

TO BE REORGANIZED.

National Red Cross Society to Increase Scope of Work.

Country to be Divided Up Into Departments Which Will Correspond Geographically to the Military Departments.

The Herald says that plans are afoot to reorganize the National Red Cross Society with a view to greatly increasing its scope.

The proposed plan does not contemplate extending the work of reorganization at present to Cuba, Hawaii or the Philippine Islands.

In the United States the country will be divided into departments which geographically will correspond to the military departments as they now exist. Each department will be administered by a chief, who will have control of the territory under his charge, and who will in turn be responsible to the executive committee of the board of directors.

There are now in the United States eight military departments. The new plan contemplates that the chief of each of the society's departments and one other person from the same department shall be members of the national executive committee. This would give 16 members of the committee, or, if it should be decided to increase the number of departments, the number of delegates would be correspondingly increased.

The plan does not contemplate that any person connected with the society shall receive pay for his services, except the chief of staff at Washington, and the clerical and similar labor which it will be absolutely necessary to employ.

NEW SINGLE RAIL RAILROAD.

Its Projector Claims That Trains on It Make Two Miles a Minute.

An English inventor has built a railroad on which trains run regularly at the rate of 100 miles an hour, and frequently attain a speed of from two to three miles a minute. And it is a practical achievement, with full-sized cars capable of carrying 100 passengers each, as practical, indeed, that F. H. Behr, the inventor, has just formed a syndicate for constructing a line on his new system between Liverpool and Manchester.

He calls it the "Lightning Express railway." It will make the distance of about 30 miles in 20 minutes, including stops. Between stations the cars will frequently attain a speed of two miles a minute.

The trains run on a single rail set several feet above ground on trestle work, and the motive power is furnished by electricity. The cars somewhat resemble a big oblong bus, turned upside down, with wheels set thick along the part that answers for the bus chassis, and hedged about with guide wheels, so that it cannot jump the track along which it is propelled.

A PECULIAR ARRANGEMENT.

Plan by Which the Clark Family Will Prevent Their All Being Lost on One Ship.

Senator-elect William A. Clark, of Montana, 50 times a millionaire, is withal a prudent man. This characteristic of the money king, who is building a nineteenth century palace in Fifth avenue, New York, is illustrated in the method he adopts of crossing the Atlantic with his family.

For the protection of his princely fortune and the prevention of legal entanglements, to insure the succession properly to his millions, and to guard against the possible loss by shipwreck of more than one member of his family, the senator decided that only one Clark should cross on the same vessel.

Four members of the family of the Montana man have set sail for Europe within the month. Every one traveled on a different ship. This avoidance of the risk of an entire family perishing at the same time is also said to be observed by the Rothschilds, while the late Jesse Seligman and his brother, the bankers of New York city, never rode together on the same elevated train.

An Electric Hair Cut.

Paris has now a hairdresser's establishment in which a pair of scissors is never used. The cutting—if so it may be called—is done with a comb which has a wire stretched along the upper portion of the teeth. This wire is connected electrically with a storage battery. When the battery is turned on the wire becomes red hot. Therefore, on the comb being passed through the hair the latter is burned off by the red-hot wire. Of course the wire can be regulated to stand at any distance above the comb, so that the hair can be cut, or rather burned off, at any length. Other operations, such as removing facial imperfections and curling and drying the hair, are also performed by means of electricity.

State of Spanish Trade.

United States Consular Agent Merz, at Grao, has submitted figures relative to the Spanish trade last year showing that, notwithstanding her disastrous war and her distressed economic condition, Spain was able to show a balance of trade in her favor for 1898. The total exports were \$132,491,038 and the imports \$91,772,450.

THE LA FAYETTE DOLLAR.

Probable Design of Coin Authorized by Congress—In Hands of Engineer at Philadelphia Mint.

Charles E. Barber, engraver in the Philadelphia mint, is drawing the design for the dollar to be minted by the United States in commemoration of La Fayette. The director of the mint has received a letter from Robert J. Thompson, secretary of the La Fayette monument commission, suggesting that on one side of the coin the faces of Washington, La Fayette, Lincoln, McKinley and Grant appear, and that, if practicable, the signatures of La Fayette and Lincoln be given in facsimile. On the other side Mr. Thompson suggests the use of the prayer of La Fayette for the United States, which consists of about 40 words.

