

NEW TRADE SCHEME.

Floating Exposition Planned for Trip Around the World.

American Manufacturers and Exporters to Exhibit Their Goods at Very Doors of People to Whom They Desire to Sell Them.

The suggestion for a floating exposition to enable American manufacturers and exporters to exhibit their goods at the doors of the people to whom they desire to sell them, recently made by the chief of the bureau of statistics of the treasury department, is resulting in much discussion of the subject not only throughout the United States, but in other parts of the world. Letters are being received from various countries in Europe and elsewhere making inquiries regarding the proposed enterprise, and many inquiries from manufacturers and merchants in the United States desiring to participate in an undertaking of this character.

The proposition as originally presented in the National Geographical Magazine and before the national board of trade by the chief of the bureau of statistics suggested that it would be much easier to induce those whom we would make our customers to examine our goods if carried to their doors than if the goods were set up in an exposition in the middle of the United States and the world invited to cross the oceans to examine them, and that greater proportionate results in the enlargement of our foreign commerce would accrue from investments in exhibitions carried to the doors of the would-be customers rather than large expenditure in creating sufficiently great attractions to bring the would-be customers to our own doors. To this end it was suggested that an exposition association might be formed by manufacturers and exporters which could create a guarantee fund which would entitle the subscribers to a proportionate amount of space in the vessel or vessels carrying the exhibit, this exhibit when completed to pass from port to port along the coast of South America, thence to the principal cities of Asia, Oceania, Africa and Europe, and thence returning to the United States, occupying perhaps two years in the trip and visiting the principal cities and countries of the world.

This suggestion by the chief of the bureau of statistics has been followed by the announcement that a floating exhibition to visit the cities bordering upon the gulf of Mexico and Caribbean sea has been organized at Buffalo and will be made ready during the summer and leave in the autumn of the present year for that field, and a number of other enterprises of this character have been suggested.

DESERTS MADE TO BLOOM.

Dr. C. W. Woolridge Has a Plan to Reclaim Arid Lands of Arizona.

Dr. C. W. Woolridge, a well-known Ohio scientist, advocates the creation of a glacier at the top of the San Bernardino mountains in California that would change the arid lands of Arizona and southern California into a garden. He would have the standing army employed, and suggests as one of its tasks that it erect an immense chimney on the Pacific coast of such height that the ocean air would be carried to the top of the San Bernardino mountains, where by atmospheric action it would be reduced to an extremely low temperature, thus forming, according to Mr. Woolridge, an immense glacier. The presence of this glacier would cause a sufficiency of rainfall, which in that country is now lacking because the upper stratum of atmosphere is too warm.

He also suggests that the water courses of the mountain regions of the west could be harnessed by electric dynamos which would furnish power to till the fields. The land he would have irrigated by underground water courses and all over the farms he would have trolley tracks so that farm wagons could be run easily everywhere.

WOMEN WILL RIDE ASTRIDE.

Boston Society Girls About to Adopt New Style in Horseback Riding.

At the horse show ten Boston young women of good families will ride their horses astride. Some 150 Boston women of refinement and culture are now riding this way, and are all enthusiastic defenders of what they regard as the only sensible way to ride. The young women who will introduce this style of riding at the horse show are Miss Vickery, Miss Hoffman, Miss Harrington, the Misses Sheafe, of Newbury street; Miss Chamberlain, Miss Crosby, Miss Thorndike, Miss Deland and Miss Smith.

Other well-known women who will ride in this fashion are: Mrs. Potter, wife of Dr. Potter, of Brookline; Miss Dewey, the daughter of Prof. Dewey; Miss Hooper, of Gardner road, Brookline; Miss Wing, the sister of Dr. Wing, of Jamaica Plain; Miss North, of Brookline, and Miss Reed, of No. 12 Louisburg square, Boston, besides a number of girls from Miss Chamberlain's school, and several from Lasell seminary and Wesleyan college. Mrs. Stakpole, of the Back Bay, rode astride at the Boston horse show two years ago.

Relief of Poor British.

The number of poor people relieved last year in Great Britain was 792,467.

