

IMPROVED COMMUNICATION.

New Steam Added to the Tumber Employed in Austro-American Shipping.

The Austro-Americana line has acquired a number of new vessels during the past year, and has now a fleet of 19 steamers. This has enabled the company to make arrangements for a greatly improved service. There will be hereafter, besides the former semi-monthly sailings to New York, a sailing every three weeks to Philadelphia and every five weeks to Boston and Baltimore. As full cargoes cannot always be secured here, some of the ships will call on their westward voyage at Greek, Sicilian and Spanish ports. From the United States the company will have regular semi-monthly sailings from Savannah and New Orleans and monthly sailings from Galveston.

The company has recently entered into a joint tariff agreement with the Louisville & Nashville Railroad company, in consequence of which goods from any point on that company's line will be carried to Mediterranean and Adriatic ports with only one transshipment at Pensacola. This arrangement will prove of decided advantage to our southern shippers, as their goods will be less liable to be delayed or to suffer damage in transit.

The Austro-Americana has furthermore added to its service a new line between Trieste and Veracruz, Mexico. The steamers of this line, which will also call at intermediate ports, have each accommodation for about 150 passengers.

In view of the constantly increasing flow of trans-Atlantic emigration from Austria-Hungary, the managers of the Austro-Americana have for some time been considering the advisability of adapting a portion of their fleet to the carrying of emigrants, but so far no definite conclusion has been reached. This freerelation has probably aided in bringing about the recent decision of the Cunard company to have some of its passenger steamers ply, during the coming winter, between New York and the principal ports of Italy and Austria-Hungary for the transportation of second class and steerage passengers, at rates which promise to compete successfully with the northern lines. The steamers have been fitted for carrying each 1,000 steerage passengers, besides several hundred saloon passengers, and will make the trip from Trieste to New York in twenty days. They are said to be superior emigrant ships, being even equipped with Marconi's system of wireless telegraphy.

FREDK. W. HOSSFELD.

SPANISH HEMATITE ORE.

Much of the Output Has Found Ready Sale in the United States.

A vein of hematite iron ore, rich in quality necessary for the making of red paint for structural ironwork, has been discovered near the city of Jaen, in the province of that name, which has been worked during the past year and much of the output has found ready sale in the United States. A reported marked decrease in the output of ore of this class in the United States has probably stimulated the interest of American paint manufacturers in the Malaga product—so much so, in fact, that an eastern state paint firm seriously contemplated the purchase of an interest in the mine. Failure to reach a satisfactory agreement with the local owners has, it appears, checked the deal. It seems hardly probable, however, that the original plan will be carried out. This contemplated the formation of an American corporation which would control the output of the mine. The present outlook is that the idea has been abandoned and that the matter will result only in an additional quantity of ore being supplied. The mine is 100 miles from Malaga, but the ore is brought here by rail and prepared for shipment, both in its crude state and redned, at a plant on the outskirts of this city.

D. R. BIRCH.

Income Taxes in Saxony.

The total taxable incomes of the people of Saxony for the year 1902 was \$286,720,350 marks (\$544,239,443), as against 2,263,380,172 marks (\$38,684,461) for the preceding year, showing an increase of 23,340,178 marks (\$5,554,962) for the year 1902, the smallest that has been recorded for many years. In 1901 the total taxable incomes aggregated 59,300,000 marks (\$14,113,400) over the amount of the year 1900. The annual increase from 1896 to 1900 was more than 100,000,000 marks (\$23,800,000). Here we find a forceful illustration of the continuing industrial depression. Closed factories, decreased dividends, lack of employment, half salaries, etc.—these are the unmistakable proofs of trade lethargy.

J. F. MONAGHAN.

Farm Implements in Austria.

American farm machinery does not find a ready sale here. Cheap labor, small farms, and the very strong and hilly character of the land render the employment of machinery unprofitable, and sometimes impossible. But I am satisfied that many of our farm and garden tools could be successfully introduced if systematic effort were made by our manufacturers to bring them to the general attention of Austrian farmers and gardeners. Dealers will not, as a rule, import an article unless a demand for it has first been created.

FREDK. W. HOSSFELD.

Chance to Get Even.

Mrs. Gabel—What do you think, George? The doctor called the other day he asked me to put out my tongue, and when I did so he quite hurt me. He—Mr. Gabel (interposing)—Did he tread on it?—Stray Stories.

