

LONG TROLLEY SYSTEM.

Syndicate of Capitalists Propose to Build a Line from Philadelphia to New York.

A gigantic scheme, which is to give Philadelphia three-cent fares and connect it directly with New York by means of an independent line of electric railways, is being worked up by a number of capitalists and trolley promoters...

"We will give to Philadelphia a local service with three-cent fares and a universal transfer system," said Mr. Johnson, "if the people will give us the right to place tracks on streets not now being used and permit us to operate our surface transit system."

"The local system we desire to operate in connection with our electric railroad between Philadelphia and New York. The New York cars will run at a guaranteed speed of 50 miles an hour, and the fare from New York to the Quaker City will be 50 cents."

"The syndicate now owns the Lehigh Valley Traction company, which operates 255 miles of road between Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Slatington, and towns in that section. We have a clear right of way from Trenton to the city line of Philadelphia and most of that part of the road is finished."

"We will run cars from Trenton to Philadelphia, and from Allentown to Philadelphia before the summer is over. Our route from Trenton to New York is not yet complete, but we expect to reach the western bank of the Hudson river before the end of the present year."

"We want to touch every section of Philadelphia. Perhaps they will not let us at first, but we will not drop it. We will take passengers outside and let them take other lines in and will eventually get in, for I am prepared to spend \$15,000,000 on the Philadelphia system."

In case of failure to secure a franchise, Mr. Johnson said there would be about to house canvass in Philadelphia to arouse public sentiment to the advantage of the new line.

MONKEY BURIED WITH HONORS

Simian Know How to Play Pinochle and Was a Pet of the Fireman.

The late Jimmy McKee, a monkey, taught by the members of Engine Company No. 3, Jersey City fire department, to take a hand in a game of pinochle, was buried with honors in a lot in Baldwin avenue, New York city, the other day.

An enterprising clothier had a diminutive fireman's uniform made for the monkey, and he was laid out in a homemade pine coffin lined with satin. The body laid in state in the engine house for several hours. The fireman chipped in and bought violets to place on the coffin. The remains were conveyed to the Baldwin avenue lot in a wagon and interred without ceremony.

Jimmy McKee was presented to the firemen by Robert Davis, boss of the democratic machine in Hudson county. He had learned to throw out cards and take in tricks so the firemen say, when death cut short his promising career.

NEW EXPLOSIVE WORTHLESS.

Italian Government Has Several Millions of Cartridges Unfit for Use.

Several million cartridges charged with ballistite, a new explosive to which the Italian military authorities have pinned their faith, were recently found in a damaged condition, and the Italian minister of war immediately ordered a special inquiry into the affair. It is now announced that the inquiry demonstrated the fact that ballistite very quickly deteriorates after a certain period, the actual length of which has not been allowed to be made known. The committee recommended the adoption of a more reliable explosive. Meantime, of course, ballistite must be retained. But the fact that a large proportion of the cartridges now in store is steadily becoming unfit for use causes alarm. The present stock aggregates 200,000,000.

NO CHANGE IN OLD SHAMROCK

Sir Thomas Lipton Decides to Keep Yacht in Cup Race Trim for Purpose of Comparison.

Mr. Fife, the yacht designer, has been negotiating with Sir Thomas Lipton with a view to making alterations in Shamrock I. He believes would greatly increase the vessel's speed. Sir Thomas Lipton, however, after consulting with his advisers, has decided that the former challenger shall be restored as nearly as possible to the trim in which it sailed the cup races, so as to attain as reliable a comparison as possible of the speed of the Columbia and Shamrock II. It has been decided that both shamrocks are to go to America, and an effort will be made to give them a full month's tuning up before the races for the cup.

Still in Flower. There is a man in Chicago who has given up cigarettes in order to win the girl he loves, leading the Chicago Times-Herald to exclaim that knight-hood is still in flower.

