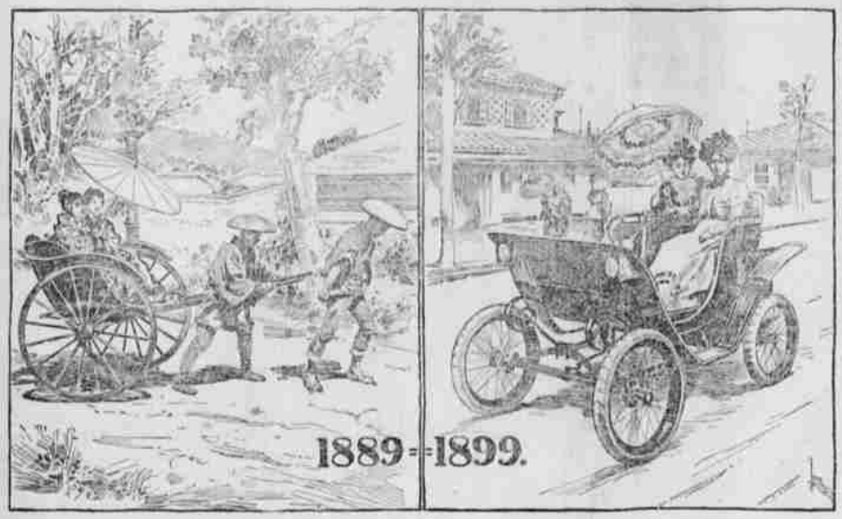
THE AWAKENING OF JAPAN.

JAPAN has just found herself. These decades are the last of the exclusive exclusive age, or was universally considered a land of barbarism. To-day Japan prepares to step across the threshold of the twentieth century as one of the great powers of the world, a nation of accomplished and progressive people, the Greeks of the modern world and the potential dominators of the destinies of the orient.

For the last ten years the world has been looking at Japan through the wrong end of the telescope. This latter instrument has been turned upon Japan as a fairy wandering around for the comic opera writer and the poetic traveler of the Sir Edwin Arnold type. In the popular mind its people have been considered as made up of dear little people, who are proverbially dolling and trinketed too and living in delightful little cottages made out of dried cardboard, with the now made from dragon and many-headed hose. The impetus of various from the west has long been at work undoing the land of cherry blossoms and bringing its people into contact or the closer upon the occasions as if the island were a little the antique Chinese foot of the face of the sea. She has now reached her calm to be classed as one of the first nations of the world by the consideration of that Unity with the China States which has just recently come into effect. This new treaty between Japan and America is one of very tremendous importance, as it recognizes the equality of the subjects as entitled to adopt the business practices and principles of up to date people and is recognized by the United States as a commercial equal in every respect.

In bringing about this new sense of treaties with the United States and the other great commercial countries of the world Japan naturally feels most friendly to the Anglo-Saxon, because it has been this race on both sides of the Atlantic, with Canada naturally, that has always taken a sympathetic and generally quite sensible view in Japan's progress and her desire to adopt modern methods of trade and commerce. The passages of several of our presidents have already touched on this matter, and now that America is a vital factor in the money making that is to take place in the far east during the next few years it is a matter of much importance that the present friendly relations between Washington and Tokyo should continue to exist. This last mentioned city has a strange wand still to Americans care when used in a commercial and political connection, but it is evident that during the next few years there will be a change in this, and Tokyo will become one of the great political and educational centers of the world.



AN ANCIENT INN.

The oldest tea in the world is the Seven Stars, which now stands crumbling away in the city of Manchester. Since the year 1356 every travelers have put up at this old public house, and now that the picturesque old building is condemned as about to be torn down to make room for the erection of a huge warehouse Englishmen are objecting to the loss of such a historic old landmark. Among the more notable men who have sprinkled at the Seven Stars in its many little taprooms are counted such personages as the Black Prince and Lord Faulkes.

THE OMAHA EXPOSITION.

Some idea of the beauty and magnitude of the buildings of the Omaha exposition, which is at present attracting so many thousands of visitors to what is called the Greater America exposition, will be gained from the accompanying picture of the Machinery hall. The exposition is now in full swing and will be kept open until November next, and if the final attendance is as great as that at the beginning of the fair this exposition will long be remembered as one of the great industrial events of the west.