AMERICAN COTTON-SEED OIL.

Used Extensively for the Table in Austria and in Meeting with a Growing Demand.

The imports of cotton-seed oil from the United States decreased from 161 metric tons in 1901 to 120.4 metric tons in 1902, in consequence of the great increase in the price of this article. Cotton-seed oil is used extensively here as a table oil, but the prices at which it has been held during the past two years have placed it beyond the reach of the poorer classes and cheaper oils took its place to some extent.

The import duty on cotton-seed oil is \$1.96 per 220 pounds. It is proposed by the government to increase this duty to \$3.12 per 220 pounds, which would be absolutely prohibitive. The advocates of the proposed increase have always asserted that it is necessary for the building up of the home oil industry. It would, however, be difficult to substantiate such a claim. Olive oil never has been and probably never can be produced in Austria-Hungary in sufficient quantities to supply the home demand for table oil, and its cheaper substitutes, such as rape-seed oil and sunflower-seed oil, are rejected even by many of the less fastidious as unfit for human consumption.

Attempts have been made to import the raw material and produce cotton-seed oil in Austria, but all such attempts have failed because the cotton-seed suffers by the long sea voyage and the quality of oil produced therefrom is greatly inferior to the American product. Experiments made with Egyptian cotton seed, which does not seem to undergo chemical changes during the comparatively short journey from Egypt to Austria, have shown that it is not fit for the manufacture of edible oil.

Furthermore, it is not at all probable, if the cotton-seed-oil industry were undertaken here, that a profitable market could be found in Austria-Hungary for the oil cake, which is so important a by-product of the cotton-seed-oil industry, inasmuch as its yield constitutes from 85 to 90 per cent. of the weight of the raw material. Serious doubts must therefore be expressed whether the proposed imposition of a prohibitive import duty on cotton-seed oil would in the long run accomplish its purpose.

FREDK. W. HOSSFELD.

GRENOBLE EXPORTS.

Some of the Principal Products That Are Shipped to the United States.

While within this consular district are the departments of Savoy and Upper Savoy, embracing in the latter as its chief city Annecy, and in the former Chambery and the famous watering place of Aix-les-Bains, the largest and most important department in size and population is the department of Isere, having for its chief city Grenoble, often called "the capital of the Dauphiny." Here is not only the center of the governmental, military and university life, but of the commercial and industrial interests of the region. There exists, in consequence, a chamber of commerce, which issues reports from time to time, and which in the past year has installed itself in a handsome building of its own, containing an assembly hall, a special library, and various public and private rooms.

From the two departments of Savoy and Upper Savoy are exported to the United States increasing quantities of chlorate of soda and potash, ferro-silicon, chrome and molybdenite, marble and stone, alimentary pastes, furniture, and now and then a chime of bells (from Annecy).

Beyond the traditional agricultural and dairy products, sheep raising, etc., of these mountainous regions, new industries are springing up under the auspices of the rapidly developing hydro-electric power and coming years will doubtless witness much transformation in the heretofore tranquil and sparsely populated valleys and hill-sides of the Savoy Alps.

P. H. NASON.

Rouen Chamber of Commerce.

On October 3, 1903, the Rouen Chamber of Commerce celebrated the 200th anniversary of its foundation. The Chamber of Commerce of Normandy, succeeded by the Chamber of Commerce of Rouen, was erected according to the royal decree of August 30, 1701, which authorized the establishment at Lyons, Rouen, Bordeaux, Toulouse, Montpellier, La Rochelle, Nantes, St. Malo, Lille and Bayonne of particular commercial chambers "to which merchants and traders of other villages and provinces could address propositions for facilitating and augmenting commerce." Paris, Marseilles and Dunkirk had already possessed commercial bodies since 1700. All the chambers of commerce of Normandy and most of those of France participated in the celebration at Rouen this year. An important work of two volumes will be published soon, entitled, "Histoire de la Chambre de Commerce de Normandie et de Rouen."

THORNWELL HAYNES

Airship Competition.

United States Consul J. C. McNally writes from Liege, Belgium, under date of November 27, 1903, to say that the authorities of the universal exposition, to be held in Liege in 1905, have decided to offer a prize of \$19,300 for an airship competition to be held in connection therewith. The details of the contest are now under consideration.

Debts of German Cities.

