M. B. NICHOLS'
Spring Announcement.

EVERYBODY, Especially during this season when money is so very scarce, is interested in learning where can their DOLLAR buy the greatest amount of goods. The following prices will soon convince you that my store is the place to do your Spring Shopping. We want you to come and see that all these bargains are as we represent them.

$2.25 White Bed Spreads, now	$1.69
$1,00 White Bed Spreads, now	59c
39c Bleached Table Linens, now	29c
12½c Percales (in Remnants), now	8¾c
37½c Figured French Piques, now	25c
18c Figured Piques, also white, now	10c
25c real French Organdies, now	15c
10c fine Dress Ginghams, now	6½c
8c All Linen Crash, now	5c
50c All Wool Dress Goods, now	29c
25c box, 3 cakes, Fine Toilet Soap, now	10c
9-4 bleached Sheeting, full width, now	19c
$1.25 fancy stripe Underskirt. now	98c
6 pairs Gent.'s 1-2 Hose for	25c
3 pairs Ladies 25c Black Hose for	50c
20c large Linen Towels for	12½c
36-inch Berkley Cambric, now	9c
1 doz. large Linen Napkins, now	90c
Half-doz. Ladies Ribbed Vests for	25c
50c extra good Summer Corset for	29c
$1.25 Misses Fine Shoes, now	98c
$3.00 Ladies Fine Shoes, now	$1.98

The reason of this cut in Shoes is Pointed Toes.

Misses fast black Ribbed Hose, all sizes, 9c
6 Ladies H. S. Handkerchiefs for 25c
Handsome Black Satteen Skirts, $1.15, $1.50
$25.00 buys a first-class Bicycle of us.
The best line of Bicycles we ever sold, prices from $15.00 to $60.00.

When you pass our way, drop in and inspect our stock. We believe you will then begin to realize that our store is where you want to hereafter do your dealing.



AMERICAN
Field Fencing.

A fence that always keeps its shape because it's built that way—

Nothing but large size heavily galvanized wire made of best Bessemer steel used in its construction—same in all the 20 different styles made—turns all kinds of stock and leaves the stock unharmed while the fence stands strong and sturdy.



THIS hinge-joint makes an adjustable fence and prevents stay wires from bending—



THAT

crimp makes as tight a fence in summer as in winter, and prevents stay wire from being displaced.

There's no fence that excels it; and few, if any, as good.

Examine it and be convinced.

Fence Supplies.

Barb Wire

We have a large supply of the 4 and 6 in. barb. At less than wholesale cost to-day.

Poultry Netting

A full line of all widths Extra Heavy Galvanized at the very best prices.

Nevius & Frampton.

Ask for Burpee's Seed Catalogue
It's Free.

WE ARE HEADQUARTERS FOR
Builders : Supplies.

Doors, Sash, Blinds, Mantels and full line of Mill Work kept in stock always. Flooring, Siding, Shingles, Framing and Finishing Lumber of all kinds.

WRIGHTSVILLE LAND LIME

TEXAS ALUM LIME FOR BUILDING AND WHITEWASHING PURPOSES. GIVE US A CALL BEFORE PURCHASING.

ESTIMATES PROMPTLY FURNISHED.

Robt. B. Dixon & Co

THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Entire Group Unquestionably Result of Volcanic Upheaval From Ocean's Bed

ARE DEVOID OF MINERALS

Notable Facts About Some of the Mountains Which Tower Thousands of Feet.

The Beautiful City of Honolulu—The Avenue of Royal Palms—Ancient and Modern Residences—No Fires Needed for Warmth and Comfort—The Cultivation of Sugar and Rice.

The recent acquisition of the Hawaiian group of islands and their incorporation as an integral part of the territory of the United States invest them with a peculiar interest. No doubt before long the American people generally will become as familiar with all the facts of Hawaiian life and history as with any portion of our country. Although these islands are believed to have been inhabited for more than a hundred years the turning point in their history was their discovery by the white man more than 120 years ago. The future of these islands will obviously be of American make. But there is very much that is unusually interesting in the origin, the soil, the climate, and the natural products of these islands as well as in the occupations and habits of the native islanders. The entire group is unquestionably the result of a volcanic upheaval from the ocean bed, and the only original soil of Hawaii was pure lava. This volcanic product, thrown up by what was undoubtedly a series of successions of sub-oceanic convulsions, took the form at first of vast rugged mountain ranges, which still remain in most impressive form in several of the islands. These masses of lava cooled and became a sort of rock which, singularly enough, has nowhere in it any trace of mineral matter. With the single exception of sulphur, no mineral substance has been found on Hawaiian soil. These lava mountain ranges are rough, broken and precipitous, and in many places impassible. In some instances they rise to mountain peaks of great height, the highest, Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea, in Hawaii, rising about 13,000 feet; Haleakala's summit, in Maui, is 10,000 feet above sea level. The peaks of the Pali and Tantalus, in Oahu, are nearly 4,000 feet in height.