MACHINE THAT FLIES

Airship Successfully Tried in Crystal Palace, London.

Propelled by Four Two-Bladed Screws and Steered by a Broad Rudder - Inventor is a French Aeronaut.

Latest among the "flying machines" to attract public attention is the navigable balloon, invented by M. Auguste Gandron, a model of which was exhibited recently in the Crystal Palace, London. The balloon was sausage-shaped, 17 feet long and three feet nine inches in diameter. It was steered by a broad rudder and propelled by four two-bladed screws, one forward, one aft, and two side by side amidships. The car was in the middle, and the balloon was steered by a weight which kept it on an even keel, and in a real balloon would serve the double purpose of moorings at sea and holding the balloon to earth on land.

The experiments were successfully carried out in the Crystal Palace, the balloon soaring in a spiral course like a pigeon preparatory to a straight fly. It navigated the large concert hall in a series of short tacks, and went off at a sharp tangent or took an oblique or spiral course whenever required.

The inventor, who is a French aeronaut and has been aided by Cecil Barth, wants to build on the same lines a balloon 100 feet long and 30 feet in diameter, which he figures would have a lifting capacity, when inflated with hydrogen, of 7,000 pounds. The motive power would be derived from four petroleum motors of ten horse-power each, working four six-foot screws, which are calculated to make 1,000 revolutions a minute. These screws are not for lifting, but for steering and propulsion.

Such an air ship as this would require, it is thought, a crew of five men, although possibly one man could take care of each two motors and reduce the number to three men. The inventor believes that in still air a speed of 35 miles an hour could be obtained.

WILL TEST A NEW PISTOL.

United States Cavalry to Be Supplied with Automatic Weapon Firing 110 Shots a Minute.

The secretary of war has just approved the action of the board of ordnance and fortification in allotting \$15,000 to purchase a number of Luger automatic pistols for test by United States troops. This pistol is manufactured in Berlin.

The sum allotted is sufficient to furnish five of these pistols to each troop of cavalry in the service, and as these troops are serving in all climates, from that of Cuba to the United States and the Philippine islands, this distribution test of the arm under most diverse conditions.

In addition to a general report on the merits of the Luger automatic pistol, commanding officers of organizations receiving the weapon are required to answer specifically a number of questions as to the advantages and disadvantages of these automatic pistols as compared with the revolver, the advantages and disadvantages of this particular arm over revolvers, the suitability of automatic pistols for the use of enlisted men, and so on.

Thirty shots have been fired from this pistol in 15 1/2 seconds, a rate of fire of 116 shots a minute. As the magazine holds but eight cartridges this means that the magazine must have been replaced three times, starting with the arm loaded. This is double the rate of fire obtained with any other automatic pistol. The arm may be completely dismounted for cleaning in 3/4 seconds.

The Luger pistol has been adopted by the Swiss government, and that army is supplied from Berlin, but it is probable that should this government adopt the weapon the right to its manufacture will either be purchased outright or a royalty will be paid for the manufacture in this country, as was done with the Krag-Jorgensen rifle.

A MEXICAN CONCESSION.

Captain Shillaber of Chicago to Build a Canal in Southern Republic.

Schemes for the investment of American capital in Mexican transportation enterprises have been furthered by the grant of a concession to Capt. Shillaber, of Chicago, an announcement of which has just been made. The captain has received the privilege from the Mexican government of constructing a waterway near the gulf coast from Tampico to Tuxpan, a distance of 125 miles. On this canal a line of modern steamboats will be established and later it is expected further concessions will be obtained. The canal as well as the boats is to be built with capital secured in the United States.

Capt. Shillaber is now in the City of Mexico, where he has been since November last. He is expected back in Chicago at the end of the month, but will soon make another trip. For three years he has been working on his Mexican plans, having made numerous voyages to that country. He is a former sea captain and had his headquarters at San Francisco.

Half a Million Members.
The French legion of honor is the biggest honor of merit. It numbers 500,000 members.

DOG WELL PROVIDED FOR.

New York Spinster Makes a Will Leaving \$10,000 to Her Pet Black and Tan Dog.