It has not been found practicable to use the signatures of Lincoln and La Fayette, and President McKinley has given positive orders that nothing pertaining to him appear on the coin. The prayer of La Fayette will probably be used.

The proposition to have the outline of the La Fayette monument on the coin has been abandoned. This monument is to be erected in Paris by the La Fayette monument commission with contributions of patriotic Americans and will be unveiled on July 4, 1900. Congress authorized the secretary of the treasury to buy silver bullion and mint 50,000 dollars, to be given to the commission and disposed of as souvenirs. The bullion for these coins will be the first bought by the United States since the repeal of the Sherman act.

TESLA CAN DO BETTER.

Says He Will Soon Telegraph 3,000 Miles Instead of 22 Miles Without Wires.

Nikola Tesla, while expressing interest in Marconi's achievement of telegraphing across the British channel without wires, avows his admiration temperately, however, because he expects in a short time to go the young Italian experimenter a great many better. Marconi has telegraphed 22 miles without wires. Tesla expects to telegraph 3,000 miles.

Marconi's achievement, which caused so much amazement in scientific as well as popular circles, will, according to Mr. Tesla, be improved on very soon. "Thirty-two miles," he said, "that is not very far. Not far enough to give a hint of the real possibilities of wireless telegraphy. When I complete the work which has absorbed me for the past two years, I shall do much more than that."

"How far do you expect to telegraph, Mr. Tesla?" "From here to Europe," he replied. "Three thousand miles with absolute certainty."

"The necessary thing is to protect these conductors from outside influences, to insulate them completely, as we were. I believe that I have done this."

NOVEL WAY TO RAISE MONEY.

Ingenious Method Adopted at Anderson, Ind., to Secure Church Funds.

The latest and most ingenious collection scheme, somewhat after the plan of the endless chain, has been brought out in Anderson, Ind., by the Methodists and Christians, both of whom are working toward the erection of \$35,000 auditoriums.

They call it "calendar." It is started by one person in each case, who assumes the title of the year and pays two dollars and selects 12 others for the months who each pay one dollar and assume the weeks of the month. They get seven people at 25 cents apiece for the days, and these seven each secure 24 at ten cents, each to cover the hours of the day. The minutes and seconds could also be worked on, but the chain is stopped on the hours. Each chain run this far successfully will bring in just an even \$1,000. It is much more satisfactory and not so much trouble as the endless letter chain, as all the work is done by personal canvass.

INTO SMART LONDON SOCIETY.

Mrs. George Haig, Succeeds in Breaking into the "Sacred" and "Enchanting" Circle.

Mrs. George Haig, formerly Mrs. H. Coleman Drayton, eldest living daughter of Mrs. Astor, has succeeded in getting in the smart American set in London, which includes many women of high titles. This has been, according to rumor, a somewhat uphill work. Mr. Haig is a business man, though a cousin of his is reputed to be a chum of the prince of Wales. Mrs. Astor's social influence has been put forth to secure a high social position for her daughter at the British metropolis. Miss May Golet, daughter of Mrs. Ogden Golet, is said to be partial to Mrs. George Haig, and was with her for some time at the recent gala night at the prince's skating club. William Waldorf Astor is said to favor Mrs. Haig in her wish to enter society in London.

Left a Big Fortune.

The chief eunuch of the sultan, who died the other day in the imperial palace in Constantinople, left jewels and plate to the value of \$160,000, besides \$300,000 in money. The chief eunuch, who is a great personage in the sultan's household, has usually been given a splendid funeral, but on this occasion the procession was most meager and shabby. It is rumored at Constantinople that he was either poisoned or strangled, but this is always the tale whenever a prominent oriental dies suddenly.

Expensive Fly Leaf of a Book.

A well-known collector once paid \$300 for a single leaf with which to make his first folio of Shakespeare a perfect copy.

SHIPS OF HER OWN.

First Action Towards Purely Cuban Merchant Marine.

