

TO STUDY FINBACK WHALE.

Favorable Opportunity Offered Dr. A. C. Tru... to Learn More About This Interesting Monster.

Dr. A. C. Tru, executive curator of the National Museum, has just started for a two months' trip to Newfoundland to make a study of the finback whales and other cetacea of the southern coast of the British possessions.

Dr. Tru is now the only specialist in the study of whales in this country, most students abandoning it after a little research, on account of the great difficulty under which they labor while making their observations.

Now Dr. Tru will, for the first time after many years of research and study, be able to walk around one of these huge beings while stretched upon dry land and fresh from the water.

TRADE OF CANADA.

Statement Issued by Customs Department Shows Rapid Increase During Last Eleven Months.

A special to the New York Journal of Commerce from Toronto, Ont., says: The trade statement issued by the customs department for the 11 months ending May 31 last shows that the aggregate trade of the Dominion increased in that time by \$11,000,000 over the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year.

The indications are that the year's figures, when they are made up, will show a grand aggregate foreign trade of nearly \$400,000,000. It is especially noted that for the past 11 months the exports of Canadian manufactured articles increased over \$2,000,000, which is an increase of about 11 per cent.

There was a drop in the imports from \$164,801,194 in 1900 to \$163,202,534 for the past 11 months, or a decrease of \$1,598,660. The exports show an increase of \$14,829,383, as compared with the same time last year. The figures are \$173,024,662, as against \$158,195,279 in 1900.

In regard to the imports, it should be pointed out that the entire decrease is made up in coin and bullion, and that the total imports of dutiable and free goods show a slight increase over the 11 months last year.

Big Rifle Ready for Buffalo.

It was expected the 16-inch rifle built for the coast defense would be sent to Buffalo as a part of the government exhibit. Great interest is attached to this gun, the largest modern piece of ordnance constructed in this country.

Arrange to Exchange Exhibits. It is announced that as a result of efforts of Morris K. Jesup, president of the New York Chamber of Commerce, an arrangement has been reached by which the New York Museum of Natural History and the South Kensington museum, of London, will exchange exhibits.

Secretary Fagan greatly appreciates the arrangement, by which the two museums are made increasingly comprehensive and able to help each other.

Automatic Weighing Machines.

To overcome the difficulty caused by the loss of time and the reluctance of post office clerks to weigh letters, the French authorities are installing small automatic weighing machines in post offices.

A Point in Its Favor.

One of the good features of smokeless powder, says the Chicago Inter Ocean, seems to be that when it catches fire it burns long enough to give the people in the vicinity of the magazine a chance to turn in an alarm.

MILLIONS TO HEIRS.

Amount of Life Insurance Money Paid Out During 1900.

More Than \$375,000,000 Were Distributed in More Than 6,200 Cities and Towns of the United States and Canada.

An insurance publication in a recent issue publishes statistics which it has compiled from returns made to it by life insurance companies showing the amounts distributed through the medium of life insurance in the year 1900 in the United States and Canada.

New York, \$18,238,764; Philadelphia, \$7,735,348; Brooklyn, \$5,816,672; Chicago, \$5,739,780; Boston, \$6,079,871; Baltimore, \$3,594,075; Cincinnati, \$3,377,120; St. Louis, \$3,816,092; Pittsburgh, \$2,179,807; San Francisco, \$1,960,322; Buffalo, \$1,635,605; Cleveland, \$1,632,722; Detroit, \$1,650,424; New Orleans, \$1,505,512; Montreal, \$1,447,445; Newark, N. J., \$1,343,363; Washington, \$1,360,630; Toronto, \$1,076,632; Providence, \$1,044,845.

More than \$75,000,000 was distributed in the middle states last year, a considerable gain over the record of 1899; in the central states the distribution amounted to \$36,300,000, a gain of nearly \$3,000,000 over the preceding year; in the New England states, \$25,900,000 was paid out, something more than in 1899; in the southern states the payments reached \$20,500,000, or \$1,000,000 more than in 1899; the policyholders and their beneficiaries in the western states received \$13,400,000, about \$1,400,000 more than in 1899; in the Pacific states the payments were \$7,300,000, approximately equivalent to the payments in 1899.

HARD FIGHT WITH EAGLE.

Attacker of Lincoln Park at Chicago Is Injured by a Powerful Bird He Is Trying to Secure.

