

PLANS OF MARCONI.

Comes to This Country to Establish Wireless Telegraph Stations.

Says That America is Behind England in Utilizing the Marvelous Discovery - Says Tesla's Hopes May Be Realized.

Marconi, the inventor of the wireless telegraphic system, has arrived at New York and will spend one month in America, during which time he will visit the New England coast and other places and consider the advisability of various sites as wireless telegraphic stations. Concerning his plans, Mr. Marconi said: "One of the objects of my visit is the establishing of wireless telegraphic stations at points along the coast, so that incoming and outgoing vessels can communicate with the shore from the sea. Among the trans-Atlantic steamship lines the North German Lloyd will be the first to take advantage of my system."

Referring to the use of the wireless apparatus on board warships, Mr. Marconi said plants had been instituted on vessels of the British, German and Belgian navies. In the British navy 28 vessels are equipped with the system, in the German three and in the Belgian four. "From all these," said Mr. Marconi, "messages can be transmitted successfully from a distance of 200 miles at sea."

"I am confident the system will ultimately be adopted throughout the world. The fact that several steamship companies have adopted the system, but are unable to utilize it, owing to the absence of receiving stations on shore, has prompted me to attempt to establish stations, both in this country and abroad. You don't hear so much of the system in England, for the reason that it has been once established. It is used over there now as one would the telephone or telegraph. America, I think, has been somewhat backward in taking hold of the matter."

"Even the Boers attempted to use the apparatus. Forty instruments were seized by the government authorities at Cape Town, but on trial they would not work. They were German imitations of the Marconi system."

"How about the Tesla system, by means of which he proposes to flash messages across the sea?" Marconi was asked.

"All I can say in regard to that," he answered, "is that Mr. Tesla's declarations are interesting. I don't see why it cannot be accomplished in time. The possibilities are unlimited."

SUBMARINE BOAT SECRET OUT

Vickers Company Announces Size and Features of the New Craft.

Now that the British government has admitted that it is building submarine boats the Vickers company has given out their corrected dimensions and other particulars. They will be 63 feet 4 inches long, have 11 feet 9 inches beam and have a submerged displacement of 120 tons. The main engine, of the gasoline type, will be of 160-horse power. The boats will carry enough fuel to enable them to steam 400 knots. The maximum surface speed will be nine knots. The main motor will be electric, giving a submerged speed of seven knots. Means will be provided for expelling torpedoes under a variety of conditions. The armament of these boats will consist of a single torpedo expulsion tube located in the bow of the vessel. They will be able to carry five torpedoes, each 11 feet 5 inches long.

MAKES NEW ARTIFICIAL FUEL

Lowell Chemist's Product Resembles Coal, But is Cheaper and Better.

Dr. George M. Randall, a chemist of Lowell, Mass., has discovered a method of producing an artificial fuel resembling bituminous coal at a cost of much less than the price of coal in the states where it is mined. The new substance is composed of mineral products now abundantly distributed throughout the earth.

The manufacture of this "synthetic" coal has already passed the experimental stage and is produced in commercial quantities. It has been tested in the engines of a New England city fire department, and also in smelting iron ore in large quantities. It was demonstrated to produce from 17 to 21 per cent. more heat units, pound per pound, than bituminous coal.

NOVEL NAVAL TEST PLANNED.

Value of Submarine Boats to Be Tested Thoroughly by the French Government.

The naval authorities of France are preparing to test the efficacy of rapid-firing guns against submarine boats, especially at a depth at which the latter are supposed to be invulnerable. A hulk built after the model of the submarine boat Gymnote is being constructed at L'Orient for the purpose. It will be moored at varying depths and subjected to a plunging fire. The results of the experiments are to be relied upon as affording guidance in shaping the tactics of submarine boats.

Great Phosphorescent Light.

A terrific storm passed over a town in Montana recently, and in its wake traveled a phosphorescent light which lasted for 15 minutes and illuminated the landscape for a mile around.

AMERICAN METHODS.

May Be Felt in Management of European Sleeping Car Service.