A Final Test. After New York has finished its gigantic system of canals we shall see, says the Chicago Tribune, if Mara makes any reply to it.

NEW DANGER FOUND.

Typhoid Fever Germs Said to Lurk in Raw Vegetables.

Result of Investigation of the Agricultural Department—Uncooked Vegetables Carry Germs Taken from the Soil.

Dr. H. W. Wiley, chief chemist of the department of agriculture, has for the last few years been making a thorough study of the close connection between typhoid and other germ diseases and the consumption of raw vegetables, and has come to the conclusion that to their use when they are grown near large cities may often be traced the prevalence of these diseases at certain seasons. His study of the matter has not only extended over many years but to many foreign cities, chief among them Paris and Berlin. In speaking of the matter the other day he said:

"I quite agree with Prof. Gaudl, chief of the bureau of hygiene of Rome, and other eminent students of the subject, who trace typhoid fever more directly to the consumption of raw vegetables than to any other source. Of course, the use of polluted water, as well as a carelessly guarded milk supply, are both dangerous factors, but do not account completely for the prevalence of the disease in localities where these supplies are both closely watched and the sanitary conditions are beyond reproach."

"The cause of the danger in uncooked vegetables lies in the fact of truck gardeners near large cities depending often upon sewer waste, household refuse, street sweepings, and other such matter as a fertilizer for their fields. This is especially the case about Paris. Such a use of waste matter for this purpose is particularly dangerous if contaminated with pathological germs, and this waste matter should in such cases, if used at all, be under the supervision of the board of health, and should be sterilized either by subjection to a high temperature or by the use of oil of vitriol in sufficient quantities to be germicidal."

"The use of oil of vitriol improves fertilizers in preserving the ammonia, as well as in other ways. An excess of this chemical should be neutralized by finely ground phosphate rock, the soluble phosphoric acid thus formed becoming a valuable fertilizing ingredient."

BACK FROM SIBERIA.

Prof. Wright, of Oberlin, Finds Northern Asia Devoid of Glacial Period Marks.

Important scientific discoveries have been made by Prof. George Frederick Wright, of Oberlin college, Ohio, who returned on the steamer Pennsylvania from his geological explorations in Siberia. He found a place where he believes the children of Israel crossed the Red sea. The professor and his son traveled 40,070 miles by rail, steamer, horse, mule, cart and wagon.

Geologists have been disputing for years as to whether Siberia bears marks of a glacial period. The professor went to investigate. He found nothing to indicate that the soil was of a glacial origin. His researches showed instead that the northern part of Asia had been within the age of man covered with from 750 to 3,000 feet of water. On some mountains he found gravel at a height of 700 feet. In Lake Koobla he found arctic seals of the same kind as those seen in the Caspian sea, many hundred feet below. He believes the ancestors of the seals were left in the lake in the mountains by the subsiding of the sea. He found, too, that the channel which had connected the Aral sea with the Caspian was practically dried up.

WOLF SHOT IN BOSTON PARK.

Animal Which Had Been at Large for Two Years in Eastern City Is Killed.

Officer Richardson, of the Boston park police, shot a gaunt female wolf in Franklin park, a resort frequented by thousands of people, late the other afternoon. The animal was one of a pair of gray cubs that escaped about two years ago from the schooner Blinstin while it was moored at the foot of Congress street, in the city proper. About a year ago one of the wolves was seen in Franklin park in a ledge, and an officer shot it. The mate was not seen until ten days ago, when several persons living in the vicinity of the park said they had been frightened by an immense gray dog hanging around their houses at night. The police concluded it was the missing wolf, and a watch was set, with the result that it was killed.

BERNHARDT TAKES A GATOR.

French Actress Captures Prize Near New Orleans and Has It Taken to Her Hotel.

