

DESERET EVENING NEWS

Published every evening, except Sunday.

GEORGE Q. CANNON, Editor.

Office—Corner of South and East Temple Streets.

One Copy one year, \$10.00

" six months, 6.00

" three months, 3.00

ANGUS M. CANNON, General Business Agent.

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BREVITIES.

A splendid deposit of magnetic iron has been found on the west side of Lake Michigan, Wis., which is known as the "Spur mine." The deposit seems to be immense, and very little striping is required.

A gentleman living near the Oregon House, in this county, Mr. N. J. Martin, while walking through a canyon some days since, was bitten in the arm by a rattlesnake. He hastened to his house and applied horseshoe to the bite, keeping it saturated until he had fully recovered from its evil effects. It is well not only to keep such simple remedies in mind, but also to have them on hand.—*Marysville Express*.

A fault has been discovered in the French cable at a point 800 miles from St. Pierre, and 1000 miles from France, which, though not at present sufficient to prevent its working, is constantly growing worse, and will ultimately require the cable to be underrun all the way from one coast or the other to the spot where the fault exists. This great and costly task is to be undertaken next summer.

It is now ascertained that the dark spots upon the moon's surface indicate the presence of vegetation. Everything sustains the inference that not only is water in sufficient abundance in the moon for sustaining vegetable and animal life, but that animal life exists there. Beings, perhaps our equals in intelligence, may at this moment be inhabiting our planet for the purpose of discovering whether life or intelligence exists here.

A Chinaman named Tye Kinn, recently arrived at Omaha on his way round the world. He went from China to England seven years ago, by way of the Cape of Good Hope, and studied four years at Cambridge. He afterwards directed a Coolie plantation in Cuba, until the revolution broke out, when he went to New Orleans and opened a school. He is now on his way to China, to engage a thousand laborers for a Louisiana sugar planter.

The vaults of the Bank of France, which it is asserted, contain more treasure than any other single spot on the globe, are accessible through an iron door, which has three keys, kept by the three principal officers. The iron staircase leading to the vaults can be detached, and by a chemical apparatus a supply of deadly gas is made to penetrate every part, destroying human life in a few seconds, while the whole vault can be submerged in ten minutes notice, so that any attempt to rob it would be attended with certain peril.

The Boston Currier tells how the best farmers near Philadelphia get so high a price for their butter:

"First, they always make a first-class article, so their customers, sure of getting the best there is, will not desert them on account of a rise in the price. Second, they bring in their butter in a showy and attractive condition. No pot or delf ware, no tub or pail of oak or hemlock, no vulgar firkin is used to entomb those noble balls, golden-hued with the aroma of white clover and *Poa pratensis* lingering in the firm grain. A large tin vessel, designed expressly for the business, has chambers at each end, into which ice is put. The wooden shelves, about three inches apart, rest on little projections from the sides. A layer of balls is then placed on the bottom and covered with its shell, but not so as to touch or mar the handsome print of a sheaf of grain, which stands out on the top of each ball; on the shelf another layer of prints, and so on till the vessel is full, they containing forty or fifty pound prints. The tin, with ice in each end, is then set in a wooden tube which has been cooled with ice or spring water. Over this is drawn a cover of padded carpeting, with oilcloth on the top. Thus hot air and dust are wholly excluded, and the butter rides to the city and opens in the market-houses in fine condition as when packed in the spring-house. In just this way, with this degree of care and skill, is the best Philadelphia butter made, marked and marketed. No wonder the Philadelphians would rather pay seventy-five cents than go back from such manner to the looks and onions of the common firkin."

It is not very long since the reflecting portion of the English people were startled by the statement, put forth authoritatively, that a man had died in the coal shafts in England. Nearly six men are killed for every million of tons of coal raised in England. The dangers of mining in the English mines are many. First, there are the dangers attending the fall of stratum beneath which the miner labors. It is from the constant caving in of the treacherous roof that the miner stands in greatest danger. There are the accidents arising from the explosion of fire damp, by which scores of men are destroyed without a moment's warning. The coal pours out suddenly, sometimes continually, its carburetted hydrogen gas, which, uniting with the air, creates the dangerous fire-damp. Those who escape instant destruction by the explosion of the fire damp are reserved for the more horrible fate of dying from the effects of the "after damp" or "choke damp," which succeeds an explosion. In the English mines it sometimes happens that the miners break into old workings, the records of which are either lost or forgotten, when the poor miner is crushed beneath the weight of a ponderous column of water. It is not many years since the breaking of the machinery of the Hartley Colliery entombed two hundred and four men and boys, not one of whom survived. Within the short space of five months, in 1857, upward of four hundred men and boys were killed in two large collieries in England, cut off without a moment's warning. One of the accidents was similar in some respects to the recent disaster in the Avondale mine.—Ex.

DESERET EVENING NEWS.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

VOL. II.

SALT LAKE CITY, MONDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 25, 1869

No. 285

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