United States Has Directed That All Registry Fees Imposed for Documenting Foreign Vessels in Cuba Be Abolished.

President McKinley, by an order just made public through Assistant Secretary of War Meikeljohn, has taken the first important action toward laying the foundation for a purely Cuban merchant marine. As an initial step in that direction he has directed that all registry fees imposed for documenting foreign vessels in Cuba be abolished.

The old Spanish rate for vessels was five dollars per ton, as shown by the vessel's registered tonnage. President McKinley now proposes to abolish all fees. This will not only allow the Cubans to purchase ships in the cheapest markets of the world, but will enable them to build up a carrying trade which they see much need of, and which, by an onerous tax under Spanish rule, was almost impossible.

Cuba has no shipyards. With no stringent restrictions upon the coasting trade, Cuba is expected in time to establish shipyards of her own. But in the interval, although not so intended, ship building nations, such as the United States and England, will more or less profit by the order. Cuban vessels at present are compelled to pay local tonnage dues of only two cents per ton at Cuban ports.

The coastwise trade of Cuba covers a distance of over 3,000 miles. The flag adopted for Cuban vessels is a blue flag with white ensign. Although no reciprocal arrangements have been entered into by which the Cubans can trade with American ports, nevertheless, they are privileged to do so, but, of course, their vessels must pay the same duties as other alien vessels. The United States government does not guarantee Cuban vessels protection outside of Cuban ports, with the single exception of the United States. Should Cubans carry on a shipping trade with Venezuela and Mexico, as some of the owners of vessels have already done, they must take risks that accompany the act.

PASTOR IS PRESIDENT.

Reverend Gentleman Who is to Lead the Bicycling Members of His Flock.

Rev. M. E. Snyder, pastor of St. James' Methodist Episcopal church, of New Brunswick, N. Y., is the president and captain of a bicycle club organized by the young people of his church. The club has 24 members and numbers about as many young women as men. The club will hold a weekly run, and special runs at any time a majority of the members desire. Its objects will be entirely social. Speaking of the formation of the club Rev. Mr. Snyder said:

"I am thoroughly in sympathy with the movement that is now apparent on the part of churches to assume an intelligent direction of the recreation of members, particularly the young. There are many young people in my congregation who like to ride the wheel and to enjoy bicycle trips. The Church Bicycle club will assure every member making any club trip associations that are proper. Then, again, the Church club run will be so arranged as not to interfere with church work. In fact, they will be accessory to it."

DIED WITH THE FIRST DUKE.

Marlborough's Claim to Princely Rank is Said to Be Without Foundation.

The London Today publishes an article devoted to an argument against the duke of Marlborough's claim to princely rank and claiming to correct the alleged mistake of the American newspapers on this subject. The writer found, he asserts, that the princely dignity became absolutely extinct at the death of the first duke of Marlborough. Today then says:

"Consuelo must therefore be contented with the rank of an English duchess. The princely crown does not adorn her brows and the princely crown of the imperial eagle must be removed from the duke's escutcheon."

The duke himself has taken the trouble to inquire into his succession to the princely rank, it is added, so he is probably now aware of the circumstances.

TO BUILD A PALACE.

Rockefeller Said to Be About to Put One Million Dollars into a Mansion.

There is reason to believe that John D. Rockefeller intends to erect a palace to cost \$1,000,000 on his estate "Boxwood," at Potomac Hills, in the northern part of Westchester county, New York, and that the work will begin on May 1. It is said that the mansion will be built of granite, ornamented with marble, and will contain 100 rooms. The house will be built after the style of a French chateau, the grounds to be laid out in Italian, Greek and French gardens, with singing fountains. In the park there will be artificial lakes, while along the brook to the Potomac creek will be miniature waterfalls and grottoes.

Did Not Improve His Talents. The prince of Wales as a boy showed remarkable talent for drawing, but this gift has been rarely exercised in later years.

Russia as a Wine Producer. Russia already ranks as sixth among the wine-producing countries of the world.

FIGHT ON SUNDAY PAPERS.

Approaching Innovation in London is the Subject of Controversy.