Effort on Part of Yankees to Gain Control of Entire System—Would Be Vastly Improved and Brought Up to Date.

American promoters in London are trying to engineer a deal whereby all the property and rights of the Compagnie Internationale des Wagons-Lits shall pass into the hands of Yankee capitalists. King Emmanuel of Italy, it is said, is doing all he can to further this attempt in the hope of securing a thorough reorganization of sleeping-car conditions in Europe.

The Pullman Car company has been approached concerning the proposed transaction, but thus far seems to have given the initiators of the scheme but little encouragement. Alfred Davis, the Pullman representative in England, said to the Chicago Record correspondent:

"My company had the wagons-lits matter brought to its attention. President Robert T. Lincoln authorized me to make a report on the subject and I did so. There, so far as I am aware, the negotiations ended. The sleeping-car situation on the continent is thoroughly bad, but I do not think the Pullman company intends to do anything to relieve it."

"The wagons-lits company's concessions in France and Italy expire in a few years, and many schemes are suggested for placing them thereafter with a company which will give Europe a sleeping car service like that in America. At present the wagons-lits people supply inferior accommodations and charge excessive fares. The railway companies themselves have put on the so-called 'coupe-lits,' but these come altogether too high for any except the very rich."

English capitalists say that they are willing to allow Americans a monopoly of the business of bringing continental transportation facilities up to date.

King Emmanuel seems determined to have better railways in Italy, and it is said that he has recently received a report from a special envoy sent to the United States to study railway matters.

TO STUDY NEGRO EDUCATION.

Party of New Yorkers to Make an Extended Tour Through the South for the Purpose.

Robert C. Ogden, philanthropist, will start from New York city on or about April 15, with 40 specially invited guests, on a visit to the educational institutions of the south. The party will be composed of people interested in education and make a study principally of the facilities now afforded in the south for the advancement of the negro, a matter in which Mr. Ogden is deeply interested.

It is proposed to visit the institution at Hampton, thence to go to Richmond, and next to Winston-Salem to attend the meeting of the Educational association at that place. From there the party will go to Atlanta, and thence to Tuskegee, where they will spend two days inspecting the institution of which Booker T. Washington is the head. From Tuskegee the party will return to New York direct, unless it be decided to stop at Lynchburg to visit the woman's college, known as the "Vassar of the South."

DISCOVER HIDDEN TREASURE.

Americans Get Booty Left on an Island Off the South African Coast.

A syndicate in which two Columbus (O.) men are interested has succeeded in recovering valuable booty secreted years ago by a pirate on an island on the Spanish main, just off the coast of South Africa. A syndicate was formed and six months ago the pilot boat Eldridge was purchased from E. T. Gerry, of New Orleans, rechristened the Kaasid and started on her long journey. After an eventful cruise the voyagers succeeded in locating the hidden treasure and returned with it a few weeks ago to New Orleans. Capt. Henderson said the treasure was worth \$72,000. Mr. Speuny, of the syndicate, said: "We got less than that, but enough to amply repay us for the expense of fitting out the vessel and the trouble of making the search, and each of us will have a bit of pin money in our pockets for the rest of the year anyhow."

LOOKING BACKWARD.

New Russian Society Seeks to Restore Ancient Customs and Cultivate Pure Russian Language.

A new patriotic society has been founded in St. Petersburg under the name of the "Russkoye Sobranie." The leading spirits are Gen. Kamaroff, editor of the Svet and the Souvorovs, father and son, who publish the Novoye Vremya, journals whose conservative, not to say reactionary, tendencies are sufficiently known. The objects of the society are to educate youth according to the ancient Russian spirit, the restoration of Russian antiquity and costumes, and the cultivation of a pure Russian language. It can hardly be expected that these aims will be realized in their entirety.

British Missionary Receipts. For the first time in its history the British Church Missionary society has passed the \$2,000,000 point in its annual receipts.

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

Ireland has 408 able-bodied persons to 1,000 inhabitants, Scotland 424 and England 432.

Italy, with 32,000,000, has now the smallest population of any of the great powers.