German cities rival those of the United States in the matter of municipal debts. Berlin owes \$74,000,000; Munich, \$35,000,000; Frankfurt, \$25,000,000; Leipzig, \$19,000,000; Cologne, \$17,000,000.

MACARONI FROM AMERICA.

Much of the Foodstuff Sold in Italy Is Prepared in This Country.

It will be a severe stab to the pride of Italy to learn that the Americans are now manufacturing macaroni, and are actually sending some abroad, says the New York Tribune. Factories for the making of macaroni are running in Philadelphia, and the owners are steadily encroaching on the business of the importers until it seems only a question of time when the macaroni used in this country will be made entirely of American wheat, in American factories by American workmen. It is all a question of wheat. At one time it was thought impossible to make good macaroni from any wheat other than that grown at Olesza and Taranog, but now Italy and Genoa have to share the profits of the business with the macaroni makers of Marseille, in France. With America cutting into the race for wealth by the macaroni route, the national industry of Italy will be still further encroached upon.

The process of manufacturing macaroni in the Quaker city is the same as that in Europe. Only the hard wheat, which contains a large percentage of gluten, is used. The wheat is first ground into a coarse meal, from which the bran is removed. Great care has to be exercised during the grinding to keep the temperature of the room at the right point, both heat and humidity being employed to insure the result being satisfactory. The substance formed by the grinding process, called semola, is then worked up into a dough with water, and for macaroni and vermicelli is forced through gauges, with or without mandrills, as in wire and pipe drawing, or, if pastes are required, it is rolled out in very thin sheets, from which are stamped out the various forms of stars, rings, etc. There is little difference between macaroni and the fine, threadlike vermicelli and the infinite variety of curious and elegant little forms which, under the name of Italian pastes, are used for soups.

Macaroni cannot be made every day in the year, or month, or week. It must be a dry day, or the substance from which it is made will not bind properly. Good macaroni breaks with a brittle sound like glass. When boiled it swells with an even swell and does not come apart. The inferior kind will often break of its own weight and will burst in the boiling. A visit to a macaroni factory is of interest as disclosing an industry entirely novel to American eyes. The rooms through which the factory proper is reached are hung from floors to ceiling with festoons of the macaroni drying. It is everywhere, strung over parallel poles, hanging from every place on the wall where a peg can be placed, stretched in doorways so that it has to be brushed aside to allow the visitor to pass through, and frequently strung out to dry on the roof and in the yard for want of room elsewhere.

The process of its manufacture is worth watching. In a huge bowl in the center of the room, a bowl large enough for half a dozen men to coil up in, the dough is placed, a big stone coming down on this and flattening it to the desired consistency, when it is cut into strips like piecrust, doubled over, and the big stone crushes it again until the proper elasticity is produced. Then it is turned into the gauges and forced through the holes in the bottom, plungers coming down on it during the process, and so giving it the hollow form familiar to lovers of the delicacy. It reaches its final stage, ready for the drying, in the form of a hairpin, and in this shape it will not break while drying, but will hang in the hairpin form suspended by the varieties of macaroni are made in the same way, and whether it is sold as vermicelli, spaghetti or just plain macaroni, it is manufactured from the same wheat, deprived of its starchiness and allowed to retain only its glutinous properties. In this form it has been called "one of the seven delicacies of the world," and in the estimation of the Italians at least, doubtless deserves that description.

Large Animals.

No extinct land animal of former ages had a bigger body than the biggest African elephant of to-day, and not one, so far as is known, exceeded or even equaled, in total bulk the existing great whales, which sometimes are all of 100 feet long. As elephants, horses and similar animals are traced backward through the various strata they are found to get smaller and smaller. Some extinct elephants were no bigger than Shetland ponies, while the horses of prehistoric times were about the size of large dogs. In almost every group of hairy warm-blooded animals existing specimens are bigger than those of bygone times, and the notion that there is any tendency in animal life to dwindle in size is entirely without foundation. There are, of course, exceptions, for the extinct sloths, kangaroos, lizards and some others exceeded in bulk existing creatures of the same order.

Elizabeth's Queer Fad.

England's virgin queen certainly had more than a splash of feminine vanity, and it is on record that one of her little fads was to have every hair on her head kept the same length. It was the duty of her barber to see to this, and for this purpose she received a weekly visit from a worthy man whose pole adorned a modest-looking shop in Lombard street. The queen's barber was, of course, much patronized by the nobility and by all who frequented the court, and no doubt he added to his income by selling the precious shippings of her majesty's hair, for it was his privilege to keep them, and they were, of course, much in request by her many admirers.