For the care and maintenance of a little black and tan dog, which lay at her feet when she was dying, Miss Ellen Anne Griffin left \$10,000 by her will. The furnished room in which she died in East Eleventh street, New York city, was small and plainly furnished, but "Dandy Jim," as the dog is called, wore a jeweled blanket, the only article in the room indicative of the wealth of the woman.

Miss Griffin was worth \$150,000 and has for years been a recluse. She was the daughter of Charles Alexander Griffin, a prominent New York lawyer 50 years ago, and the granddaughter of George Griffin, at one time the leading criminal lawyer of New York and a writer of ability. She was born 58 years ago. Her most intimate friend during her school days was Ellie Vanderbilt, granddaughter of Commodore Vanderbilt. When a young woman Miss Griffin fell in love with a cousin of hers. Her parents would not permit her to marry him. Her grief over this, which was great, was intensified by the death of the young man not long after. The death of her mother led her finally to take the room near Union square. She never saw any of her old friends, her only companions being "Dandy Jim" and a canary bird.

When it became evident that the end was approaching Miss Griffin sent for a lawyer and made her will. She appointed him her executor and left her property to her nieces and nephews. To Mary Magivney, the housekeeper, Miss Griffin left \$10,000 for the maintenance of the dog until the end of his days.

A SNAKE CHARMER.

John R. Proctor, Civil Service Commissioner, Wins Distinction in Kentucky.

"Do you know that Proctor used to be a famous snake charmer?" said a visitor to a Cosmos clubman as they looked across the room toward John R. Proctor, civil service commissioner. "No," was the brief response. "How did that happen?" "Well," said the visitor, "I went to Kentucky to make a sale of a large tract of valuable ore producing land in the mountains, and Proctor, being state geologist at that time, was to do the prospecting, and so on."

"While we were going up a mountain road one day I saw a huge black snake coming toward us, and just as we arrived at uncomfortable range Proctor stooped down, with eyes upon it, and slowly reaching down began to stroke the snake upon the head. Before I could quite recover from the nervous chill it gave me Proctor had that snake coiled up into a neat package and was transferring it to his saddle pockets. The rest of the journey was a rather nervous one for me, but Proctor kept things lively with a string of jolly snake stories."

"Well," laconically responded the Cosmos clubman, "that's good, and for Kentucky, too."

NAVY SMOKELESS POWDER.

To Be Investigated by the Department - Believed to Have Deteriorated in Quality.

It is proposed by the navy department to make an investigation of the character of the smokeless powder at present used in the service. This is a result of the accident which recently befell a 13-inch gun of the Kearsarge. There is a suspicion that the smokeless powder has deteriorated to a degree which makes it a dangerous composition.

Some such experience befell the smokeless powder adopted by the army, and it was found necessary at that time to destroy a large quantity of the material, which was found unsafe to use in the army guns.

The navy smokeless powder is made by a different formula, but there always has been suspicion of smokeless powder, which is a comparatively new composition and is deemed by the experts to be still in an experimental stage. If the investigation shows that the navy smokeless powder has deteriorated to a degree of unsafety it will be a serious matter for the service. All of the ships are using this material, and its rejection at this stage will be a costly matter.

ENGLISH VITAL STATISTICS.

The Marriage Rate in 1899 Was the Highest Which Has Been Recorded Since 1870.

The record of births, marriages and deaths in the United Kingdom for the year 1899, which has just been issued, shows that the marriage rate since 1870, and gives a rate of 16.5 married out of every 1,000. There were 352 divorces granted. One hundred and seventy-nine of these persons married again. The births numbered 928,646, or a rate of 29.3 per 1,000 of the population. The deaths numbered 541,799, or a rate of 18.3 per 1,000. Eighty-nine thousand two hundred and thirty-five deaths were due to zymotic diseases and 42,408 to pulmonary phthisis; 2,121 men and 728 women committed suicide. This was the first year on record where there has not been a single death from hydrophobia, and this is regarded as a justification of the stringent measures for the muzzling and quarantining of dogs.

Good Year for Farmers.