DEATH OF COLONEL HAWKINS

Among those heroes for whom many a good American heart is sorrowladen mourners and in whose Dixie have a well been extended a melting welcome from the Philippines was the gallant Colonel A. L. Hawkins, the leader of the Tenth Pennsylvania boys, who distinguished themselves for dash and courage under the command of Brigadier General Greene. During the campaign Col. Hawkins was wounded on April 23. At Caloocan he narrowly escaped a dangerous wound. A Mauser bullet struck the handle of his revolver and exploded a cartridge in the weapon. The colonel seemed to bear a charmed life, for in the charge at Binondo hill he marched at the right of the center company, which his son commanded. As the line neared the fortress at the top of the hill the fire became the hottest, and the colonel, captain and navy and now rushed the position ahead of the line. A captured sharpshooter of a Filipino officer was led up to Colonel Hawkins, but before he could mount in the saddle the animal was killed by a bullet from the insurgent line.

DREYFUS AS HE LANDED.

That Captain Dreyfus looked somewhat embarrassed and startled is evident from a picture he landed at Port Holmes, as reported by the French papers, and is substantiated by the accompanying picture, which was made by an American artist who was on the spot when the returning martyr of Devil's Island stepped ashore. The change which his long period of military confinement and ill treatment have wrought in the once strong and athletic looking Alsatian captain will at once be seen from the picture. The French authorities resented this and did their utmost to effect a secret landing, but all their plans were snakin to get the best of the vigilance of the energetic foreign correspondent.

Boston banks paid out $10,000,000 in dividends on July 1. New York banks are said to have paid ten times that.

THE MODERN DRUID.

It has long been supposed that the Druids passed away even before William the Conqueror invaded England. Such, however, is not the case, for each year in Wales is still held the Welsh Bardic association, at which some one Welsh singer is chosen as the arch Druid of Wales. This event is made the occasion of a three days' musical festival, at which the harper or singer who wins the prize is noted in the Welsh chair and during impressive ceremonies and the blowing of trumpets is crowned with bells, the sacred not of the Druids. The accompanying picture shows Iwin Nos, the latest successor to this distinction, raised out to his official robes for such an occasion.

YACHTING ON WHEELS.

Yachting on wheels is rather a novel experience, but in one part of America this species of locomotion is a necessity. Lake Lefroy, situ. in Western America, is a lake during the rainy season, but that fact does not prevent enthusiastic yachtsmen from sailing about it all the year round. As the lake evaporates the water, a smooth and sizzy floor of salt formed is left at the bottom of the lake. All sailboats in Lefroy are fitted with wheels, enabling the owners to take with them on land the lake and which is now the office in use.

A MARTIAL FOLLOWER OF FUNSTON.

Now that their record is closed the gallant western soldier boys who have been fighting in the Philippines are getting ready to be mustered. It was the heroic little General Funston who began the business of this making and, though his name is familiar to every one, there are others.

Colonel Wilder S. Metcalf, the junior major of the Twentieth Kansas volunteers in Manila, who succeeded Colonel Funston in command of the regiment and whose picture is here shown, is a typical soldier and a living model of Frederick Remington's type of army officer.

Colonel Metcalf received his military training in the national guard of Ohio and Kansas and advanced from the grade of "rookie" to veteran which under fire for the first time at Manila. Since then he has been shot twice. The first bullet pierced his ear. "That was a pretty close call," he wrote home, but proved it over with the six chaps that "bullets and lightning never strike twice in the same place." His second wound was received a few weeks later, when a bullet crashed through his foot.

When Colonel Funston was given command of the regiment, he asked for field officers who were experienced men, and he particularly wished that Metcalf be appointed to the staff. Metcalf was a member of the Kansas militia, was made major twice. When a message to Funston was sent to the regiment was successfully for Metcalf, all Colonel Funston called for assist in Governor Stanley of Kansas, who granted the commission.

The success of the Colonel Metcalf's boys that there are few men who never Funston, Metcalf, Bennett, Brown, Jenkins, the regiment colonel Metcalf practiced law in Lawrence, Kan. He was born in Ohio, graduated in a graduate of Oberlin college, Ohio, and the Kansas University Law school at Lawrence.

RUSSIAN SPIRIT WRESTLERS.