SNOWY CANDLEMAS.

Popular Superstitions Concerning the Day in This and Other Countries.

Forty days after Christmas comes Candlemas, when, according to popular superstition, the wolf, the badger and the bear ask no odds of the weather bureau, but come out of their holes to do a little prognosticating on their own account, says the New York Herald.

In Germany there are two proverbial expressions to convey the common idea. "The shepherd would rather see the wolf enter his stable on Candlemas Day than the sun" and "The badger peeps out of his hole on Candlemas Day and when he finds snow he walks abroad, but if he sees the sun shining he draws back into his hole."

In this country the small boy, an apt student of local folk lore and tradition, adjusts his latest shoe string watch fob and remarks, oracularly: "Well, if the woodchuck kin see his shadow to-day when he comes out'n his hole ax' looks aroun' that means a long winter yet. Pa says so."

Nor is this belief that good weather on Candlemas Day is the index of a continuance of winter and of bad crops to follow, or that a stormy day is the harbinger of early spring, a matter of locality.

The same idea is expressed in a Latin dithyramb given by Sir Thomas Brown in his "Vulgar Errors."

Si Sol splendens Maria purificans, Major erit glacies past festum quam fuit ante.

while the Scotch embody their conclusions in the following rhyme:

If Candlemas Day be dry and fair, The half o' winter's to come and fair. If Candlemas Day be wet and foul, The half o' winter's gone and foul.

Quite similar is the middle west's rhymed version of the popular belief: As far as the sun shines out on Candlemas Day, So will the snow blow in before May. As far as the snow blows on Candlemas Day, So will the sun shine out before May.

The name Candlemas is supposed to be derived from the blessing of the candles by the Romish clergy and their distribution among the congregation, who afterward carry them in procession.

In England during Catholic times a special meaning was attached to the size of the candles and the manner in which they burned during the procession. If any fragment was left over it was believed to be possessed of strong supernatural virtues.

Scotland is especially rich in curious customs relative to Candlemas, which is also one of the four term days appointed for periodical annual payments of money, interest and taxes.

OLD AND NEW JAPAN.

In Days of Yore the Industrial Pioneer Was Not Known in That Country.

In old Japan there were few violent contrasts between rich and poor, and, in fact, the industrial pioneer was unknown, says the London Mail. The nobly born were rich, if rich at all, only in land and rice, and they were not envied, as they seem to belong to the natural order of creation. But to-day the tradesman and the manufacturer, who were once almost the lowest of mankind, infinitely below the tillers of the soil, are becoming insolently rich and are the real lords of Japan, while the children of Samurai are glad to get small clerkships from those whom their fathers despised.

I have been spending much time in darkest Tokio of late, and the microscope misery to be found there would make a story appalling to those who fancy that Japan is nothing but swaying lanterns and softly falling cherry blossoms. Buying and selling is conducted on such an infinitesimal scale among these submerged wretches that the sum of sixpence will provide a handsome stock for a hawker in popular lines of food.

Among these unfortunates, who often walk the streets at night for the want of a half-penny to engage lodgings on a damp floor swarming with vermin, one hears the doctrines of Proudhon and Ferdinand Lassalle discussed volubly. Their works have been translated into little pamphlets and read to the illiterate by the occasional scholar who carries a few thousand ideographs in his brain.

"Japan has come so far," they all say, "why will it not be well to go the entire route, or at least so far as the ideal state?"

Poor, hungry, bedragged dreamers! But they are not alone, for the Japanese of all ranks outside of the bourgeoisie and the great nobles are asking the same thing. With eminent practicality they ask: "Why is it not as easy to get a government that represents the best conception of man as to worry along with a makeshift that is manifestly imperfect?"

Before Japan lies the sinister shadow of an irresistible conflict.

Mammals and Reptiles.

Though once the reptiles were bigger than the mammals, as time went on the latter grew in size and the reptiles decreased. The exact reason is not known, though many theories have been put forward. While some types have persisted down the ages, and families have gone on producing forms similar to those now found, though with slight alterations and adaptations, others have become really extinct. Examples of the latter are the dinosaurs, theropods, horned arsiniotherium from the fourth of the Fayum, in Egypt.