Last year the farmers of the United States received \$188,000,000 more for their products than in 1899.

CHILDHOOD LOVERS WED.

Yows Plighted Half a Century Ago Finally and Happily Consummated at New York City.

The New York World tells the story of a pretty life romance which was completed when Joseph Keeley, a well-to-do livery stable keeper of Cleveland, O., was married in St. Joseph's church, at New York, to Mary Ann Cole, of that city.

They were children together half a century ago in Kildare, Ireland. Keeley in 1861 came to this country to seek his fortune. Before leaving Ireland he promised Miss Cole that as soon as he was settled he would send for her to come over and marry him. Keeley went to Cleveland and prospered. He wrote to his sweetheart to come, but received no reply. He then wrote to a friend, and was told that Miss Cole had come to America, where she had died.

So Keeley in 1865 married a Cleveland woman. They had nine children, now all grown up.

Keeley's wife died three years ago last January. Before her death he had learned that his old sweetheart, Miss Cole, was still alive. A few months ago he advertised in the newspapers for information about her. On February 16 he received word that she was living with relatives in New York. He wrote and asked her if she still felt the same regard for him. Miss Cole wrote back that she was still waiting for him. Keeley went to that city.

The couple will remain in New York a few days and then go to Cleveland.

LINCOLN PARK'S BABY CAMEL.

Homely Little Creature at Chicago Is the First Born in the West.

"See that hump?" proudly asked Mrs. Albad of Animal-Keeper McCurran at Lincoln park, Chicago, the other day.

The man who takes care of the North side Zoo followed four wobbly legs upward to the hump, and then he exclaimed:

"Bless me, it's a baby camel."

The coming of the ugly little creature gives Lincoln park the distinction of being the birthplace of the first camel born in the west, and the officials and attendants have been puffing out their chests ever since they received the news of the important happening.

Baby Albad, by common consent, just now is the homeliest, ugliest, oddest animal in Lincoln park. It has a dingy skin of a muddy hue, long, uncertain legs, which seem to meet in a little hump just back of a wandering neck, and its lower lip looks out of proportion to its head.

But it's the pride of the park, and the keeper was besieged by eager boys and girls who wanted a peck at the baby camel which has just been born.

TO WRITE AMERICAN NOVEL.

General Lew Wallace Said to Have Planned a New Literary Work.

Close personal friends of Gen. Lew Wallace are authority for the statement that he designs writing an American novel, and that he will begin the work just as soon as he completes his "memoirs," upon which he is now engaged. Whether the work is to be historical or exactly what line he will pursue is not known, but it is said that he has the plan of his new work drafted and expects to enter upon it in a short time.

As Gen. Wallace has not written of American life, but has confined his labors to other fields, there is considerable interest in his proposed undertaking. The fact that he was a general in the army and had some experiences of which he often speaks with much enthusiasm has led to a belief that his new work will in some way be connected with the civil war.

HYPNOTISM BY PHONE.

Clayton Wilcox, of Mexico, Shows Great Power at Test in Rochester, New York.

Hypnotizing a subject by telephone was successfully performed at Rochester, N. Y., the other night by Clayton Wilcox, of Mexico, assisted by Ruben Punnett, a local hypnotist. The exhibition took place at the Rochester Whist club before an audience composed largely of members of the Rochester Pathological society. Prof. Wilcox took his post at the telephone in a newspaper office and at his command to sleep the subject at the telephone in the clubhouse let the receiver fall and dropped to the floor in a sound sleep from which all the physicians present could not awaken him. He withstood every test and was only brought to when again placed in communication with Wilcox at the phone.

Training Station for the South.

Admiral Crowninshield, chief of the navigation bureau, has just made a trip of inspection of Blythe island, near Brunswick, Ga. This is a property of about 650 acres, which was acquired by the United States government before the civil war, and the department is now considering the expediency of establishing at that point a training station for the navy, thereby saving considerable expense in sending southern youths north to Newport.

Gold and Coal in Spitzbergen.