Considerable opposition is developing against the approaching Sunday editions of the London Daily Telegraph and Daily Mail. The government was questioned on the subject in the house of commons, a member asking whether it was intended to legislate against such newspapers or cause the post office to restrict their advantages of transmission, so as to discourage the practice of seven-day papers.

The government leader, A. J. Balfour, replied that her majesty's government had no intention of interfering in the matter. He pointed out that the Sunday papers had existed for a long time in the past.

The opponents of seven-day newspapers, however, do not intend to let the matter rest. Col. Duncan Vernon Pirie, a veteran who enjoyed the relief of the wounded in Greece during the late Græco-Turkish war from the fund raised by the Daily Chronicle, has announced his intention to introduce a bill to prevent seven-day newspapers, or labor organs, while other opponents of such papers are agitating against them on the ground that it will be a desecration of the Sabbath to print them. This latter contention furnishes the motive for a severe rebuke of the queen in the report on Sunday observance, submitted by the Free Presbytery, of Lorno, Scotland, in which it says:

"It is deeply to be deplored that the queen and the royal family have not shown a happy example to the people in Sunday observance in her recent journey to France. She arrived there on the Sabbath, which must be grief to every enlightened Christian, and have a very pernicious influence upon the guilty, godless French."

THE TURKISH MINISTER.

is a Man of Wonderful Attainments and Great Accomplishments, and Amazing Peculiarities.

All Ferrouh Bey, the Turkish minister at Washington, is a man of wonderful attainments and great accomplishments. He is a fine flutist and takes artistic photographs. He also speaks English more correctly than the average foreigner. He is greatly sought after in Washington society. Unlike the Chinese minister, All Ferrouh Bey abominates progressive euche, and the hostess who invites him without a previous knowledge of this peculiarity has a hard time of it. His way of looking on the hands of his opponents and disclaiming any knowledge of the game is exceedingly engaging, to say the least. He is more than apt to see some pretty girl of his acquaintance across the room, and will leave the players—if his hand is poor—in an unceremonious fashion to say "howdy do" to her. If the humor prompts him he will throw down his cards and avow his intention to step out in the hall to take a smoke, which he is obliged to have in solitude. When he tires of this sort of thing he comes back and expects to sit down at the table where he has left off, and feels aggrieved if not allowed to do so. When he is placed where he belongs he is more than apt to get tired again and will throw down his cards and exclaim: "Bah! Why do you play this childish game? Let us play poker or baccarat. Come!" and again he throws down his hand in the midst of a game in which the other participants are breathlessly trying for the time prize.

DR. HARPER DRAWS PARALLEL.

At Stanford University He Compares It to the Chicago Institution.

President William R. Harper, of the University of Chicago, delivered an address before the Stanford students while in the west. His address, which was extemporaneous, was devoted largely to a comparison of the University of Chicago and Stanford university. The institutions are somewhat similar in origin and about the same age. He said in part:

"I hear of your 8,000 acres of land and think of our 27. I think of your magnificent freedom in the open air and of our being crowded in a great city; of how you are here huddled together by yourselves with your work, while with us 40 or 50 per cent. of the students are on the university grounds only for lectures and recitations. I see your founder living with you, while with us the man who makes our work possible has been with us but a single day in our whole history. I also notice our different methods for accomplishing the same thing. Our founder has used his own method. He tells us to go ahead and he writes the checks."

ATHLETICS AMONG TROOPS.

Gen. Lee Introduces a Novel and Taking Feature into the Seventh Army Corps.

Gen. Lee, who is in command of the Seventh army corps in Cuba, has advised the war department of his plan to get his men interested in athletics. He has ordered that the usual drill be abandoned on two days each week, and the time devoted to outdoor sports, carried on under the officers, who will prepare programmes for contests. Prizes are to be offered, the trophies to be purchased out of the post exchange fund or obtained from personal subscriptions. He reports a keen interest among officers and men in the project, and says there is every evidence that the events will be diverting and helpful to the men.

Cork Used for Pavements.

Cork pavement in London is a success.

ADMIRALS OF NAVY.

Congress Unwittingly Authorizes the Appointment of Two.

Arouses Considerable Gossip in Navy Department, Especially Among Friends of Rear Admirals Sampson and Schley.

