many corpses were carried down the stream, which was actually reddened with blood. It was found impossible to extricate numbers of the injured who were pinned under the wreckage. A railway guard was arrested in the act of robbing the dead and narrowly escaped lynching.

It is believed that the official figures underestimate the number of the killed, some accounts giving the number of dead as 100. The full extent of the catastrophe will be known only when the wreckage has been cleared away.

The latest dispatches from Saragossa, near which place the catastrophe occurred, give the number of dead as 90 and the injured as 100. The rescue of the injured from the debris is not yet completed.

Shot By Policeman.

Gadsden, Ala., Special.—Gus Steadman was shot and killed at Alabama City, by Policemen N. P. Jarrard and A. N. Barnes, while attempting to make his escape. It is alleged that John Steadman had kidnapped Mamie McKnight, the 13-year-old daughter of R. R. McKnight, stole \$7 from her and, it is said, forced her to go with him to the woods, where it is reported Gus Steadman and Sue Harvey a woman of Chattanooga, were in hiding from the officers. Steadman claims, it is understood, that he intended marrying the girl. John Steadman and Sue Harvey have been jailed and the McKnight girl has been taken home by her father. There is great indignation at Alabama City.

Oil Fire Scare.

Sour Lake, Tex., Special.—Considerable excitement prevailed in the oil field for a time just after noon Saturday, caused by flames springing up on the oil wastes belonging to the Guffey & Texas Addition Company. The fire was caused by some one throwing a lighted match into the oil. For a time the flames were fierce and led to the belief that the big Guffey tanks were on fire. Surface accumulations soon burned over, however, and by 3 o'clock the flames were completely under control and the loss is comparatively insignificant.

Riot at Unveiling.

London, By Cable.—During the unveiling at Arklow, Ireland, of a monument to the rebels who fell in the battle of Arklow, in 1798, at which ceremony 30,000 Nationalists were present, the latter collided with a band of street preachers, one of whom narrowly escaped death at the hands of the mob. The house in which he took refuge was wrecked. Several hundred policemen were obliged to charge the Nationalists, and stones were thrown batsons freely used and many persons were injured before the mob was mastered.

Another Kentucky War.

Jackson, Ky., Special.—In a feud fight Saturday night, near Daisy Bell, Breathitt county, Hiram Barnett was killed and John Henry Hecker and Joe Hecker were seriously wounded. The men, with Samuel and Silas Barnett, met at the home of Miss Leila Burns, niece of Burns Fitzpatrick, who was the only juror against the conviction of Curtis Jett. While discussing the course of Juror Fitzpatrick, John Henry Hecker, the friend of Miss Burns, resented what was said and all soon began shooting. There have been no arrests and no one can tell who fired the first shots that took effect.

Girl Killed By Lover.

Sherman, Conn., Special.—Angered over her refusal to marry him, P. H. Worden, of Carmical, killed Edith Roscoe, also of that town, by cutting her throat. He then attacked Mrs. Sherman Roscoe, sister-in-law of Miss Roscoe with a hammer, crushing her skull and inflicting probably fatal injuries. Worden then attempted to kill himself. The tragedy occurred at the Roscoe home.

A Serious Clash.

Vienna, By Cable.—The Neue Freie Press published a dispatch announcing that armed peasants attacked gendarmes at Ludberg, Croatia, yesterday, whereupon the gendarmes fired a volley killing four men and wounding others. Peasants elsewhere in Croatia, it is added, are rising in revolt and martial law was proclaimed at Ludberg recently on account of rioting.

LYNCHING OF THREE

A Very Deplorable Matter Occurs in a Georgia Town

TRAGIC EVENT WAS UNEXPECTED

Three Negroes Lynched For a Killing Where the Condition of the Murdered Man's Family Was Considered By the Mob.