Texas Cattle.

In the number of cattle Texas equals that of all the states east of her and south of the Ohio and the Potomac, while the value of her stock exceeds theirs by more than \$36,000,000.

DYING POLYNESIANS.

The Degeneracy of South Sea Islanders Is Giving France Much Concern.

France has become so alarmed at the high death rate among the native colonists in the South seas that she has taken steps to prevent their total extinction, says the New York Tribune. Reports from these far-away people tell of the ever-increasing prevalence among them of leprosy, elephantiasis and other diseases born of ignorance and evil customs. Fields that once produced cotton and coffee are returning to the jungle from the lack of hands to till them. The revenues of these island possessions, which have long been only a fraction of the sums expended upon them, have now decreased still further.

Three medical experts have been sent by the French government to Polynesia to study the chief causes of disease among the natives, and to check its ravages. The men selected for this mission are Dr. H. Louvan, Dr. F. Caselau and Dr. Grasfeller. They are now on their way from San Francisco to Tahiti, the chief island of the Society group, and the governmental headquarters of all French establishments in the south Pacific. From Tahiti, the three doctors have planned to go to other groups, including the Marquesas, the Tuamotu and the Tibilal islands. Certain judicial powers will be given the physicians to enable them to enforce whatever sanitary laws they may adopt.

When one considers the characteristics of the South Sea Islander one soon realizes how tremendous are the difficulties of such a task. In spite of the Christian missionary, who has labored with him for nearly a century, he still seems unable to tell right from wrong. He has abandoned cannibalism only to revive the secret and still more destructive vice of infanticide. His nature revolts at labor, and his toil is prompted only by hunger and other physical wants. It is impossible for him to regard the marriage bond seriously. Impetuous and of weak will, he is prone to excesses which render him a ready prey to pestilence.

The degeneracy of the modern South Sea Islander appears to have begun when his knowledge of deep-sea navigation ended. There was a time when the natives of these widely scattered bits of land sailed boldly from one to another, and carried on war or commerce with distant peoples. They had learned that they could trust the stars to guide them, and they built strong ships almost as large as Mississippi steamers.

In the heyday of his civilization the Polynesian erected great temples, many of which contained stones almost as large as the stones of the temple of Baalbec. In the Marquesas islands to-day the traveler will find great stone platforms and terraces, which show a knowledge of mechanical laws of which the present natives are wholly ignorant. Some of these stones are from 10 to 15 feet long and five and six feet thick. Their sides are smooth, although they show no print of the chisel. On these Cyclopean platforms, or "paepae," as they are called, the natives now erect their bamboo huts, and those who still refuse Christianity say the gods put those great stones in place.

That the Polynesian of to-day has degenerated from lack of communication with the outside world is shown by the similar fate of domesticated animals. The horses and cattle that have been introduced sicken and die after a few generations. Dogs are plentiful, but they are of a low mongrel type. The legions of pigs are said to be indigenous, but according to some writers they were taken thither by early navigators. The Polynesian pig, however, is a pitiful specimen when compared with the mighty porkers of the American prairie. Although he is treated by his native master as a pet, accompanies his mistress on her walks through the village, and sleeps with the rest of the family on a bed of cocon leaves, yet he shows no outward signs of his proud position.

Youthful Naturalist.

Lord Avebury, better known as Sir John Lubbock, was a naturalist even as a schoolboy at Eton. In his day there, however, the instructors cared for nothing except the classics and were ignorant of natural science. In his autobiography Lord Avebury says: "At that time Eton boys, especially if they were quick at writing verses and learning by heart, had much more leisure than they have now. I devoted a good deal of mine to natural history and geology, in spite of the remonstrances of my tutor who thought that it might have been better occupied on the classics. On one occasion we were given 'The Bee' as a subject for a theme. I took some pains with it, and my tutor sent for me and asked me confidentially whether it was all true. From what he said, I inferred that they rather suspected I was quizzing them, and doubted whether to commend or to flog me."

Her Report.

Two mischievous boys in school were laughing uproariously over some slight mistake one of the pupils had made in translation. The teacher looked at them resignedly for a few minutes, and then remarked quietly: "If anything really funny should ever happen in this class, I fear that Mr. Smith and Mr. Jones would require the services of a physician."—N. Y. Times.

Inherited Characteristics.