Unwittingly congress, just before its adjournment, gave President McKinley authority to appoint two admirals of the navy instead of limiting the grade to one, as it undoubtedly intended.

The discovery has just been brought to the attention of officials of the navy department and has aroused considerable gossip, especially among the friends of Rear Admirals Sampson and Schley.

President McKinley approved, on March 2, "an act creating the office of admiral of the navy," providing "that the president is hereby authorized to appoint by selection and promotion an admiral of the navy who shall not be placed upon the retired list, except upon his own application; and whenever such office shall be vacated, by death or otherwise, the office shall cease to exist."

A certified copy of the act was presented to Secretary Long by the state department, and the former immediately made out the nomination of George Dewey to be admiral. The nomination was confirmed by the senate on March 2.

Notwithstanding that the president had appointed an officer to be "an admiral of the navy," as provided for in the act, congress passed the navy appropriation bill, which was approved late on the legislative day of March 3, containing a provision identical in language with the act under which Admiral Dewey had been appointed and confirmed.

It has been pointed out that the provision, like the act, provided for the appointment of an officer to be an admiral "by selection and promotion." Had the act simply read in both cases "by promotion," Admiral Dewey, being the ranking officer, would have been appointed, and then Rear Admiral F. V. McNair might be considered eligible for appointment as "an admiral," but as it specifically stated "by selection and promotion," it is apparent that the president, if he thinks he has sufficient authority to do so, may select any officer he may see fit, and as he has expressed himself only recently in terms of high appreciation of Rear Admiral Sampson's conduct, friends of the commander of the North Atlantic squadron are confident that if anyone is appointed he will be the man.

THINKS HE IS DEAD.

New York Man Goes Dumb Over Spiritualism and Shoots Himself in a Mirror.

All the physicians and nurses in Bellevue hospital, at New York city, cannot convince Joseph Jurcevit that he is not dead by his own hand. He aimed four shots, and he knows exactly where they struck. A broken plate-glass mirror at 622 East Twelfth street, where he lives, proves this. Jurcevit shot his own reflection, and he is firmly convinced that each wound was fatal. Incidentally, he shot a stove that he believes is the medium which caused the trouble. The man came to this country from St. Petersburg.

Jurcevit first went to Boston. He was invited to attend a spiritualistic séance, and was forthwith converted to Spiritualism. He was provided with a spoon sweetheart, one Lelia, the spirit of an Egyptian princess thousands of years old. Lelia told Jurcevit that in all her wanderings she had met none to compare with him. Three years ago Lelia commanded Jurcevit to come to New York, where fame and riches awaited him.

He has lived a year or more with Edmund Raymond, at 622 East Twelfth street, who liked him, and thought his eccentricities harmless. Jurcevit's mind is completely unbalanced.

TO FIX UNIVERSAL FORMULA.

Important Congress at Brussels of the Doctors of Life Insurance Companies.

The first international congress of doctors connected with life insurance companies will be held at Brussels on the 25th to the 30th of next September. Consul Roosevelt, at Brussels, says that all Europe and the United States will be represented at the congress, at which it is proposed to establish universal formulas for the examination of persons desiring to be insured. As a result of the congress, it is hoped, says the consul, that permanent officers will be created in every country composed of five medical members, who will see that the decisions of the congress are observed and whose work may serve to lessen the difficulties of application.

A Singular Difference.

between the United States and the leading countries of Europe in the popular use of gold as money. In Great Britain the gold coinage consists almost entirely of sovereigns and half-sovereigns; in France of 20 and 10 franc pieces, and in Germany of ten-mark pieces. All these coins are worth less than five dollars and are in general circulation. In this country two-thirds of the gold handled at the mints is coined into \$20 pieces. The value of the quarter eagles coined in 1898 was only \$80,412. In a sanitary sense the currency of Europe is decidedly ahead of ours.

Tiger with a Glass Eye.

A tiger with a glass eye is in a menagerie at Stuttgart, and looks as fierce with the glass eye as with the real one.

FOR BETTER MAIL SERVICE.

General Reorganization Has Been Completed—More and Faster Trains.