Macon, Ga., Special.—An Albany dispatch to the Telegraph says: "Baker County was the scene of a triple lynching about 2 o'clock Friday morning when a mob of 50 determined men entered the town, of Newton and secured possession of Garfield McCoy, Wiley Anette and George McKinney, Miller County negroes who had been arrested and lodged in jail for the murder last Saturday night of F. S. Bullard, prominent white farmer of the seventh district of Baker County. The manner in which the prisoners were obtained is unique and altogether without precedent. Jailer Wm. Screws who resides in the jail, was awakened about 12 o'clock by Bailiff R. C. Tucker, who stated that he had a prisoner to place in the lock-up. The jailer hastily donned his clothes and proceeded to the jail. As soon as he had unlocked the prison door he was suddenly surrounded by a swarm of men with drawn revolvers, who demanded that he unlock the cell in which the negroes were lodged. He did as commanded under protest, and the three negroes were dragged from the jail, the prisoner of Tucker making his escape during the excitement. Their appeals for mercy was lost on the mob, who began beating and 'lapping' them, as soon as they had left the jail door.

"The mob lost no time in leaving Newton with the negroes and when a mile from town the three men were halted, nooses tied around their necks and, amid the shouts of the men, were strung up. The mob fired several hundred shots into the swaying bodies after which they quietly dispersed.

"The crime for which the negroes were lynched occurred on the plantation of Bullard last Saturday night during the progress of a dance given by one of Bullard's tenants. Negroes from Early, Miller and Decatur counties were present, and trouble was started by McKinney and the others putting out the lights. Just at this juncture Bullard appeared on the scene and commanded order. His interference was resented by the three negroes who opened fire on him with revolvers. Bullard fell mortally wounded and died on Tuesday.

"The negroes were arrested Tuesday and lodged in jail at Newton. At their commitment trial it was proven that the shot that killed Bullard was fired by McKinney, and that Anette and McCoy also fired at him. The negroes were remanded to jail to await trial at the next session of Baker Superior Court, and absolutely no talk of lynching was indulged in by citizens. It is the consensus of opinion that the work of the mob was largely due to the fact that Bullard's family is left in a sad condition, his wife being a hopeless invalid and several small children are dependent. The lynching was a great surprise to the people of the county, as it was generally believed that the law would be allowed to take its course in their cases. The lynching is generally deplored."

Railroad Agent Shot.

Goldsboro, N. C., Special.—A shooting occurred at Dudley station Friday nine miles south of Goldsboro. C. A. Spruill, a railroad agent, attempted to thrash J. M. B. Fields, who shot Spruill in the abdomen. Fields fired four shots, one of them striking J. Konegay, an innocent spectator, in the arm. Mr. Spruill was carried to Rocky Mount on the noon train to receive medical attention. His wound is a serious one. Spruill claims that Fields is under arrest. It is later reported that a woman is the cause of the trouble.

Big Fire at Milwaukee.

Milwaukee, Special.—Fire Friday night practically destroyed the building at 313,315-317 Grand Avenue, which extends in an "L" shape to Third street. The fire was carried to the Davidson Hotel, on Third street and to the Boston store on Grand avenue. The total loss is estimated at about \$250,000, partially covered by insurance.

Agreement in Sight.

Birmingham, Ala., Special.—A settlement on a wage scale between operators and miners is now in sight. The operators have made an offer of 2 1/2 cents per ton on both the maximum and minimum wage scales of the miners, with a corresponding increase in day labor and night work. The only difference in the present scale is that iron at \$12 is made the basis instead of \$11. The miners went into executive session after receiving the offer to discuss the same and there are probabilities that it will be accepted with some minor changes.

Bloody Affray.

Knoxville, Tenn., Special.—At the home of Alexander Beattie, a negro shoemaker, four members of his family were shot, three fatally. When Samuel and Warren, two sons, aged about 20, engaged in a quarrel, each pulled a pistol and fired at the other. Both were fatally wounded, each receiving a bullet in the abdomen. The mother of the boys ran into the house and was accidentally shot in the left side. She will die. A daughter, hearing her mother's screams, also ran in and was shot in the arm.

SERIOUS SEABOARD COLLISION

Four Killed Near Southern Pines, N. C., and Freight Train Demolished.

Southern Pines, N. C., Special.—The worst wreck in this section for many years occurred at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning about 200 yards north of Niagara station and three miles north of Southern Pines. An engine and a local freight train collided head-on, the boilers of both engines exploding. Engineer Wm. P. Wall and S. D. Stewart, of Raleigh, and Fireman Walter Barnes, of Concord, and Charlie Brewer, of Aberdeen, were killed. Fireman J. F. Wright, of Raleigh, was seriously injured by jumping.