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, aided by M. Coquelin and a guide, captured a six-foot alligator the other day, and, ugly and dirty as it was, it was brought back to New Orleans after the hunt and placed on exhibition in the corridor of the St. Charles hotel, where Mme. Bernhardt and her party stayed during their engagement at New Orleans. The hunt occupied the entire day and was participated in by M. Coquelin, Maurice Bernhardt, son of the famous actress; Dr. Edward Rodriguez, of New Orleans, whose guests the notables were; several members of the Bernhardt-Coquelin company, and four guides.

CHARLESTON ON A BOOM.

Charleston, S. C., now sets up as the metropolis of the southeast and claims to be enjoying a boom.

UP-TO-DATE FIREBUG

Uses Electricity Instead of Kerosene Oil and Rags.

Ease with Which the Merchant Attempts to Collect Insurance on Plan and Carry Out a Conflagration—Detection Impossible.

The substitution of defectively insulated electric lighting wires for the time-honored kerosene oil can and heap of paper and shavings in producing incendiary fires is regarded as an established fact by Harry H. Hornsby, chief inspector in City Electrician Edward B. Elliott's office at Chicago.

Hornsby has come to the conclusion that the modern merchant who wants to realize money by collecting fire insurance has followed the tendency of the day in replacing oil with electricity.

"The fuse which is used to prevent trouble by protecting the circuits in the event of a short circuit or a grounding of the wire is made of soft lead," Hornsby says. "Whenever there is a short circuit, or the wires become grounded, the force of the current is taken up by the fuse, which commences to glow. As matters grow worse, the fuse gets hotter and hotter. Soon it reaches a white heat and melts."

"Here is where the firebug does some fine work. He places a heap of inflammable material or innocent-looking cotton under the fuse, and it ignites at once. A little care will produce a short circuit, or grounded wires. The whole thing can be timed, or worked from a distance, and no one in the world can tell how the fire was started."

An ordinance requiring men who wire buildings and repair electric wires and connections to be licensed was introduced in the council last year, and was sent to a committee, where it has slept for months. It is likely that Hornsby's report will facilitate its passage.

WANTS A ROMAN PALACE.

Emperor William Is Credited with Entertaining a Novel Ambition.

It is said at Berlin that the emperor is seriously contemplating the construction of a castle which shall be in all respects an exact facsimile of those that were constructed in the days of old Rome. If he carries out this design all the domestics who may be employed in the castle will be obliged to speak Latin and to wear a costume similar to that worn by the household servants of the old Roman emperors. Each room will be decorated and furnished with appropriate antiques and the exterior of the building will be fashioned in rigid conformance with the style of architecture that was in vogue under the Roman empire.

Emperor William's friends are not surprised that he should be thinking of building such a castle, since they know that for years he has been deeply interested in Roman history, and that on more than one occasion he has taken an active part in performances which were designed to illustrate the life of Romans under the empire.

The emperor, if he constructs this castle, will certainly visit it frequently, and during his stay there his guests and attendants will salute him as the Romans saluted their emperor.

DIG TUNNELS IN TREES.

Wood Caterpillars Are Creating Serious Havoc in the London Parks.

The caterpillars of the wood-leopard moth are doing irreparable damage to many of the old trees in the London parks and gardens by tunneling into the timber, with the result that either the trees are killed outright or the branches and leading shoots are so weakened that they readily snap across during stormy weather.

Hardly a park or garden of any pretensions in the great metropolis is free from the leopard moth and the goat moth, both of which have increased of late years to an almost alarming extent. This is partly owing to the unhealthy condition of many of the trees, which has been brought about by the ever-increasing smoke and fumes to which they are almost constantly subjected, for the caterpillar rarely attacks healthy trees.

The tunnels, which are often half an inch in diameter, are cut in all directions through the hardest timber, the trees usually attacked being the Spanish chestnut, thorn, apple, beam tree, elm and poplar.

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IS A HIDEOUS RELIC.

Strong Iron Cage Containing Human Skeleton to Be Sold.

Smithsonian Institution Has Specimen of Old Barbarous Habit of Chain Hanging Practiced in England Centuries Ago.