C. W. McCurren, head animal-keeper at Lincoln park, Chicago, was severely injured in a fight with an eagle the other day. Edwin Franklin Brown, of Evanston, has long kept a pair of golden eagles in a private aviary. They are unusually large specimens of their kind and Mr. Brown presented them to Lincoln park. Mr. McCurren went to Evanston to fetch them to Lincoln park. He entered the big cage, captured the female eagle and handed it to an assistant on the outside. When he turned to catch the other eagle the bird attacked him savagely. As it swooped upon him, McCurren caught it by the leg in his left hand and held it at arm's length. With its disengaged claws the eagle clutched the man's arm and sunk its long, sharp talons into his flesh. By the wonderful strength of grip of the bird's foot one of its talons was driven into the wrist so that its point showed for half an inch through the skin.

The eagle continued to belabor its captor with its pinions until an attendant rushed in and, clasping the bird in his arms, gave Mr. McCurren an opportunity to withdraw the talons. Mr. McCurren's injury was a painful one and was dressed by a physician. It has resulted in temporary paralysis of his hand.

WEDS OLD SWEETHEART.

W. J. Killbourne, of Louisiana, Married to Woman He Courted Over Forty Years Ago.

There is a romance connected with the marriage at Cleveland, O., of W. J. Killbourne, aged 60 years, a wealthy planter of Killbourne, La., and Mrs. Anna E. Galloway, aged 55 years, of Cleveland. Over 40 years ago they were schoolmates at Columbus, O. When they grew up Killbourne was a suitor for the young woman's hand, but she married W. G. Galloway and moved to Dayton, O. Killbourne then went to Louisiana. When the war broke out both Killbourne and Galloway enlisted, Killbourne being a lieutenant in the confederate army, while Galloway commanded a company in an Ohio regiment.

At the battle of Shiloh the rivals met face to face and engaged in a fierce duel with swords. Both were seriously wounded, but recovered. Soon after the war Killbourne was married. Six years ago his wife died, and in the meantime Mrs. Galloway was made a widow and came to Cleveland to live.

Recently Killbourne heard of Galloway's death and instituted a correspondence with his former sweetheart, which culminated in their marriage.

Valuable Manuscript Sold.

In the sale of the Ashburnham manuscripts at Sotheby's, London, the other day the gem of the collection was "Horae Beatae Mariae Virginiae cum Calendario." Within its purple covers there is compressed as much rare art as is to be found in almost any other manuscript of the fifteenth century. The artist has indulged in a riot of grotesque humor, introducing fabulous monsters and grotesque animals—a horse riding a man, a fox shaving a goat, a pig riding a camel, clothed in a red cloak and wearing a bishop's mitre, etc. It was sold to Harding, the bookseller, for \$1,160.

Areas of English Cities.

London covers 75,000 acres. Leeds is next of English cities, with 21,000, and Sheffield third with 9,850.

SLAVES CHEAP IN CHINA.

Millions of Human Beings Are Held in Perpetual Bondage—Prices They Bring.

There are at a low estimate 10,000,000 human beings who are in servitude in the Celestial kingdom. China has 80,000,000 families and this makes one slave to every eight families. The average is greater in South China, where nearly everyone owns slaves. There is scarcely a Chinese family of means in Nanking, Canton, Macao or Amoy but possesses one or more slave girls. Slave boys are less common, but the girls are found in every street and in almost every house, says the London Express.

Girls fetch from \$10 to \$100 and upward in South China. They are sold at any age from 3 to 15, and most commonly at 7 or 8. The prettiest girls are the most desirable, as in case of marriage or sale they will bring more to the family which buys them. Most of the slave girls are bought to work about the house. It is cheaper to buy a servant than to hire one, for if you take a girl of 8 you can have her services until she is 15, getting eight years of work for nothing but her board and clothes, and then sell her for perhaps ten times your original price.

Theoretically there are no slaves in Hong-Kong, as it is British territory, but in reality the city is full of them. They are the maid servants and nurses of the Chinese. Every small-footed lady needs slaves to help her about, and in the houses of the rich, where there are many daughters, it is not uncommon to find from 20 to 30 slaves in a single family.

Female slaves are often presents from one man to another, and not infrequently they form a part of the bridal outfit. They are commonly bought as secondary wives and often as teachers.

There are localities in China where the girls are noted for their beauty. The cities of Yang-Chau and Su-Chau are as famous for rearing handsome girls from where rich Turks so often obtain their wives. There are persons in these cities who make a business of raising slave girls.

They search the country about for promising young girls and put them through a regular course of training. They have farms where the slaves are taught to sing, play upon musical instruments and to acquire other accomplishments which, added to beauty, will cause them to sell for high prices to the rich mandarins. These girls are chiefly the daughters of poor people or the daughters of slaves.

It is common for a man to purchase his wife. Indeed, there are more wives acquired in this way than in any other. Every man in China has a right to as many wives as he can maintain and a secondary wife is cheaper than a hired servant. The first wife is the legal one, but the others have their rights, although they are practically slaves.