Mexico has 12 different languages in its borders, Austria five, the British Isles four.

On an average 240,000 people are staying in Paris hotels, 4,000 of whom are foreigners.

Sixty-three glaciers out of the 73 known in Switzerland are retreating; only one is advancing.

Eight hundred thousand strangers visited Berlin last year. Over 2,100,000 visited London and stayed a day or more.

The average number of children in an English family is 4.08, in a French 3.03, in Italy 4.56. Ireland holds the record with 5.20.

The prison population of Cape Colony is 15 per 10,000 of inhabitants. There are ten colored convicts to every white one.

Three dukes, one marquis, five earls, three viscounts and ten barons was the record death list last year in the British peerage.

Sicily is said to be making steady progress in asphalt mining. In 1899 about 60,000 tons were exported, of which New York received 5,570.

STARTLING STAGE WAR.

How Military Effects of the Drama Are Produced in Realistic Manner.

When the drama provides a situation involving artillery work, it gets a trough and a truck—a truck like those railway porters wheel passengers' luggage on—and a box—an empty champagne or soap box. In the trough it puts some sand, then some loose bricks, then gravel above the bricks to fill in the interstices. The box is filled with bits of old iron—horseshoes, broken files, pieces of chain and such like—and put on the truck. The trough is wide enough to take the truck. "Come on with the artillery—quick!" And a man stripped to the waist immediately begins to run the truck backward and forward with all his might over the trough.

The rough surface makes the truck bump, which causes the old iron in the soap box to shiver and rattle just as guns rattle in their limbers. As before, the opening and shutting of a door indicates the approach and departure of the fearsome and irresistible force. In the Adelphi there used to be a rather elaborate trough for artillery purposes, says Cassell's Magazine. It was filled, as usual, with sand to take the wood effect away, and with bricks to provide the necessary roughness. Its length was 110 feet, and it was shaped like the outline of a lawn-tennis bat. Three trucks could be worked on it, and two men were usually provided to a truck—one with a rope around his waist attached to the truck to pull it, and the other with hold of the handles to guide it. The effect these men with their trucks tearing along that trough could produce was terrible; the combined armies of Europe could not do more. But if the breathless audience in front could only have seen, what inextinguishable laughter would have rent that house! Then, when these men paused and wiped their perspiring brows, there was the flash of the boom of cannon, making us start from our seats.

How dreadful! Dear me, yes; it is dreadful to be thus affected by trifles. That flash is simply caused by lycopodium being blown through a small flame, and that boom by the common place beating of a drum—the operator's hand being placed upon the drum or withdrawn according as he has to produce distinct and successive reports or the effect of a regular continuous cannonading. Lycopodium, it may be added, is an exceedingly fine and highly combustible powder made from Irish moss. Now, everyone has seen dust going through flame. The dust is burned, and as it burns one sees innumerable sparks. Those brilliant sparks enhance the illuminating power of the flame. That is what the lycopodium does with each puff of the bellows. A little bit of sponge, saturated with methylated spirits, rests in the filter-shaped vessel containing the lycopodium, and supplies the flame. Instead of with bellows the operator used to blow through the tube with his mouth. That operator's supper was then spoiled, however, in consequence of the bad taste his part in the war had left behind.

He Won Out.

The fly collector asked the modest hotel clerk to change a twenty for him. "Got nothing but two five-dollar bills," said the clerk, looking over his safe deposit.

"By the way," asked the fly collector, going down into his pocket-book, "did you ever see an eight-dollar bill?"

"No; nor you either," responded the clerk with confidence. "Bet you the drinks," ventured the fly collector, holding something in his hand.

"Done," said the clerk. "I'm willing to pay for the drinks to see that kind of a bill, but I guess I won't have to."

"No!" grinned the fly collector. "How's that?" and he handed to the clerk an eight-dollar bill for a pair of trousers.—Detroit Free Press.

He Goes to Church.

Robb—What d'yer think of Sammy Slick? He's a church worker now. Steele—Git out!