There is now at the Smithsonian institution subject to purchase a strong iron cage containing a human skeleton. It is the only specimen of the old, barbarous habit of chain hanging ever found in this country, and one of the few now to be found in the world. This cage was discovered in an unexpected way by a lot of men in King George county, Va., while working a roadbed. It is almost an exact reproduction of some of those used in England from 1340 to 1834, at which time this species of barbarism was abolished. Although six feet in length, this cage looks not unlike a huge rat trap.

In speaking of the cage Dr. W. H. Holmes said the habit of gibbeting or hanging in chains the body of an executed criminal near the site of the crime, with the intention of thereby deterring others from capital offenses, was a custom generally prevalent in medieval England about 1341. Along in that early time a man named Mills was chain-hanged for some atrocious crime, and for long years after the cage hung with the bleached bones of the criminal exposed to full view. Then the natives, speaking of it jeocosely as "Andrew Mills' stob," gradually carried it away piece by piece as a cure for toothache. At another time cage, man and all were taken down and thrown into a river, whereupon it refused to sink. It was heavily weighted, but still floated with its ghastly burden, when they had finally to place it again upon the gibbet.

Dr. Holmes also reverted to the fact that Eugene Aram, the most grewsome of Balzer's characters, was gibbeted. The last body to fare in this way in England was in 1832, and there are many people yet living in that country who can speak personally of the scene.

AGRICULTURE IN HAWAII.

Natives to Be Instructed and Aided by the United States Government.

Jared Smith, who has been in charge of the office of seed and plant introduction in the department of agriculture, has been directed to start in a few days for Honolulu to establish an agricultural experiment station there. As director his first work will be to teach the Hawaiian people how to grow garden truck. Most of the vegetables now consumed in the island are imported from San Francisco. They will be taught also the value of dairy cows among poor families, butter and cheese making, the forage plants most economically produced for Hawaiian consumption, and the value to poor families of raising chickens and pigs.

This agricultural missionary work in the interest of the common people of the islands will be essayed before other agricultural problems will be considered. There are 200 acres, running from the coast to the top of a mountain, set apart by the Hawaiian legislature for this purpose. These matters will be given attention near the coast; coffee raising will be studied on the higher elevations, and forestry work will be done on the mountain tops. Regarding agricultural experiment work in the Philippines, Secretary Wilson said:

"Congress will not appropriate money for experimenting in the Philippines until the people there have quieted down. Then the department of agriculture will be ready to conduct researches—in fact, the greenhouses of the department at Washington now have plants growing for shipping there as soon as conditions are ripe. Among these is rubber, seeds of which are being brought from all parts of the world for sending to the new islands under the American flag."

SECURES FAME AFTER DEATH.

Big Prices Are Paid at Auction Sale of Water Colors by Jongkind.

A small sensation in its way was the sale at the Hotel Drouot, Paris, of 20 water colors by Jongkind. This artist in his lifetime could hardly earn his bread by his brush, and the year after his death none would look at his pictures till M. de Goncourt pronounced him the greatest landscape painter of the century. Now his works are like banknotes, or rather checks, for each one means thousands of francs.

Prices at the De Beriot sale were high enough, but they were topped by the water colors. There was no flourish of trumpets at the sale, but the 20 pictures, most under half a yard, fetched over \$13,886, exceeding all the estimates by \$4,000.

PRECIOUS MICHIGAN YOUTH.

A Kalamazoo man lost a dog and received a letter stating that it would be returned if 50 cents were deposited in a certain place. He marked the coin, left it and the dog was returned. The next morning his eight-year-old son appeared with the marked coin. The boy and his father then went into executive session in the woods.

BERLIN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.

Of the 6,673 students at the University of Berlin this winter, only 268 study theology. There are 2,359 in the law and 1,312 in the medical departments.

NO INDIAN BRIDES.

White Men Who Seek Land and Wives Disappointed.