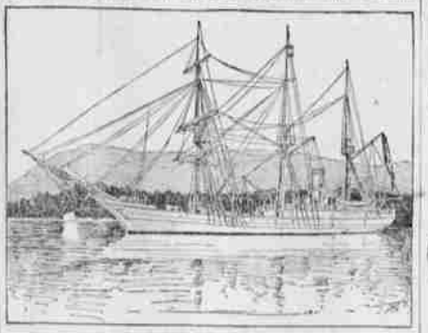
There has been a great deal of talk lately about the spirit wrestlers, or Doukhobors, who have been migrating from the country of the czar over the Caucasus into the Canadian Northwest Territories. The accompanying picture shows three of these strange people, several hundred of whom have already been taken from Russia by the son of Count Tolstoi, who is their stanch and fearless supporter. Unfortunately for themselves, these poor people believe in the principle of nonresistance and share with the czar his official views as to the iniquity of war. In consequence they were harassed by the imperial police. Their women were flogged and violated, and life became unbearable under the benign rule of this Russian Nicholas who is now to hold triumphal peace conferences together.

THE DEWEY PIPE.

America has the habit of always appreciating her heroes. There are some who hold that our countrymen wrote the thing, but on the other hand it is better to show a Lincoln and a Grant and a Dewey that he is appreciated during his lifetime rather than wait for a hundred years and then put a big marble statue up over him. The extent to which the Dewey admiration has gone will be well shown by the fact that there are now being sold pipes known as Dewey pipes.

TO CRUISE IN POLAR SEAS.

The Polar Star, the steamer which is bearing the Duke of Abruzzi on his north talked of cruise in search of the lost explorer and vessels which ever started out on such an expedition. The substantial and commodious nature of the steamer will be seen from the accompanying picture, which was taken while the Polar Star was still lying off Christiania. The equipment and supplies which the Duke of Abruzzi is taking north with him are the considered that can be secured, and, owing to the fact that the British variety is an enthusiastic admiral and Darwin and is showing such splendid support in his efforts, it is thought by many that his journey to the Land of the Midnight Sun will be an exceptionally successful one. Whether or not he will find the pole is a different story.



AN ADVOCATE OF OPEN AIR DANCING.

Mr. Benjamin Murphy, the chief of police of Jersey City, is a man who thinks for himself. Chief Murphy recently started the civic authorities of Jersey City with the proposal to force of portions of the city's asphalt at evening and during the summer months allow young people to disport themselves in terpsichorean gymnastics to the music of a city brass band. Chief Murphy, by the way, is a veteran at police work, having been a member of the Jersey City force for over 32 years. He has been chief for ten years and has also been the distributor of both a war veteran, having taken part in no less than 35 engagements and being three times wounded. Chief Murphy is a member of the New York commandery Loyal Legion and on the whole one of the most popular police chiefs in America.

RANDOM FACTS.

The Russian government has agreed to maintain a series of the Nile, with the object of encouraging the service of fish shipping to Europe.

The largest dairy in the world is located 4 miles from Newark, N. J., the minimum number of cows kept being 1,000. The proprietor runs a ranch in Iowa for the special purpose of supplying his dairy with cows.

Australian rabbit skins are being converted into waistcoats for the American market.

A German army officer estimates that in the century just closed no less than 10,000,000 men have been killed in war in continental Europe.

A Chicago man has been using as a photographic machine which clings over a cigar, and so fast the speed as a movie film and can choose a chronograph for the purpose with an expert with an expert in about a sixth of a second.

The brewery of Saccharo is prodigious, so much so that if 18 drops of water polluted with bacteria are allowed to fall into a cup of both the germ population would have increased in 24 hours in Russia.

The Liverpool fire engine boasts that it has the largest and fire engine in the world. It weighs five tons and can throw 1,800 gallons per minute. It is drawn by three, sometimes four, horses.

After a recent tornado in Australia thousands of water snakes were found on the beach in one place, while in another the beach was entirely washed away, leaving nothing but bare rocks.

The sultan of Turkey has just built at Mecca the biggest house in the world. It is intended for the accommodation of pilgrims and is capable of sheltering 6,000 persons. The next biggest house in the world is to a suburb of Vienna. It accommodates 1,111 lunatics.

Just before W. V. Smith of Florence, Kan., goes to bed he carefully places his beard in a mosquito bag. After he has entered the bed he puts the bag under his pillow. He beard is nearly eight feet long.

Opal mining is one of the latest Australian mineral industries. The principal opal mining center is White Cliffs where the gem has been found in fairly payable quantities and of the finest quality, within a radius of ten miles and a population of 1,400 of Europeans is settled there.

California produces about one-third of the almonds consumed in the United States.