News has reached Antwerp of the success of a Norwegian expedition to Spitzbergen. At this northerly point very rich gold mines have been discovered, and the explorers have brought back fossils of ferns, tropical plants and fruits. It is reported that the coal deposit is very rich.

SAMOAN POPULATION.

Recent Census Shows There Are 37,800 People in Islands.

Of These 32,000 Are on Upolu and Other Islands Under German Control and 5,800 Are on Six Islands Held by United States.

A press correspondent, writing from Tutuila, Samoa, says that a census of the population of the Samoan group has been taken. The number of Samoans in Upolu and other islands under the German government is 32,000, while the population of the six islands under the United States government is returned at 5,800. The very slight increase during the last 30 years is about the same in proportion all around. The infant mortality is greatest and this is due in a large measure to the ignorance and carelessness in dieting the young. It is not unusual to see a mother feeding her infant from the mouth after she has herself masticated the food intended for the child. It is only since the United States took possession that people have been able to receive medical advice and treatment. With the sanitary law now in force and the laws concerning the health of the people generally throughout the island it is hoped that during the next decade there will be a considerable increase of the native population.

Gov. B. F. Tilley returned from New Zealand on the Abaranda. The natives showed their delight at the governor's return by giving a number of feasts in his honor.

Magisterial returns from all justices have been sent into the high court of all cases tried by magistrates up to the end of last month. The reports indicated great improvement among the Samoans. These statements, together with the regular reports of the native governors and other officials, are carefully prepared and are models of neatness. The native officers are not lacking altogether in education, but there is good opportunity for the United States to assist them in their desire to obtain greater knowledge.

OBJECTS OF ENVY.

Negro Messenger of Secretary Long and His Magnificent Chair Attract Attention.

Secretary Long's messenger, a negro who guards the outer entrance to the office of the secretary of the navy, occupies a chair which has created considerable criticism and has led many persons to remark that democratic simplicity has entirely disappeared at least in one of the government departments. The chair is a luxurious one and is perhaps the most expensive piece of furniture occupied in this or any other country. The exact cost of the chair cannot be ascertained, but it was made to order. It is of polished cherry, hand carved, upholstered in expensive leather, and revolves upon a steel pivot. The other messengers in the department are envious of the man who guards the door leading to Secretary Long's office because of this elegant chair.

Inquiry as to why this man should be especially favored in this way developed the fact that the chair was made at the navy yard for the special use of Rear Admiral Hichborn, who recently retired. This piece of furniture did not suit Rear Admiral Bowles, the successor of Admiral Hichborn, and it was therefore turned over to the messenger for his use.

In fact, the chair is not at all suitable for the present chief of the bureau of construction and repair, who is an extremely small man, while his predecessor was a large one and had the chair made to fit him.

WILL PAY BIG SUM FOR ART.

Henry Clay Frick to Pay \$50,000 for an Ocean Scene by Turner.

Henry Clay Frick, of Pittsburgh, who paid \$50,000 for Dagnan Bouveret's "Christ at Emmaus," is about to spend \$50,000 for another painting. It is an ocean scene by Turner, the great English painter. Recently Mr. Frick obtained one of the few canvases from the brush of that artist that are in America and it is now on inspection at his home. It is understood that he intends to purchase it for his private collection. The scene portrayed is a view of the ocean with a yacht under full sail rushing before the wind. In perspective, technique, execution, color and light effects it is said to be one of the great masterpieces of that great painter.

WEE DWARF A VISITOR.

Burmese Midget, But Nineteen Inches in Height, Arrives in America.

Two of the smallest people alive were passengers on the steamship Rhein, which arrived from Bremen at New York the other day. Their names are Fatma and Smaun, sister and brother, natives of Burmah. Smaun, the brother, is 19.685 inches in height and his sister is just 20.4724 inches, or only a little taller than a magnum of champagne. Smaun will soon be 18 years old. Fatma is 19. They are professional actors and will make their bow to an American audience. The boy midget does an act on the rings assisted by Fatma.

Home for Cats.

Fishing, L. I., will have a home for aged, homeless and decrepit cats.

Letters Received by Londoners. Each Londoner on an average receives two letters a week.

