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NO 29

THE KITTEN AND THE BEAR.

How Foss Frightened Bruin Up a Tree and Kept Him There.

Chris Burns, the veteran first sergeant of Troop D, had a kitten which, during the summer camping of the troop at the Lower Geysers basin, made her home within the sergeant's tent. Here, curled up on a pair of army blankets, she defied the world in general and dogs in particular. When the latter approached, she would elevate every bristle on her brave little back, her eyes would glow like live coals, and her tail would swell up threateningly. If dogs approached too near, she would hiss and exhibit the usual signs of hostility until the intruders had vanished from her neighborhood.

One day, when the camp was bathed in sunshine and every soldier in camp felt lazy, an inquisitive black bear came down the mountain side and, whether because he was in search of adventure or because attracted by a savory smell from the cook's fire, began to walk about among the white tents of the cavalry command.

Suddenly the kitten caught sight of him. Dogs by the score she had seen, but this particular "dog" was the largest and the hairiest dog she had ever seen. But she did not hesitate. It was enough for her that an enemy had invaded her special domain. Hissing forth her spite, while her little body quivered with rage, she darted forth at the bear. The onslaught was sudden, and one glance was enough for bruin. With a snort of fear, bruin made for the nearest tree, a short distance away, and did not pause until he was safely perched among the upper branches. Meanwhile the kitten stalked proudly about on the ground beneath, keeping close guard over her huge captive, her back still curved into a bow and her hair still bristling with righteous indignation, while her tail would now and then give a significant little wave, as if to say, "That's the way I settle impertinent bears."

The soldiers, who meanwhile had poured forth from their tents, could scarcely believe their eyes; but there was the bear in the tree and the kitten below, and there were those who had seen the affair from beginning to end.

And perhaps the strangest part of it all was that the bear would not stir from his safe position in the branches until the kitten had been persuaded to leave her huge enemy a clear means of retreat. Then he slid shamefacedly down from his perch and ambled hastily off toward the mountain.—Lieutenant Charles D. Rhodes, U. S. A., in St. Nicholas.

NAMES OF PEARLS.

About Five Thousand Small Ones Can Be Bought For Nine Dollars.

Pearls are named according to their size. The very large are called paragon pearls; when the size of a cherry, cherry pearls; medium are called piece pearls; smallest, dust pearls. The oval and long are termed pear pearls, while badly formed specimens are known as baroques. The value of pearls varies, of course, with the quality and general colors, but the piece, seed and dust pearls always have a market price.

The cherry and paragon are sold on an entirely different basis. If many fine ones are on the market at a time, they may be had at reasonable rates. Some years they bring almost any price. The last two years especially, the dealers say, there has been a great scarcity of fine pearls, although there is no falling off in the supply of the small stuff.

When a pearl is sold according to weight, it is sold separately. One that weighs five grains and becomes less valuable as they become smaller. The smallest dust pearls collected average about 5,000 to the tray and are rated at about 30 per cent. In the contrary, one paragon weighing one ounce (or 150 carats) was on sale, it would bring any amount from \$30,000 to \$200,000, according to quality.—Philadelphia Times.

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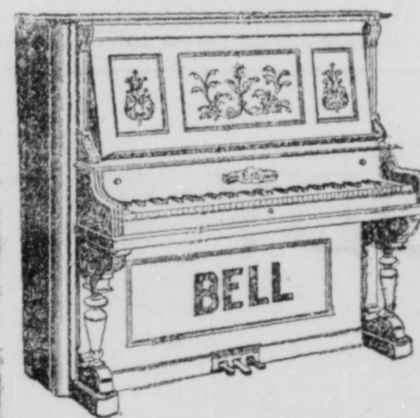
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Ima warship like the Massachusetts of the United States navy, there are altogether 86 steam engines, big and little, in the equipment, and many of these engines have double steam cylinders—in fact, there are no less than 168 steam cylinders all told.

With so many engines to be supplied with steam, it is very apparent that the matter of economy should be carefully studied. This subject has been looked into more or less, but it has been found that to compound the engines of many of the auxiliaries would add still more to the complication, to say nothing about additional weight and space. Then, again, many of the auxiliaries are only occasionally brought into use. However, there is no doubt that as great a stride will be made in the near future in steam economy for the auxiliary engines as has been done with the main engines.

