

Paul de Loure is the latest French pretender, but he prudently lives in Austria.

A Butte man spent \$1,000 for a tree. That's nothing. A tree cost Adam all his real estate.

Senator Clark of Montana is in the hands of doctors, but they will find him tough and strenuous.

A Buffalo girl has been awarded \$41.20 for a stolen kiss. It must have been marked down from \$41.25.

The Emperor of Japan eats a twenty-course dinner every day. He isn't going to have an indemnity to raise.

A Philadelphia paper refers to a "semi-millionaire." That doesn't look much like being kind to the rich.

Maryland claims that her mosquitoes are bigger than New Jersey's. We suspect that Maryland is ringing in blackbirds.

Scotty created a continental sensation at any rate, and he did it on \$25,000. He knows how to make money go a long ways.

There must be some limit to the size of new battleships. The quantity of available ocean room is fixed within prescribed limits.

Boston reports that a fisherman found a valuable diamond ring in a flounder. One must have some excuse for fishing for flounders.

Airships are becoming common and commoner, but aeronauts who maneuver over lakes or the sea continue to wear cork jackets.

Japan's champion heavyweight wrestler was introduced to Secretary Taft, but prudently refrained from opening professional negotiations.

J. Pierpont Morgan has returned from Europe with 127 suits of clothes. Russell Sage will be losing confidence in Mr. Morgan if he doesn't watch out.

Maryland is suffering from the ravages of a new variety of kissing bug. Or it may be that the seventeen year locust is developing a new form of attack.

Mrs. Langtry is going into vaudeville, principally because she needs the money. Still, she never did much twanging on the art-for-art's-sake string.

A new plot against the sultan of Turkey has been discovered at Kustentji, Roumania. The sultan can't complain that he is being neglected, anyway.

The dry weather is playing havoc with the New Jersey peach crop, but as long as the applejack crop promises to be all right, New Jersey isn't fretting much.

Pennsylvania produces more cherries than any other state in the Union. Statistics show, much to our surprise, however, that it is not the leading plum state.

A Philadelphia man was killed for kicking another Philadelphia man's dog. Since the awakening there the inhabitants of Philadelphia are just like other people.

The professional baseball player is described by a magazine writer as a morose, melancholy and suspicious being. Most umpires probably will corroborate this view.

There's comfort for the poorly-paid in the assertion made by Arnold White, the English writer, that "You cannot always judge a man's brains by the amount of his salary."

It is not true that Gov. Pennypacker of Pennsylvania is going to sell his noted collection of 15,000 historical books because he doesn't have time now to read anything besides the newspapers.

The only strange thing about it is that the price of "Fads and Fancies" wasn't fixed at \$10,000 a copy. The people who subscribed for it don't seem to have stopped to consider the value of good money.

One hundred year old Mr. Warner of New York explains his case by the statement that he eats only two meals a day. He might live another 100 years by eating only one meal a day, but would it be worth it?

A woman in Orange, N. J., who wouldn't pay her rent because painters, driven away by bees, had not finished painting her house, found 300 pounds of honey between the walls. And now the painters must feel weary.

At Middletown, N. Y., a bride and groom were arrested because they displayed their affection for each other while in one of the principal streets. Let Middletown hereafter be merely a way station on the honeymoon route.

By an odd coincidence, Fraulein Heaven, who arrived in New York from the Mediterranean the other day, had Marie Hell as a fellow voyager from Genoa to Gibraltar. The obvious comment we positively decline to make



Pa an' Ma. When ma comes runnin' down th' stair She stops right in th' door. An' sort o' makes a picture there. An' taps upon th' floor. Till pa looks up, an' then she cries. "Well, how is this for style?" An' pa jus' grunts an' drops his eyes— An' then I see him smile.

How to Distill Water. There is much use for distilled (pure) water in every house. No eye wash, for instance, should ever be used unless made with distilled water. But it costs something to get a little distilled water from the drug store, so most people do without it.