A notable fact about some of these Hawaiian mountains is that they continue with the same abruptness to a



AVENUE OF ROYAL PALMS.

great distance below the ocean's surface. Soundings taken have proved that the Mauna Loa really extends downward at least three miles below the sea at a distance only three and a half miles from the shore, giving the entire mountain, from base to crest, an altitude of almost six miles. Immense coral reefs girt the islands in many places, rising sometimes eighty feet above sea level.

Along the seashore the combination of lava soil and marine deposit has made a soil which is phenomenally productive in sugar cane, rice, the native taro root, bananas and cocoanuts. The city of Honolulu is almost literally a city in a garden. It is so embowered in the richness of its foliage of palms, cocoanut trees, umbrella, "monkey pod," fig and algeroba, and other trees of tropic and semi-tropic growth that from the Pali summit, or the "Punchbowl," the buildings and streets are scarcely visible for the palm trees that flourish there; the most beautiful and imposing of them is the "Royal Palm." One of the finest of Honolulu's streets is the Avenue of Royal Palms.

Honolulu has very many spacious and handsome residences of modern construction. The dwellings of the natives, however, known as "grass houses," were built of bamboo frame work, the sides inclosed and the roof thatched entirely with the grasses which are found in great abundance in the islands. These houses had usually no windows, and only one wide doorway. As no fires are ever needed for warmth and comfort, they were of course, without chimneys. The only furniture, or fittings, required were the heaps of grass-woven mats which made the beds. The native Hawaiians had no use for chairs or tables

The cultivation of sugar and rice has been remarkably profitable on the low lands along the seacoast in many parts of the islands, and sugar plantations in southern Hawaii are found at a considerable elevation above the sea. The fertility of the Hawaiian soil is shown by the fact that its sugar cane product is more than double per acre that of Louisana or Cuba.

The Hawaiian Islands, if all the arable lands are placed under cultivation, are capable of sustaining a population of at least a million, probably more. Now that they have become an integral part of the United States, it is almost certain that in the near future there will be a rapid and very profitable utilization of these hitherto unused lands, which will result in a vast increase of the population of Hawaii and in enhancing her commercial importance

THE COBRA'S FANGS.

PROOF THAT THEY ARE NOT IN THEMSELVES POISONOUS.

How the Reptile Strikes and the Effect of the Blow—Action Is Magnificent and Swift as a Lightning Flash—Attack Is Usually Fatal.

Now, the so-called poisonous fangs are not in themselves poisonous—that is, they are not coated with poison; nor even have they a capillary tube running inside along their lengths, through which the cobra injects the poison into the wound. If that were the case, the cobra could not seize its food without infecting it with the poison. The real fact is there is a fine tube running from the base of each of the two fangs backward under the eye to an almond-shaped gland or bag, which contains the poison. This gland is constantly secreting the poison, with a small supply for immediate use. Hence, if the tube connecting the gland to the base of the fang were kept open, the poison would be constantly running out into the mouth of the cobra, and thus wasted to no purpose. To prevent this a circular muscle binds the tube somewhere about the middle. But when the cobra strikes its prey, this muscle is relaxed, and another one squeezes the poison-bag, and thus injects the poison.

But let us describe the whole process of striking, and see what the cobra does when he means mischief. He expands his head and rears at least a third of his length in the air, with the rest of the body coiled in the form of a spiral. This spiral form gives him sufficient anchorage to rear his body by sheer muscular effect, and also the necessary leverage in dealing the blow. His eyes glisten like obelisks, his forked tongue darts in and out with a low, hissing sound. Suddenly he throws back his head in a low curve, and as swiftly darts forward to his victim, partly as a plunge and partly as a spring, unfolding a portion of his coil to increase his range. It looks as if the cobra sprang into the air, but, as a matter of fact, his belly usually touches the ground at the moment of striking, in order to afford him sufficient leverage to imbed his fangs firmly in the body of the victim.

The action is magnificent, and yet swift as a lightning flash. The tongue is withdrawn, the mouth wide open. The fangs fall on the victim as a stab, the lower jaw closing in beneath as a bite. If the blow has been fair and square, two small punctures are made in the flesh of the victim by the two fangs; otherwise, if the blow has been one-sided, there will be only one puncture.