The general reorganization of through mail facilities, which has been under consideration some months by the post office department, has been completed, and the new schedules will go into effect at once. Some 16,870 miles of road are affected by the change, and the result is a substantial saving of time in the transit of mails for all parts of the country.

Between Chicago and New York the time is reduced an hour and a quarter. The fast mail, leaving Chicago at 3:05 a. m., will reach New York at four instead of 5:15 a. m., insuring delivery by the first carriers for the city, including the borough of Brooklyn and vicinity. Closer connections will also be assured for lower New England by way of the Shore line route. At Albany the train will connect with the midnight mail for Boston, thereby lopping off half an hour in the time to the latter city, and connecting there with the early morning trains for New England.

A fast mail train will be put in service by the Pennsylvania road, leaving Chicago at 2:45 a. m., arriving in Pittsburgh to meet the fast mail dispatched from St. Louis at 2:15 p. m., and together reaching New York at four a. m. This mail will reach Washington at the same hour, and will, by connecting with early southern trains, expedite northwestern mails for Cuba and intermediate points.

Additional service between New York and St. Louis has been secured by attaching mail cars to the fast train leaving New York at two p. m., and reaching St. Louis at 7:15 the following evening. One of the most important results of the reorganization is the doubling of the service between St. Paul and Portland, over the Northern Pacific, in addition to shortening the running time.

FARM ANIMALS DEARER.

Statistics of the Department of Agriculture Prepared His Report.

The annual report of John Hyde, statistician of the department of agriculture, on the number and value of farm animals will shortly be ready for distribution. It will show an increase in the number of sheep and milch cows and a decrease in the number of horses, mules, swine and neat cattle other than milch cows, with a general increase in value.

A decrease of 295,644 in the number of horses is accompanied by an increase of \$32,712,406 in total value, the average value per head increasing from \$34.26 to \$37.40. Similarly, a decrease of 1,259,972 in the number of neat cattle other than milch cows is accompanied by an increase of \$25,634,501 in total value, the average value per head increasing from \$20.92 to \$22.79.

In the case of milch cows there is an increase of 149,329 in number, of \$39,420,099 in total value and of \$2.21 in average value per head, and in that of sheep an increase of 1,457,493 in number, of \$14,976,397 in total value and of 29 cents in average value per head.

Mules show a decrease both in number and total value, the decrease in number amounting to 36,069 and that in value to \$146,255. The average value per head, however, is \$1.08 higher than last year.

In the case of swine there also is a decrease both in number and total value, the decrease in number being 1,108,362 and that in value \$4,241,666.

The total value of farm animals is conservatively estimated at \$1,997,010,407, an increase of \$106,355,482, or 5.74 per cent., during the past year.

WAVE POWER PLANT.

Contract Signed for Machinery Which Will Harness the Wave Force of the Ocean.

A contract has been signed for a \$100,000 plant to furnish 1,000 horse-power to be developed from the waves of the ocean, the first of the kind ever made. This power is for a million-dollar sanitarium to be built at Seagate, adjoining Coney Island.

This power is to be converted into electricity, which will do all the work, heating, lighting, operating carriages and steamboats. Even the cooking will be done by electricity.

The contract shows that machinery has at last been designed which can bottle up the energy of the sea and make it work. This device takes no account of the rise and fall of tides, but it does make use of the wave motion.

The principle is like that of a toy popgun. The cylinder is placed vertically. The piston is made to rise and fall by the waves. It is really nothing more than a buoy. When a wave comes along it is bound to rise, and when the wave passes it falls. Every time it rises it compresses so much air.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

The Noted French Inventor, Dueret, Says a Message (As Now Sent) Last 13 Miles.

Consul-General Gowdy, at Paris, reports to the state department that he has been informed by M. Dueret, the noted inventor and constructor of telegraph apparatus, in answer to his inquiry, that messages can now be perfectly transmitted a distance of about 13 miles through space without using wires. The messages are dispatched and received by means of 90 feet high at each terminal. One of the principal obstacles encountered was the apparent impossibility of accomplishing an automatic registration of a message. But this has been overcome.

Cheap Telegrams in Chile.

Telegrams in Chile cost eight cents each. The government owns all the lines.