Rich Maidens of the Five Tribes Not So Eager to Wed as to Accept Fortune Hunters—Only Love Can Win.

Two young men of Purcell, I. T., recently inserted in Chicago papers the following advertisement: YOUNG MAN—THERE ARE MANY beautiful and educated young ladies in the Indian territory who are members of the five civilized tribes, each worth from \$10,000 to \$50,000. They wish to marry. Particulars, ten cents. Lock Box 24, Purcell, Ind. Ter.

Many answers have been received and the schemers now find themselves in a dilemma, having failed to secure the consent of enough young women who would fill the requirements.

The advertisers are now sending back the money received from the credulous, fearing to get the United States officials after them for fraudulent use of the mails.

There are many maidens of Indian blood in the vicinity of Purcell, all of whom will share in the allotment of lands and money now held in common by the Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes. Most of them are women of more than average culture and intelligence, many of them highly educated, and possessing no racial characteristics that would enable the uninformed to distinguish them from other American women. The "bronze maiden looking for a white husband" will not be satisfied with common representatives of the sex. The large majority of these girls are as fair of complexion as are to be found anywhere, and the man who wins them must himself do the seeking.

No steps will be taken by the Indian department at Washington to protect Indian girls with from \$10,000 to \$50,000 who wish to marry white men. Advertisements appeared recently in European papers for the purpose of securing men who desire to marry Indian girls who are wealthy in lands and cattle. The Indian office can throw no light on the subject. It is inundated with letters asking for information, but cannot furnish it.

Many of these maidens are wealthy. They have vested rights in land which is valuable. If, after marrying a white man, these girls are induced to turn over their property to their new husbands, it is a matter between the newly mated pair, and one with which the government cannot interfere.

There is one obstacle in the way of these marriages, however. It is in the shape of a license costing \$1,000, which must be procured of the tribe of which the girl is a member before the wedding ceremony can take place.

SPAIN TO GROW COFFEE.

Supply from Cuba and Porto Rico Being Cut Off She Is Turned on Her Own Resources.

As long as Cuba and Porto Rico were Spanish possessions the cultivation of coffee in the peninsula of Spain was forbidden, but under present conditions the government interposes no objection. The cultivation of coffee for commercial purposes is about to be undertaken for the first time in the province of Malaga, at the little village of Campanillas, five miles from the capital.

Don Quirico Lopez, a rich wine merchant of Malaga, will begin by setting out from 20,000 to 30,000 coffee plants on his plantation there. Cuba and Porto Rico formerly supplied Spain with nearly all her coffee, paying the government a consumption tax of \$0.60 per 220.46 pounds on all coffee entering the peninsula. At present the import duty on coffee is \$2.40 per 100 kilograms from all countries, except from the Spanish island of Fernando Po, and Spain's supply last year came largely from Valparaiso and other South American ports.

TWINS CAUSE CONTENTION.

One Was Born Last Century, the Other in This—Are They Twins or Only Brothers.

In a small town in Warren county, New York state, says the Medical Record, twins were born, one a few minutes before midnight, December 31, 1900, the other a few minutes past 12 o'clock on the morning of January 1, 1901. The town is divided as to whether the boys should be considered twins, or simply brothers, and when the birthday should be celebrated. The "anti-winners" seem to have considerable justification for their view, the children not only having been born on different days, months and years, but one belonging to the nineteenth and the other to the twentieth century.

ANCIENT CROSS FOUND IN CANADA.

A solid silver cross was recently received in Montreal from Michael (it Col), an Indian, who had found it while digging in the Lake Lemarguingue district. A Jesuit has recognized the cross, which has two bars, as one of the 50 silver crosses presented to the Huron Indians in the early part of the sixteenth century to bribe them to fight for France against the Iroquois Indians, who were then friendly to England.

COST OF FOREIGN PATENTS.

You can take out a patent in Belgium for \$25; in France for \$50; in Russia for \$95.