MRS. JOHN A. LOGAN EXPLAINS

Gives Reasons for Grouping of Senators on Monument to Her Husband at Washington.

Mrs. John A. Logan was shown the different criticisms which have been made regarding the figures on the pedestal of the monument which has just been dedicated. When the pedestal was first put up, the fact was pointed out that the senators represented in the group were not all in the senate at the same time, or at least were not there when Logan took the oath. These criticisms have been repeated since the dedication of the monument, and have caused considerable mortification to Mrs. Logan, because it was made to appear that she either willfully or ignorantly had attempted to falsify the history of the senate. In explanation she said:

"It was not intended to represent any particular session of the senate, but rather Gen. Logan's associates in the senate during his 16 years of service in that body. It affects the correctness of history in no way, as he was a senator while Vice President Arthur presided, and he served with each of the senators in the bas-relief. Senator Miller was a soldier and lost an eye at Ferrville, hence his selection. Each had won distinction in the United States senate, and all are worthy of the places given them."

"I cannot see that violence has been done anyone, or that the criticism is of any importance. I think the success of the sculptor in the execution of the design suggested to him by me, and the fact that there is one great statue at the capital of the nation that fittingly illustrates the unique character of Gen. Logan as soldier and statesman, should silence such petty criticism."

BIG GUN ON KEARSARGE.

Damaged Beyond Repair and Must Be Removed and New Gun Put in Its Place.

It has been found necessary to remove the 13-inch gun from the Kearsarge. This gun, which was emplaced in one of the turrets of this battleship, was seriously injured some weeks ago. At the time an effort was made to have the accident appear of little consequence. Since then, however, it has developed that the gun cannot be repaired. It is practically destroyed, and will have to be replaced.

Bids for the forgings for "his gun" have been invited by the navy department. It probably will be the last gun of the type built for the navy, as 13-inch guns are no longer to be a part of naval ordnance.

The loss is a heavy one, and while the new gun is being constructed the double turrets, the lower one of which contained the damaged one, will be practically useless.

NEW ENGINE INVENTED.

Mechanic at Des Moines, Ia., Claims to Have Discovered a Novel Principle.

An invention has been made by L. Kössler, a mechanic of Des Moines, Ia., which, if the claims of its author are realized, is destined to revolutionize the manufacture of steam engines. The principle has not been applied to an engine of any large power as yet, but the inventor holds that it will be successful, no matter to what style of an engine it is applied. The new engine works on the vacuum principle, and uses the same water over and over again. It has no steam chest, or, rather, both the steam chest and boiler are combined in one. There being no exhaust, the same water is used as many times as desired, being converted into steam and condensed, then reconverted into steam and recondensed, and so on ad infinitum.

A VERITABLE BOOK WORM.

Master of Ten Languages Dies After Living on Bread and Water Five Years.

Albert Lindmaier, master of ten languages, has just died in Bellevue hospital, New York, where he was known under an assumed name. His death was due as much as anything else to the fact that for five years he lived on bread and water. Lindmaier lived in a Bowery lodging house. He went to bed at an early hour, taking with him two loaves of bread and a can of water, and while the light lasted he read the books and munched the bread.

He was as omnivorous in his reading as he was frugal in his fare. He read newspapers in all languages. What little he saved he spent at the book stalls, reserving only a few cents a day for his living expenses.

SALE OF RARE CHINA.

Includes the Largest Peachbloss Vase Existing in the World.

One of the most renowned collections of oriental china in England has just been sold at London by private treaty to Mr. Duvein for a very large sum. It includes specimens of the rarest examples of Chinese porcelain, among which is the largest peachbloss vase in the world. It is 18 inches high, and nearly twice the size of the famous vase from the collection of Mrs. Stephens, which is now in the Walker collection in Boston.

Mr. Arkwright, from whom the collection was acquired, is a grandson of Sir Richard Arkwright, the inventor of a cotton spinning frame.

Giants of Old in Sardinia.

Sardinia is celebrated for the tombs which prove that prehistorically it was inhabited by great giants. Recently four new tombs have been found which contain skeletons over nine feet long.