

DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS.

VOL. 23

SONORA, SUTTON CO., TEXAS, SATURDAY OCTOBER 19, 1912.

NO. 1145

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

QUALITY GOODS

REASONABLE PRICES

YOUR TRADE APPRECIATED.

The Sonora Mercantile Co.

Devil's River News

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.
MIKE MURPHY, Proprietor.
STEVE MURPHY, Publisher.

Advertising Medium of the Stockman's Paradise.

Subscription \$2 a year in advance.
 Entered at the Postoffice at Sonora a second-class matter.

Sonora, Texas. - October 19, 1912.

The Tower of Pisa.

The famous leaning tower of Pisa is a campanile or bell tower. The building, which is cylindrical in form, is 137 feet high and 50 feet in diameter, made entirely of white marble. It is called the leaning tower from the fact that it inclines some thirty feet from the perpendicular, and it is not generally known that this inclination, which gives the tower such a remarkable appearance, was not intentional. At the time it was about half done the error in measurement was perceived. It was guarded against by the use of extra braces in the further construction of the building and an adaptation of the stone in the highest portion. There are seven bells on the top of the tower, the largest of which weighs 2,000 pounds, and these are so placed as to counteract as far as possible the leaning of the tower itself.

Hard on the Piano.

"Good gracious, what on earth's the matter?" gasped the angry father. "Why is there such a row in the parlor?"

"Why, dear, that's Mary and Jane practicing their new duet on the piano," said mother proudly.

"A duet! What, both of 'em playing at once?" Father's voice was hard and cold.

"Yes, of course."

Father snorted with rage.

"Don't they think they can wear out that piano fast enough when they play on it one at a time, then?" he asked sarcastically.

Chapel in a Coal Mine.

In the Mynydd Newydd colliery at Swansea, south Wales, at a depth of 750 feet below the surface, is a notable chapel. It is claimed to be the only such chapel especially prepared and consecrated for worship. It is a long, low room, 60 ft. with rough wooden benches, capable of accommodating between 400 and 500 men. Services are held before work every Monday morning in the Mynydd Newydd colliery and have been held regularly.

Campaign Funds.

The following letter has been received by W. L. Aldwell, President of the First National Bank and is self explanatory. Mr. Aldwell wishes it also to be announced that the First National Bank of Sonora will also receive contributions in the Democratic, Republican and Progressive Parties.

Sea Girt, N. J., August 12, 1912.

Dear Mr. McAdoo:

To bring about the election of a President through a campaign financed by popular subscriptions, would be a distinct and gratifying triumph. It would strikingly evidence the renewed supremacy of the people and would mean the permanent emancipation of our Government from those selfish influences which have too long been relied upon to furnish the campaign funds in return for favors to be bestowed. I am in hearty sympathy with every effort that may contribute to such a result. The idea back of the proposed popular subscription plan is thoroughly commendable and I hope that you and your associates will push it and make it an effective instrument for the attainment of so praiseworthy an object.

Cordially and sincerely yours,
 Woodrow Wilson.

Notice to Trespassers.

Notice is hereby given that all trespassers on my ranch known as the Lost Lake ranch 12 miles south east of Sonora, and other ranches owned and controlled by me, for the purpose of cutting timber, hauling wood or hunting hogs without my permission, will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

A. F. CLARKSON,
 Sonora, Texas.

Notice to Trespassers.

Notice is hereby given that all trespassers on my ranch 12 miles south of Sonora for the purpose of cutting timber, hauling wood, hunting hogs, or any other purpose, will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

G. T. WORD,
 Sonora, Texas.

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The Thrice-a-Week World's regular subscription price is only \$1.00 per year, and this pays for 156 papers. We offer this unequalled newspaper and Devil's River News together for one year for \$2.50.

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THE LATEST NEWS

from everywhere can be had for every little money in these in these days of railroads, telegraphs and fast printing presses. For only \$2.50 you can get three good news papers a week for a year, namely the Devil's River News and the Dallas Semi Weekly Farm News. This is a newspaper combination that will give you the latest news from near and far. The information they give is also reliable and unbiased. They give you the facts and you can form your own opinions and draw your own conclusions. Subscribe at once for both papers through the Devil's River News.

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THE AIR BRAKE.

It Averted a Tragedy the Day it Was First Given a Trial.

Persons who should have known better thought Westinghouse visionary when they were told that he proposed to stop a train by air. Nobody seemed inclined to let him try his plan on a real train, but they did not object to his working a model of it in a shop where he couldn't do any harm or involve anybody else in expense. He knew his scheme would work, but he could not make any one else believe it. So he continued to sell his invention for replacing derailed cars on the tracks and to talk about his brake to any railroad man who was willing to listen.

"Well, have you ever stopped a train with this air thing of yours?" they would ask.

No; he couldn't say that he had done so. Nobody would let him try it even on a train of dump cars.

One day he arrived in Pittsburgh, selling his other invention and talking about his brake notion to a man connected with a railroad there. "That's a great idea of yours," said the man. "We will try it on our line."

So the officials of this railroad permitted Westinghouse to put his new "kickshaw" on one of their trains. But he had to agree to indemnify the road for any damage that might be caused to the train as the result of the trials. The train was equipped. On the designated day the confident inventor and a group of skeptical railway men boarded the train on which the first air brakes were fixed. Off went the train on its trial trip. The engineer put on full speed, and just as he had rounded a curve he saw ahead, at a grade crossing and in the middle of the track, a loaded wagon, a man and a boy and a balky horse. The engineer moved his little lever, and the first train that was ever stopped by air pulled up at a standstill several feet short of the obstruction.