From the best information at hand it appears that a flying engine left Vass, a small station about three miles north, without orders, going south, and attempted to make the siding at Manly, a half-way station between Southern Pines and Niagara. Local freight train No. 6, north-bound, left Southern Pines on time and was running on regular orders under full headway down grade and was run into by the flying engine, going at the rate of 45 miles an hour. It was a head-on collision, on a sharp curve, and in a deep cut. Both boilers exploded and the scene was beyond description.

Engineer Wall was killed on train No. 6. His fireman, J. F. Wright, escaped by jumping, though he is seriously injured. Engineer S. D. Stewart and his fireman, Walter Barnes, on the shifting engine, were both killed, as was also Charlie Brewer, of Aberdeen, who, it is said, was making the trip up on No. 6 to accept a position of fireman on the road.

Drs. Edwin Gladmon, K. M. Ferguson and A. H. McLeod were quickly on hand and relieved the injured man and looked after the dead bodies, which were taken to Niagara station, from which point they will be carried to Raleigh.

Fireman Barnes had a piece of 2x4 scantling driven through his body, which had to be sawed off at the back and front before the body could be dressed, while Engineer Wall was entirely disemboweled. His leg was broken and his head smashed. Engineer Brewer was found with his face directly in front of the big fire-box of the engine on No. 6, his hands burned off and his flesh cooked in steam and burning coals.

The track was terribly blocked and torn up and parts of the engines were found several hundred yards away, while the tender of the flying engine backed away about two miles after the collision. Two wrecking trains are on the scene and a large force of men are tracking around the wreck, so that it is expected to get trains through by midnight or possibly an hour or two later. The railroad company will be fortunate if it can find room enough in this deep cut for an extra track, as it is very narrow and one of the largest freight engines is lying directly crossways of the cut.

The freight train was loaded mostly with lumber and crossties and was carrying a few well-built steel coal cars, which were almost a total loss. Train No. 38, the Atlanta special, got through before the wreck, but the Seaboard limited from Jacksonville, Fla., in charge of Conductor Shannonhouse, is tied up at Southern Pines.

Will Press Investigation.

Washington, Special.—At the cabinet meeting some consideration was given to affairs in the Postoffice Department but no definite action was taken. The investigation, it was stated again, would be pressed until no trace of suspicion attached to the Department. While absolute confirmation of the statement is withheld, it is reasonably certain that Holmes Conrad, former solicitor general of the Department of Justice, and Charles Bonaparte, have been selected by the Department of Justice to assist the Assistant Attorney General in the prosecution of the postoffice cases.

Col. Adams Will Act.

Washington, Special.—The War Department designated Col. H. M. Adams to act as the representative of the government in the matter of the transfer of the Eads property at New Orleans. Colonel Adams will pay the money appropriated by Congress for this purpose to the Eads heirs. This formality is necessary to comply with the laws of Louisiana.

Grand Jury Investigates.

Washington, Special.—Having returned indictments against the parties concerned in the transactions of the Croff Brothers, involving street letter box fasteners, the grand jury has begun the investigation of other contracts with the free delivery service. It is said that the Postoffice Department through its inspectors who have been working on the case for some time has made some discoveries which made it imperative that the grand jury take the matter up. The contracts referred to pertain to the use of aluminum paint on street letter boxes throughout the country.

British Bark Safe.

Penzacola, Fla., Special.—The British bark Maeduff, 52 days out from New York, has arrived at quarantine here. The bark had been reported as being missing. The master reports having encountered headwinds during the entire passage and on several days there were dead calms. The passage of the vessel is the longest on record.

The Bomb Exploded.

Chicago, Special.—Twenty persons were injured, seven of them severely, and the front of a building destroyed by the explosion of a bomb in front of Frenck Cummings' saloon, 954 Clybourne avenue, last week. John Laxner found the bomb on his way home from the city dump. He carried it to Cummings' saloon, where he told John McNally to give a fire-work display. McNally drilled a hole in the bomb, inserted a match and the fire-works arrived at once. McNally lost an eye and was burned so badly he may die.