Robb—Sure. His lay is swipin' poor boxes.—Philadelphia Press.

SURPLUS OF WOMEN.

England Anxious to Send Them to Her Colonies.

Chamberlain Declares That Happy Homes and an Abundant Livelihood Await Millions Willing to Emigrate.

"More women in our colonies!" has become the war cry of a large number of persons, official and unofficial, throughout the British empire. Mr. Chamberlain took up the slogan the other afternoon, when he addressed the British Women's Emigration association. He said:

"Here at home we have millions more women than men. They cannot look forward to becoming wives and mothers and heads of households. They jostle one another in their struggle for existence, and their wages often fall below the level of making honorable subsistence possible. We must reduce the disproportion which I have mentioned by sending suitable women, suitably protected, to places where the proportion is exactly in the opposite direction. Our colonies hold out the promise of millions of happy homes for women now fighting for a scanty living in the mother country."

Mr. Chamberlain spoke especially for South Africa, where he professed to expect an era of great prosperity to dawn shortly.

Lord Strathcona, lord high commissioner for Canada, is exerting all his influence and power to direct the stream of emigration toward the dominion's sparsely populated district in the northwest. Representatives from South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and other parts of the empire drum for their respective countries. Yet, despite this zealous missionary work, of the 150,000 persons who annually emigrate from the British Isles, about two-thirds of them go to the United States.

TO SEARCH FOR WINDWARD.

Steamer Which Took Mrs. Peary and Miss Peary North to Be Looked Up.

The Peary Arctic club held its annual meeting the other afternoon and reelected President Morris K. Jessup, Treasurer Henry W. Cannon and Secretary Herbert L. Bridgeman, and referred to the executive committee the work of the coming summer. It is likely that a steamer will be chartered and dispatched to find the Windward, from which, since its departure from Godhavn, North Greenland, August 20, 1900, with Mrs. Peary and Miss Peary, nothing has been heard. The instructions to Capt. Bartlett, of the steamer, were definite not to remain north except upon express orders of Lieut. Peary, and the inference therefore is that the party have wintered at his headquarters, where abundant supplies are stored, and would be likely with the opening of arctic navigation to return.

The club, however, prefers to be on the safe side and to leave nothing doubtful, though the only promise to Capt. Bartlett was that if the Windward did not return during 1901 a steamer would be sent to his relief in 1902. It is not likely that the Peary club's steamer will take any passengers, either scientific or sportsmen, the cruise being restricted to the urgent business in hand.

The club is confident of the complete success of Mr. Peary's undertaking and holds absence this winter indicates his sure return next summer, after having visited the pole.

GETS FASHIONS FROM CHICAGO

Confession by a Paper in London That Patterns Are Secured from Western City.

When London goes to Chicago for fashion notes things begin to look somewhat topsy-turvy, but a ladies' column in one of the papers the other day showed an instance of this kind.

An Englishwoman furnished the paper with the pattern of a dressing sacque, which she said she had picked up in one of the large stores in Chicago. The garment had been in revelation in the matter of fit, comfort and cheapness. So, after wearing it out, she pulled it to pieces and took measurements of the pattern, which she sent as an idea to English makers to copy.

Accompanying the letter was a statement comparing the prices of ladies' ready-made garments in London and Chicago, and showing the advantage of the latter.

One has heard this confirmed by women living in London, who have tried to duplicate in London the purchases from large dry goods stores in New York and Chicago, but found it cheaper to send to America and pay the carriage.

Peach Growing in Michigan.

Berrien county, Mich., on the record of 1900 claims to be the greatest peach-growing section in the world. The number of acres cultivated last year was 4,753, and the total yield of peaches was 140,992 bushels, being more than half the entire Michigan crop. Van Buren county came next, with 58,887 bushels.

Oldest Waterworks.

The oldest waterworks system in the country is that of South Bethlehem, Pa. The original mains laid were made out of cedar logs, some of which have recently been taken up in a good state of preservation.

Divorce in St. Louis.

One day recently 100 divorce cases were heard in the courts of St. Louis, and 50 divorces were granted.