Now, the mere striking of the blow is not enough, and if the cobra were instantaneously to withdraw the fangs after dealing the blow, his prey would suffer no worse effect than the pain of those needle-like punctures. It is still necessary to inject the poison. In certain cases, indeed, by a strong muscular action, the poison has been injected almost simultaneously with the blow; nay, in a case where the cobra was inordinately roused to fury, the poison was shot out by a strong muscular effort while the cobra was still in the act of plunging—and in this case the would-be victim, who was really out of range, escaped the blow, but had the poison squirted all over him. Still, however, in most cases the poison is injected after the blow—though it be but half a second after. That half a second has saved many a life—for instance, where the blow, not being struck full in the body, but only on the edge of it, the cobra slipped off the body by the mere impetus of the blow, causing the fangs to scratch along the skin in two thin lines.

Assuming, however, that the blow has been struck full on the body of the victim, the cobra immediately after the blow wriggles his head either to the right or to the left. This act of turning helps to squeeze the poison gland situated on that side to which the cobra has turned, and thus to inject the poison over the puncture on that side. After this discharge the cobra usually drops off the limb in an inert mass as if considerably, though temporarily, weakened by the loss of the precious fluid. There may, of course, be sufficient secretion still left in the bag to give a second bite immediately after, but in that case the wound may not necessarily be fatal.

A Curious Railway.

An Indian line, the Darjeeling-Himalayan railway, is one of the most remarkable in the world, and is also the highest, its Darjeeling terminus being situated on a giddy eminence 8,000 feet above the level of the plains.

At many points it is possible to see the curves above and below the train, no fewer than seven tracks being



A CURIOSITY IN ENGINEERING.

visible at one place. The sharpest curves are at a place well named "Agony point," where the train on two occasions almost describes a circle in its own length. One of the most striking features of a journey up the Darjeeling-Himalayan railway is the sharp transition from the burning heat of the plains to the cold air and the snows of this great hight.

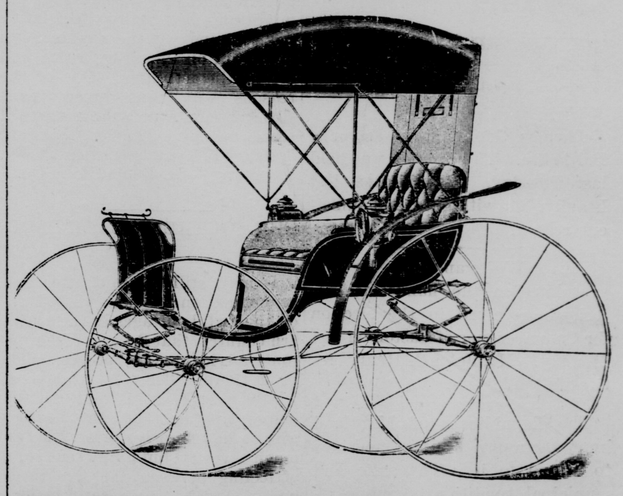
Clocks Without Hands and Faces.

In Switzerland they are making clocks which do not need hands and faces. The clock merely stands in the hall and you press a button in its stomach, when, by means of the phonographic internal arrangements, it calls out "half-past six" or twenty-three minutes to eleven," as the case may be.

The Chameleon.

When a chameleon is blindfolded it loses all power of changing its color, and its entire body remains of a uniform tint.

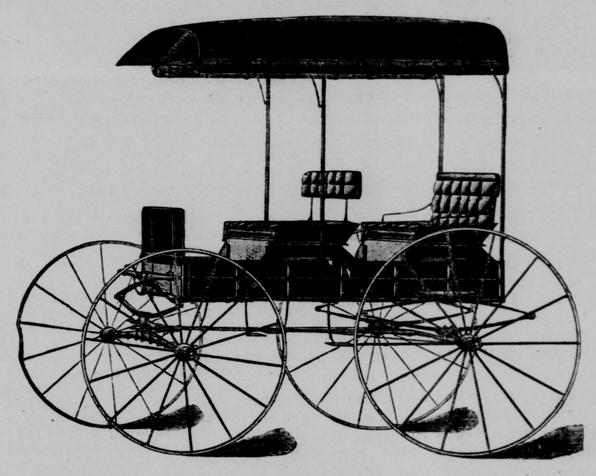
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will be made for the next thirty days in all our big line of carriages. We don't say this merely to attract your attention, we mean it absolutely and to prove it will allow you to make your own price on any carriage in our establishment. We will sell you the best grade of carriage for almost a song. Remember we mean business, and we do not propose to be underscld in any particular.

When you buy a "Spence Carriage" you know what you are buying, you take no risk, you know what kind of material you have, for there are years of hard, conscientious work back of our reputation as carriage builders.

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