GERMAN COINAGE.

In 1900 the German mints coined \$36,425,000 in gold and \$5,925,000 in silver.

SUICIDES INCREASE IN FRANCE

Efforts to Account for the Prevalence of Attempts at Self-Destruction.

There has been an incredible and unparalleled number of suicides in Paris this season, and the local press is attempting to account for what is termed an epidemic by laying it at the door of the general retrenchment in all industries that is said to have followed the exposition, and to the fact that many provincials who found plenty to do in Paris last summer are now without means of employment and are unable to return to their homes. A recent number of Le Figaro contained the account of no less than five suicides which had been committed within 24 hours, most of them under particularly painful circumstances.

Owing to the statistics recently published from the archives of the Palais de Justice and the prefecture de police, the subject is deemed worthy of immediate scientific investigation, as some say it is rapidly approaching the proportions of a national calamity. According to these statistics there were no less than 27,000 suicides registered throughout France in the five years ended January 1, 1901. Strangling and hanging have accounted for no less than 12,500; the revolver was used in 2,500 cases; suffocation by the use of charcoal was employed in 2,000; poison was used in 400 cases; 1,000 persons threw themselves from lofty heights, usually upper-story windows; drowning accounts for the remainder is said to have obtained death through various "ingenious means."

RUSSIA FIGHTS CORK TRUST.

Starts a Plant and Makes Its Own Corks—Scheme Proves a Success.

Russia has its peculiar and effective way of dealing with corporations existing in Russia which in any way tread upon the toes of the government or run up the price of goods which the government must have. An attempt was made by the cork manufacturers of Russia to form a trust, the purpose of which was to compel the government to pay exorbitant prices for cork needed by the excise department, which has charge of the alcohol monopoly, and which has been experiencing considerable trouble of late with the manufacturers.

The outcome was the establishment by the government of a cork factory. Tests on a small scale and under unfavorable circumstances have proved that the government can conduct the factory in a satisfactory manner. Six billions are estimated as the number used by the excise department. For the present the government will manufacture only 2,000,000,000.

Deputy Consul General Hewdeck, at St. Petersburg, says this is the most opportune time for manufacturers in the United States to introduce improved machinery and American experience and ingenuity in Russia for the production of corks.

FOOD LARGELY ADULTERATED

The Municipal Inspectors in Paris Report Many Violations of Law.

The high prices of ordinary food-stuffs in Paris, owing to the octroi duties, make the business of adulteration profitable. If the lynx-eyed inspectors employed by the municipal laboratory can be dodged. These inspectors, however, are very active. During the last month 322 samples of butter and cheese were seized in store and analyzed. Forty-seven were found to be bad.

Bread, pastry, tea and coffee showed little to complain of, but jam and honey offered fine opportunities for food fraud. Nine out of 23 kinds analyzed were bad. Sippets of different kinds and lemonade were often adulterated.

THE INAUGURAL PAGODA.

Will Be Exhibited at the St. Louis Fair—President McKinley Will Speak from It.

Persons who were not able to attend the inaugural ceremonies will be given an opportunity to see the stand in which President McKinley stood when the oath of office was administered by Chief Justice Fuller and from which he delivered his second inaugural address, if they visit the St. Louis exposition. Representative Bartholdt, acting for the St. Louis exposition officials, has purchased this stand, and when it was torn down each piece of lumber in the stand was numbered, so the structure can be erected at St. Louis exactly as it was here. It is said the president will deliver an address from the stand during the fair.

Another Kick Still to Come. A man in Atlanta, Ga., while riding in his automobile the other day, steered the machine a little too close to the southern extremity of a mule, says the Chicago Tribune. In the mixup that followed immediately afterward the man and the automobile were disabled, while the mule—but any information pertaining to the mule is superfluous.

FIRST SUBMARBINE CABLE.

The first submarine cable was laid from this country to Europe in 1857.