TO GO OVER NIAGARA FALLS.

Balloonist Invents a Novel Craft in Which He Plans a Daring Trip.

C. Bartholomew, of Jackson, Mich., has a novel scheme, which he has offered as an attraction for the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo. Some years ago Bartholomew invented an apparatus with which he proposed to go over Niagara falls. The apparatus consists of two large spheres made of sheet steel and lined with cork.

Inside each sphere is a silk bag to contain gas, and the spheres are connected by a steel rod, to which the seat to be occupied by the operator and sand bags for ballast are attached. Things are so arranged that in case of danger one or all of the ballast bags can be released, and in case all are released the apparatus will start up into the air and float away like a balloon. The machine is to be constructed on a large float and towed as near the falls as possible, when it will be rolled off into the water and float down and over the falls. It is expected that the buoyancy of the gas bags will keep the apparatus on the surface even while going over the precipice.

Bartholomew claims that this will be one of the most attractive features of the exposition, and will net the management a large sum. During the trip he proposes to have moving pictures taken, to be exhibited on the exposition grounds.

Bartholomew was until a few years ago engaged in the balloon business, and he has made many ascensions.

BABY HIP'S HEAD SHAVED.

Joy Reigns in Chinatown at Chicago, During the Stately Ceremony.

There was joy in the hearts of all Chicago's Chinamen the other night, and Chinatown was aglow from one end to the other, for Hip Lung, the merchant prince of Chinatown, had set apart the evening for the ceremony of shaving the head and "tracing the queue" of his four-weeks-old son, the heir to all his fortune.

Some time ago it was known that the night in question was to be the night when midst great rejoicing Hip's baby would be carried to the josshouse and there with great pomp and ceremony would receive a name, and according to the most rigid rights of the race submit to the shaving operation.

The josshouse was gorgeously decorated, and it was with great pomp that Hip, carrying the baby and followed by his wife, entered the place. On all sides were smiling Chinamen, and from the great balcony weird music from many a string instrument poured forth. Sam Moy, the mayor of Chinatown, was master of ceremonies. Every visitor, according to custom, brought some coin, either gold or silver, and all these were placed in a huge tray for the baby. Immediately after the queue shaving those present sat down to a banquet and drank rice wine to the health of the new heir.

DUST FROM SAHARA DESERT.

Camille Flammarion, French Astronomer, Talks of the "Red Rain" in Italy.

Camille Flammarion, the famous French astronomer, speaking of the strange red clouds and rain observed in Italy, says: "The atmospheric phenomenon observed in Italy is not of mysterious import. Popular credulity attributes to 'red rain' a sinister significance. The rain, however, portends neither earthquake nor catastrophe whatever. It is simply the reddish dust from the Sahara desert, lifted high into the air by cyclonic whirlwinds and carried among the clouds by upper air currents as far as Sicily and Naples. Sometimes it has been carried still farther."

"Scarcely a year passes that I do not receive a little package of this kind of dust, sent me by observers living a long way from Africa. Though very curious, these 'red rains' should frighten nobody. They deserve, however, the attention of the meteorologist as showing the strength of tempests. This dust is extremely fine. Sometimes it is disseminated in clouds spreading over thousands of square miles, representing a considerable quantity of matter borne on the wings of the wind."

HOST OF WOMEN SLEUTHS.

Ex-Chief of Police of Paris Says France Has Many Female Detectives.

Former Chief of Police Gordon, of Paris, discussing the news that a staff of women detectives was recently engaged by the Waldorf-Astoria management, declared that more than 5,000 women detectives are constantly employed by the French government. Hotels also employ them, generally disguised as chambermaids. Some of the most useful political spies are real women of the world, who do this work because they need additional funds to sustain their social position. The French police prefer pretty women who have had trouble with justice and whose penalty has been suspended for a consideration.

Headless Not Headless.

The Chinese empress has not lost her head, but, says the Chicago Record, sometimes she acts as though she had mislaid it.

Flows Far Without a Tributary. For over 1,200 miles the Nile does not receive a single tributary stream.