BOMB IS EXPLODED

Richmond Street Car Strike Reaches Danger Stage

WAR-LIKE TIMES IN VIRGINIA CITY

Sheriff of Henrico County Refuses to Ask For Troops—Military People Guard Cars.

Richmond, Special.—Street cars have been run on all lines under military protection. The cars have been manned by strike-breakers. Two militiamen, with bayonets fixed, stood guard on the front and two on the rear platforms of each car. The power house and supply depots within the city have also been guarded by militia and a military guard has been on duty at the State arsenal, while sentinels have been posted at car line crossings. Notwithstanding these precautions the first car of the Clay street line to leave the East End Wednesday morning was attacked and obstructed by a mob, and Captain Skippwith, with one of the Richmond companies, was wounded in the leg by a fragment of bomb exploded on the track. The car made its way into the more central part of the city without further casualties.

The West End car barns in Henrico county, outside the city limits, and the sheriff of the county refuses to ask for the aid of troops. The barns are guarded by armed men in the employ of the company and details from the guard protect the cars between the barns and the city line. There is much strike sympathy in both the East and West Ends, and the greatest danger points in the present difficulty are there, the barns being centres around which disturbers gather. Prominent in the crowds that hoot and jeer the cars, the strike-breakers and the militiamen are women, the wives and daughters of the strikers and strike sympathizers.

Six Men Injured.

Richmond, Special.—Six men were wounded, two of them seriously, by street railway company guards, who fired into a crowd of strike sympathizers at Main and Lombardy streets, just outside the city limits.

A car guarded by employees of the company, armed with shot-guns, was standing at that point. There had been a big crowd there all the evening. The company claims that the guards were first fired on. At any rate, they fired into the crowd and a brisk fusillade followed. At least six persons were struck, and two of them seriously hurt, being peppered in the back with buck-shot.

While this was taking place in the West End, exciting scenes were enacted in the East End, where efforts were made to operate cars under the protection of the military. All sorts of missiles were hurled at the cars and obstructions placed on the track. Finally the cars under the pilotage of a detachment of the Howiters, with a Gatling gun, were taken to the barns. All cars were withdrawn from the streets at 9:45 p. m. for the night.

Five companies of the Seventy-First Regiment, of Norfolk and Newport News, are en route for the city to reinforce the troops already here, and are expected to arrive in the early morning hours. The mayor has issued an address asking women and children to keep off the streets tomorrow. It is proposed in the event that the military are unable at that time to cope with the mob, to order out the fire department and have streams from the hose played upon the disorderly gatherings.

Three of the militiamen were wounded by the accidental discharge of a rifle. One of them was taken to a hospital, but is not dangerously injured.

At 11 o'clock at night Sheriff Solomons, of Henrico county, decided to ask for troops. He made the request and the Governor issued orders to the military authorities accordingly. Militia will therefore guard the cars and car barns and patrol the lines of the street car company tomorrow, without, as well as within, the city limits.

Late it developed that one of the street car company's guards at Main and Lombardy streets, was slightly wounded in the shooting at that place.

Sergeant Daniel Porter, of Staunton, was badly hurt by a brick thrown at a car. He had to be carried into a nearby residence, where he remains under medical treatment. The mob in this case was dispersed by a stream of water from a fire engine, ordered out for the purpose.

Officials Arrested.

Toledo, O., Special.—George E. Lorenz and his wife, Martha, who were indicted by the Federal grand jury at Washington a few days ago in connection with the scandal in the Postoffice Department were arrested Wednesday. They were taken before United States Commissioner Brough, where their attorney, John F. Kurler, demanded the right to a preliminary hearing. This has been set for 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon, but it is not believed that the Federal authorities will be ready for a hearing at that time, and the case will probably be continued to a later date. Mr. and Mrs. Lorenz each gave bond in the sum of \$5,000.

Mexico on Gold Basis.

Mexico City, Special.—It is believed in well informed circles that the new modified gold standard, with a peso valued at 50 cents, will be adopted by January 1, next year. Some large transactions involving heavy investments of foreign capital have been made on information that this is the outcome of the present deliberations of the monetary conference and the efforts of Mexico's commissioners abroad.