It is often remarked that the children of a great genius seldom exhibit corresponding powers. Nevertheless, Prof. Karl Pearson, as the result of investigations made in England, avers that, as a general rule, ability, probity, geniality and other physical characters are inherited from parents as truly as physical characters are.

KNELL OF THE TRAMP.

Charity Organizations and Railroads May Combine to Put Them to Rest.

Several different forms, commercial, charitable and municipal, have combined to wage a war of extermination against tramps. To that end a conference was recently held in Philadelphia, reports the Brooklyn Eagle. Representatives of the United Charity Organization societies and of the great railroads of the country met there and outlined a plan of campaign which should rid the country of the long-standing reproach of mendicancy and trampdom. It is to be at once a campaign of conquest and of benevolent assimilation. Where the tramp declines to be benevolently assimilated into decent self-respecting society he is going to be eliminated, either by imprisonment or by starvation, by rounding him up or by making things so unpleasant for him by cutting him off from his base of supplies and interfering with his transportation facilities that he will be forced to see the error of his ways and forsake them.

So the knell of the tramp is sounding. Men tramps, women tramps, girl tramps and boy tramps are to go, never to return. System and cooperative governmental science is to make an end of the "yeggs" and the "peter-men," the "gaycats" and "panhandlers," the "toppers," "throwouts" and "jockers." The railroads, acting in conjunction with the mendicancy police forces in the cities, which are under the control of the organized charity associations, are going to close the lines of communication. Tramps will not be able to move about. They will be kept under the eye and control of the charity organization societies and the police in the big cities. As they drift in from the smaller towns and the "road," where they have been begging and pilfering, insulting and frightening women and children, and committing all sorts of small crimes and depredations, they will be caught up by the police and the charity society organizations working together.

There is to be in all the big cities a special force of police to look after them—a mendicancy police, working in cooperation with the local organized charity association. And between the big cities there is to be another special force of police to look after them—the railroads are seeing to that. They are going to keep him off their lines altogether. They are driven to it in self-defense. For years tramps have been derailing cars, tampering with switches, burning bridges, robbing and killing lonely towermen and station agents in out-of-the-way places. Tramps are to be kept in the cities. They will not travel to any great extent along country roads. That means walking, and walking is hard work.

TAXED FOR GREEK NAVY.

Part of Colony in Chicago Objects to Oppressive Levy by Its Church.

A novel aftermath of the Turkish-Greek war is revealed in connection with hearings on an application for an injunction in the superior court of Cook county, Ill., recently made.

The question at issue, states a Chicago report, is whether a church tax, to be devoted to the aid of the navy maintained by Greece to oppose the aggressions of the Turks, can legally be collected from Chicago members of Greek associations incorporated under the laws of Illinois.

On behalf of one faction of the Greek colony of Chicago Henry C. Bettler contends that the assessment of the navy tax by the governing body of the orthodox Greek church in this city is a breach of the comity of nations.

It was alleged by Mr. Bettler that a per capita tax of 50 cents for the Greek navy was demanded from each of the 10,000 Greeks in Chicago before they would be given a voice in the government of the Greek orthodox church, or be permitted to vote at the annual election of officers for the association of the Greek community of Chicago, an organization holding a charter under the laws of Illinois.

The by-laws of the association require only that applicants shall be "bona fide Greeks from Greece," and shall pay an annual assessment of \$3 each. Control of the association has been obtained in recent years by men who have made the payment of the tax in aid of King George's navy a condition of membership in the organization.

It is asserted by Mr. Bettler that a majority of the well-to-do and representative Greek residents of Chicago are opposed to this method of collecting "the navy tax." They aver that their patriotism is not less than that of members of the opposing faction, but they object to having the tax made a part of the church dues, since the association is really the financial arm of the local Greek orthodox church and exercises supervision over the church administration.

She Was a Bird.

A lady of Louisville, Ky., started in life as Miss Martin and on arriving at years of discretion became Mrs. Crow. After the death of Mr. Crow she married a Mr. Sparrow, whom she divorced. Then she married a Mr. Robin and shortly before Christmas she became the wife of a Mr. Buzzard.

A Dig.

"She's a beautiful old thing." "Why?" "She said she thought I had discovered the secret of eternal youth."—Houston Post.

Remarkable Missile.

The Austrian torpedo factory at Flume, has produced a slender missile, 23 feet in length, which can be discharged accurately a distance of 3,800 yards.