WEED DESTRUCTION.

Successful Experiment by Agricultural Department.

Found That Obnoxious Growths in Fields of Growing Grain and City Lawns Can Be Exterminated by Chemicals.

Secretary Wilson recently instituted a most interesting series of experiments in weed destruction in fields of growing grain and city lawns by the use of certain chemicals. Among the chemicals tested were salt, copper, sulphate, kerosene, liver-of-sulphur, carbolic acid, arsenate of soda, and two commercial weed killers, the active principle of which apparently was arsenic.

The weeds experimented upon were plantains, dandelion, chicory, ragweed, knotweed and various undesirable grasses. All the chemicals were applied in solution, except the salt, and it was found that if applied in large quantities it would kill out all the weeds. However, arsenate of soda and the carbolic acid solution (crude carbolic acid, one pint in four pints of water, applied at the rate of eight gallons to the square rod) proved the most valuable chemicals for weed destruction under the conditions of the experiments.

A ten per cent. solution of blue vitriol was sprayed over a weed-ridden field of wheat, there being a variety of weeds in the field, the spraying being made in June, when both weeds and wheat were from three to five inches high. All the weeds practically disappeared. While some of the leaf tips of the wheat had been burned slightly, the net yield of grain was much greater than upon land not so treated.

A similar experiment was made by using one pound of copper sulphate to four gallons of water, and this, too, proved a great success. Where a fear is felt for cattle on grazing land coppers may be used, but with less success. The result is considered of great importance, not only for the sake of public parks and lawns, but in that it clears grazing land of many weeds that contaminate milk.

MARRIAGE AIDS LONGEVITY.

German Scientist, Dr. Prinsing, Offers Proof in Support of His Theory.

Many theories have been propounded at London regarding the secret of longevity. To them the German, Dr. Prinsing, adds marriage as, at any rate, distinctly conducive to long life. Among many proofs which he marshaled was an article in the Allgemeine Statistisches Archiv, quoting the fact that the percentage of deaths among priests is greater than among their co-Anglican brethren. The deaths of Catholics who took vows of celibacy were chiefly due to diseases of the organs of circulation, including cerebral paralysis.

Commenting on this theory, the Boersen Zeitung quotes statistics to prove that there is greater mortality among husbands and wives who have lost their consorts than among those still married. Suicide is also more frequent among the unmarried than the married, less so with widowers, and very much less so among the married, while among women suicide is very seldom among the married, and more frequently among widows of almost all ages than among married women.

GETS THE DUCHESS' CORSETS.

Father of Manchester's Bride Prevents Public Sale by Paying Duty.

Many women who hoped to bid in the duchess of Manchester's three pairs of Parisian corsets at the sale of unredeemed articles in bond at the United States customs collector's office at Cincinnati were disappointed. Eugene Zimmerman, father of the fair duchess, took the corsets out of bond, paying the \$10.20 duty. They had been on hand a year, and were really forfeited to the government for the unpaid duty, but the customs officers and the railroad magnate came to an agreement.

For some reason the duchess did not value the Parisian articles to the extent of paying \$3.40 a pair in duty.

Mr. Zimmerman refuses to talk, but it is understood mention of the fact that the duchess' corsets were to be sold at auction was distasteful to him and he determined to head off further exploiting of the subject.

IMMENSE TURTLE.

Blue Specimen of Rare Species to Be Sent to the Exposition at Buffalo.

What is said to be the largest turtle ever shipped to the Smithsonian institution is there now awaiting shipment to Buffalo, where it will crown the successful collection of tortoises and fish life now ready for the opening. This alligator snapper measures five feet from tip to tip, and is the largest ever caught, exceeding in size the well-known Florida gopher. The average length of the shell of this family of turtle is three feet, and, as it is fast becoming extinct, this rare specimen is greatly prized by the institution.

Automobile Slot Machines.

The newest thing in the slot machine line is a machine that charges the storage batteries of automobiles. By connecting the automobile to the machine and dropping a quarter in the slot the batteries may be charged in a few minutes.