Although the power of all the auxiliaries on the trial trip of the Massachusetts averaged only about 2 1/2 per cent of the indicated horsepower of the main engine, the actual amount of steam used by these auxiliaries was no doubt anywhere from 10 to 15 per cent of all the steam generated. On the trial trip referred to the main engines and the auxiliaries, in use developed the following powers: Main engines, 10,128 indicated horsepower; air pumps, 12 1/2 indicated horsepower, or about one-eighth of 1 per cent of the power of the main engines; circulating pumps, 20 1/2 indicated horsepower, or about one-third of 1 per cent; feed pumps, 84 indicated horsepower, or about two-thirds of 1 per cent; forced draft blowers, 197 indicated horsepower, or about 1 per cent; other auxiliaries, 45 indicated horsepower, or about one-half of 1 per cent. The total of all the auxiliaries was 275 indicated horsepower, or as above stated, about 2 1/2 per cent of the indicated horsepower of the main engines. This certainly shows that there is an opportunity for the designers of the different auxiliaries to try and see if some of this steam cannot be saved.—Cassier's Magazine.

WARE - HOUSES

TO LET PEAKE' WHARF (NO 1)

Wharfage storage and yardage, at reasonable rates.

Arthur G. Peake. Nov. 4

Valencia Oranges.

"Few people are probably aware that it takes over 50,000,000 boxes of oranges to supply the annual demand for this fruit in the United States," said a wholesale fruit merchant in New York. "About 90 per cent of the fruit is grown in California and Florida, and the rest comes principally from Valencia. The domestic fruit is now selling at from \$2.75 to \$4 a box, while the foreign article is worth from \$5 to \$7 per crate.

"One reason why we import so many Spanish oranges is owing to the large yearly exports of our own luscious product to London, where our fruit finds a ready market and is considered a great luxury. Besides there are many Americans who have cultivated a taste for the fine Valencia fruit, and they will apparently have nothing else. So to please both English and American consumers we export and import large quantities of oranges.

"Valencia exports more oranges than any other city in the world. It largely supplies England, sending there annually some 40,000,000, in boxes holding 500 each. The country in the neighborhood of the city is flat and has something of the aspect of a market garden. All semitropical fruits grow there, and raisin and wine grapes, rice and mulberry trees flourish especially. But the growing of oranges for exportation is the chief industry. So great is the foreign demand for the fruit that when I was in Valencia in the harvest season of 1896 I found it next to impossible to buy a first rate orange, the best being packed for shipment. Those commonly eaten by the inhabitants are the small mandarins. Last year some 400,000 boxes of "Valencias" came to America, and the call for them was brisk. This year at least 450,000 boxes are expected to arrive in New York, and the demand for the fruit in most of the big cities will doubtless be very active during the holidays."—Washington Star.

A High Ball.

The recent coup of the Princess de Sagan in Paris has created much smiling comment. She is a well known leader in the fashionable world and for 22 years she and her husband have lived apart. Recently she succeeded in carrying him off from his club while he was ill and he is now under her roof, and it is announced a reconciliation has taken place. Her eldest son, who always sided with his father, is furious, and his mother will not let him see his father more than once a week, and no one knows whether the old prince is staying at his wife's house of his free will or because he is locked in. An amusing story is told about the conditions under which the prince attended a ball given by his wife to royalty in 1878. It was impossible to entertain royalty without the presence of the master of the house, and the princess sent a friend to intercede with her husband. The prince at the time happened to be a bit short of money and hardly waited for the friend to make explanation before he responded: "Certainly, I'll come with great pleasure—for \$20,000." He got the money and was at the ball.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The old story of Prometheus is a parable. Prometheus was on terms of intimacy with the gods. From them he stole fire and gave it to men. For this sin he was bound to the rocks of Mount Caucasus, and vultures were set upon him. They only ate his liver. This grew again as fast as it was pecked away. Are his sufferings to be imagined?

Take a modern interpretation of the parable. There is no cooking without fire. In cooking and eating the mischief lies. The stomach is overtaken, the bowels become clogged, they cannot dispose of the food that is given them. The impurities back up on the liver. Then come the vultures—the torments of a diseased liver. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is more than equal to the vultures of dyspepsia and its kindred diseases. There is no more need of suffering from dyspepsia than there is of hanging one's self. Sold by all medicine dealers the world over.

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