The Left Hand. It is strange that so strong a prejudice against the left hand has lived and increased for centuries when there is no natural or physiological reason for it. Examination of the skeleton of a person who was strong, healthy and well formed in life shows that the bones of the left hand and arm are just as large and capable as those of the right.

The White Buffalo. The disappearance of the stuffed white buffalo from the Kansas state-house, whence it was taken by its owner, who left it on exhibition there years ago, recalls the day when the white buffalo figured in hunters' tales.

Why Lightning Rod is Pointed. Many boys and girls have wondered, no doubt, why a lightning rod is always pointed instead of having a blunt end, and also why the point is made of metal that does not easily corrode.

To Ward Off Stings. Hornets and bees are not so apt to sting a person if he keeps absolutely still, but this is not necessarily due to the fact that they do not see readily, but simply that they do not recognize an enemy in a perfectly stationary body.

Game of Noted Men. The hostess begins by saying: "I know a celebrated poet, the first part of whose name is very black, and the last is an elevation." The player, responding "Coleridge," in turn describes the name of some other noted person.

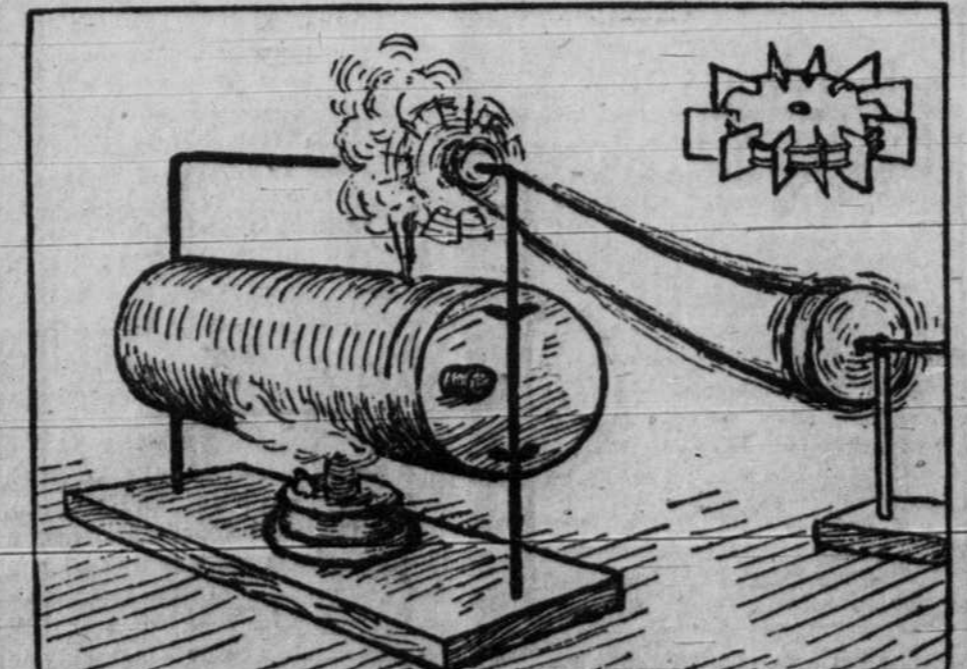
through, a ball tipped discharger would kill you instantly. Besides, a point attracts the lightning, and thus keeps it from striking other parts of the building. The point is made of metal that does not easily corrode because corrosion or rust, increases the resistance, and a rusty point, therefore, might cause a violent and destructive discharge.

Toy That Will Talk. Would you like to make a talking machine? If you have a toy trumpet, put the small end in your mouth and your two hands over the large, or flannel, end. Now blow through the trumpet and open and shut your hands once quickly.

Lily Pond in Garden of "King's House." former governors of Jamaica lived and held high revel, "all de old bockra (white gentlemen) dem gone, sah. De young ones, dem no good! Dere was money in de old days, an' dem spend it free. Dem dance ebery night, sah— an' dem drink—land, sah! how dem did drink!"