Thus, on its first trial, the Westinghouse air brake saved life and prevented damage to property. Henceforward talking was unnecessary; all that had to be done was to make brakes. The inventor thought of that clause securing compensation to the railroad for any damage he might do to the train, and he laughed. His fortune dated from that day. He was then only twenty-two.

Women of Muscle.

In the time of Louis XV. there was an actress engaged at the Theatre Francais—Mlle. Gauthier—who could break a coin between the fingers of one hand and roll a silver plate into the form of a cup of conical shape. No one could bear the pressure of her hand, and only Maurice de Saxe, one of the strongest men of his time, was able to open her closed hand.

In the same century there lived in England a woman, Miss Bettie Thompson, who could break chains with her hand.

Miss Kerr, a young mulatto woman, who appeared in most of the capitals in Europe, was, we believe, the first to perform the feat, while hanging with the bend of her knees in a trapeze, of holding a man at his belt with her teeth and turning him rapidly round with her hands.

—Exchange.

Lung Capacity.

It has been shown by recorded tests made principally abroad that by the means of systematic exercise the capacity of the lungs may be increased to the extent of more than 12 per cent. This figure was the average increase noted in the gymnasium at Bonn. In some individual cases the beneficial results of the exercise were far greater, but the lung capacity of the average student on entering the institution was found to be 207 cubic inches, whereas after a course of training it was increased by twenty-five cubic inches.

Sunlight For All the Leaves.

The telegraph plant of India has a method all its own for catching the sunshine. Each of its leaves is composed of three leaflets. The larger terminal one erects itself during the day and turns sharply down at night, while the other two smaller leaflets move constantly day and night, describing complete circles with a peculiar jerking motion like the second hand of a watch. Occasionally they rest for a period and then go on again, thus bringing every part of every leaf to the full action of the sunlight.

What He Saw.

"I never saw such a storm in all my life."
 "Pardon me, my friend; since you 'saw' the storm, no doubt you can tell us what color it was."
 "Certainly. The wind blew and the storm rose, you know."—London Home Weekly.

Dr. King's New Life Pills
 The best in the world.

PIANO EXPERIMENTS.

Playing by Sweeping the Strings With a Feather.

Open wide your piano so that the wires are exposed. Over the wires place sheets of music, and when you strike a tone you will find that it has a rattling sound. If now you play a tune in the same manner, with the sheets of music still lying on the strings, it will sound as if the instrument were a banjo. Anyhow, it is a good imitation.

Now remove the music sheets and press down gently but firmly the keys belonging to any chord. Take the simple chord C, E, G, for example. The keys must be pressed down without sounding them and held down while some one gently brushes the strings with a feather or a straw. The effect will be as if the chord were played far away and is heard by you as very soft tones.

Change the chord, always pressing down the keys without sounding them, while the feather still sweeps the strings lightly. In this way you may modulate or play a slow piece, and the effect will be very beautiful indeed, as if heard from a great distance.

The reason of this is that ordinarily a damper rests against each string, but when the corresponding key is struck or pressed down the damper is raised. In sweeping the strings with the feather lightly only the strings that are undamped sound, the others being held mute by the dampers, but if the touch of the feather is too heavy even the other strings may sound, so your care must be in making a light and delicate touch.

Now press down a key gently and hold it. Strike very hard the octave above this key, but do not hold it after striking the tone. When the wire of the tone struck has been sufficiently damped, so that it does not sound so loud, the pressed down key will be heard to "sing" clearly, even though it was not struck. This is because every note struck is composed of several notes, being in reality a chord in itself, and each note contained in that chord causes the corresponding note in the keyboard to vibrate, or "sing," in sympathy if held down in like manner.

The other notes that will sound under these conditions will always be the fifth above the octave, the second octave, and the third and fifth above that, and these tones that sound are called "overtones."

For illustration, if C in the lower part of the piano be struck, any or all of the notes that follow will sound if their keys are first pressed and held down. — Philadelphia Press.

Two Handles.

Everything has two handles—the one soft and manageable, the other such as will not endure to be touched. If, then, your brother do you an injury, do not take it by the hot hard handle, by representing to yourself all the aggravating circumstances of the fact, but look rather on the soft side and extenuate it as much as is possible by considering the nearness of the relation and the long friendship and familiarity between you—obligations of kindness which a single provocation ought not to dissolve. And thus you will take the accident by its manageable handle.—Epictetus.

She Gathered the "Lions."

In former years, when she was Lady Jeune and her second husband, Sir Francis Jeune, was alive, Lady St. Helier was one of the most popular hostesses in London. Her salon was the recognized meeting place for "lions" of every description.

Indeed, so varied were the guests made welcome there that a famous wit who had been invited to attend a notorious murder trial replied: "No, I don't think I'll go, thanks. If the poor wretch is condemned it will be too painful. If he's released, why, I expect I'll meet him at Lady Jeune's."

Church Built of Bulrushes.

The first place of worship in Western Australia was unique in two respects—the materials of which it was built and also the general purposes to which it was devoted. This remarkable building was built at Perth by soldiers shortly after their first arrival in 1829 and was composed almost entirely of bulrushes. In addition to its use on Sundays for divine worship, it occasionally served as an amateur theater during the week and during the whole time as a barracks.

Resources of Genius.

The editor looked over the manuscript submitted by the village poet and frowned.

"Here is one line," he said, "in which you speak of the 'music' of the cider press—how would you undertake to imitate the 'music' of the cider press?"

"I should think it might be done with a juice jarp," answered the poet.—Chicago Tribune.

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E. B. CHANDLER, San Antonio, Tex.

PAGE

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Our Special Fences are 30 inch, 36 inch, 41 and 51 inches.—In fact Any Height You Want. Double strength Wire. Write or Phone.

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Who can beat it?

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