### How to Make a Steam Engine

An easily constructed steam engine may be made by any boy with very simple materials. An old baking powder box will do for the boiler. Fasten its lid to it with shellac varnish, and punch two holes in the side of the box, one about the size of a pinhole, the other as large as a slate pencil.



attached to a baseboard, so that the two holes will be at the top of the boiler. The side posts should rise at least two inches higher than the top of the boiler, and should be connected at the top by a piece of stout wire, which will serve as an axle to a stiff wheel, like a water wheel, or the paddle of a steamboat.

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## Jamaica's Glories Gone

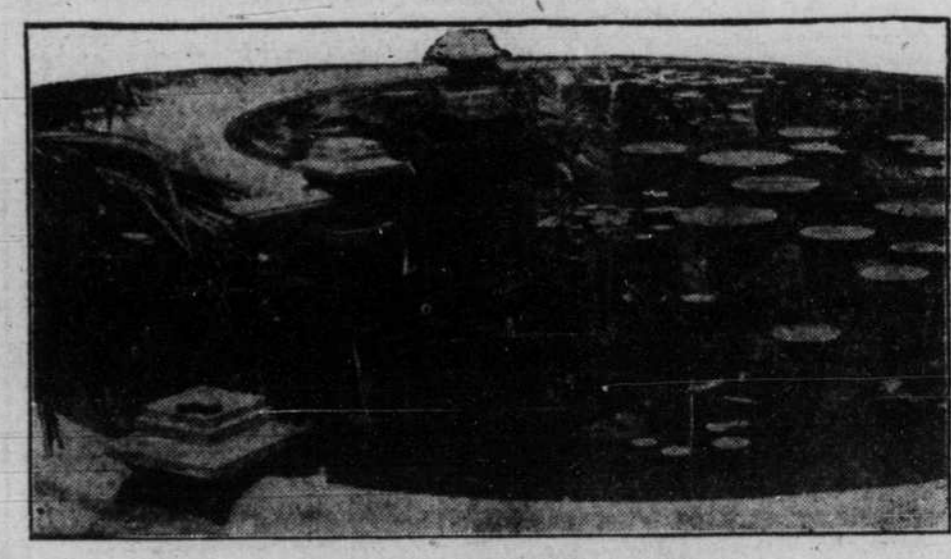
(Special Correspondence.)

Readers of "Tom Cringle's Log" must have wished that they could have lived in Jamaica in the spacious days of Paul Gelid and Aaron Bangs, and held high festival with governors and judges and bishops and admirals in the "great house" of a sugar plantation which in those distant days, produced a revenue sufficient to make the Creole heiresses the first prizes in the English matrimonial market.

The sugar plantations are no longer a source of great wealth, owing to the competition of the European beet product. Once, when you said a man was a sugar planter in Jamaica, you meant that he was a magnate. Now, the term implies that he is an unfortunate wretch who lies awake at nights thinking about the mortgages on his property.

Near by is Spanish Town, formerly called Saint Jago de la Vega, in the days when it was the capital of the colony and "the home of all that was wise, learned, gallant, hospitable and distinguished."

Yet, as you wander through the deserted streets, you feel that once St. Jago de la Vega was indeed a city. The huge houses, now empty and tumbling to pieces, have an air of aristocracy about them, to which those in Kingston, the modern capital, have no pretension.



The planter's house servants are always looked upon as the luckiest of the negroes on the plantation. They have all the faithfulness and lively wit and humor so commonly associated with the southern darkey and it is curious how closely their habits and amusements correspond to his.

What She Said. A young man strolled into a florist's last week and spent half his week's salary on a remembrance of her birthday anniversary. These he sent to her by a special messenger, inclosing his card with a few select words of good wishes.

Points About a Watermelon. To plug is to let air into the melon, causing withering and decay around the edges of the holes, no matter how carefully the plug is replaced. To plunk does no harm. Down on your knees over a fine, large one, shining green amid the vines of the patch; lean over and press one hand on each side—a quick, sharp squeeze—an ear inclined to hear sound. Does it crackle in response? Does a sound come forth like a ripping of the heart within—a breaking down of those walls of solid juiciness? Then it has plunked, then it is ripe, then it is fit for the gods to eat.