The man who is addicted to the opium habit will sell his children, and not infrequently his wife, to supply his appetite. Wives are sometimes sold by gambling husbands, being put on the turn of a card or the rakeout of the cash at fan-fan.

There are slave brokers in all the large Chinese cities. Their business increases at times of famine, and the starvation which lately prevailed in North China caused many parents to sell their children. With some it was a question of allowing them to starve or selling them. The result is that girl babies are a drug in the market.

Think of buying a baby for a shilling! This is the price which one of the infant asylums of Shanghai is said to pay for them. This is a philanthropic institution, and the children are bought as a matter of charity and religion. They are reared surrounded by Christian influences, are taught all sorts of domestic duties, and when they arrive at the proper age are given respectable husbands.

The brokers, as a rule, do not buy babies. The cost of rearing them and the risk of death are too great. They prefer to have girls or boys of eight years and upward.

Around the World Afoot.

A remarkable traveler is a Russian Cossack, who is journeying around the world on foot. He left his home on the slopes of the Caucasian mountains in 1892, and set out on a tramping expedition, with the determination of seeing the people and the countries of the world, having been filled with this desire from reading books of travel. During the nine years he has been in central Asia, Siberia, Manchuria, Corea, Japan, India, Persia, Turkey and the southern countries of Europe. He was in Paris during the recent exhibition there, and subsequently came over to London. He has yet to visit America, Australia and Africa. In the course of his wanderings he has experienced many strange adventures. He has gone days without food, and was obliged to make some of his sea journeys as a stowaway. He has acquired on his journey a fair knowledge of six languages. — London Chronicle.

A Profitable Crop.

Some idea of the value of the peach crop of Georgia, both to the individual and the state, may be gathered from the statement of a large farmer and fruit grower of the Marietta district that his peaches brought last year no less than \$71,500. — Savannah Press.

Four Men.

Mr. Flushing (hospitably)—So you have joined our club? Mr. Elmhurst (wearily)—Yes. My wife has got the house so full of "cozy corners" there isn't any place where I can sit down and be comfortable! — Brooklyn Eagle.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

"What is this social struggle we hear so much about?" "It is partly getting in yourself and partly keeping other people out." — Louisville Dispatch.

"A woman's disposition can be shown by the pitch of her voice." "More especially when the pitch is not used to blacken another's character." — Philadelphia Times.

Improved Witchcraft.—"I suppose the witch in your new play rides a broomstick?" "Broomstick? What all you? She rides a carpet-sweeper." — Chicago Record-Herald.

Carrie—"I suppose you'll think it funny, but Billy White has asked me to marry him." Bertha—"Funny, you dear creature! Why, it's positively ridiculous." — Boston Transcript.

Neil—"I'm surprised at her marrying him. She used to say she'd never marry a man who didn't have a fortune with at least six ciphers in it." Belle—"Well, his fortune is all ciphers." — Philadelphia Record.

"I understand," said Mrs. Malaprop, "that you've been building a fine big church in your town." "Yes," replied the visiting clergyman, "it isn't very ornate, but there is a nave in our church that—" "Gracious! you don't say, I hope he didn't steal very much." — Philadelphia Press.

A Practical Juliet.—Reginald—"I love you, Madeline. For you I would give up family, position, wealth." Madeline—"Hold, Reginald! Giving up family is all right—I fear would be spared a mother-in-law; give up your position if you can get a better one; but please hold on to your wealth. We may need it." — Kansas City Journal.

Manager (to new actor)—"Your performance of Hamlet is the very worst I've ever seen. If there had been any money in the house, I should have been bound in honor to return it at the doors. As it is, several friends have sent in and peremptorily demanded that their names should be removed from the free list." — Glasgow Evening Times.

AN ORIGINAL TURKISH BATH.

Nothing Like the Luxurious Process That We Know in This Country.

"About the first real craving that strikes the unacquainted American or Englishman upon his arrival in Damascus is the desire for a Turkish bath right on the spot where the famous bath was originated," said a traveler in the New York Times. "His next decision is that a New York or a London Turkish bath is about as far ahead of the Damascus article as mother's pies beat the baker's. In view of the eastern origin of these baths I naturally expected to find something of luxury."

"Entering one of the finest baths in the city, I was at first sight much pleased with the general appearance of things. Dog of a Christian that I was, I entered a large open court, in the center of which gushed a splendid fountain, while the scene all about was at first impression one of an oriental fairyland. All around the fountain on raised platforms were combination chair couches upon which orientals were lounging as only orientals can. Some were reclining, some napping, some sipping coffee, some smoking the narghileh, some chatting, and one was going through the red tape contortions required by Allah when the 99 Moslem prayers are offered."

"As if to carry out the fairyland idea instead of being conducted to a private room, in conformity with the views of propriety of the western dog of an unbeliever, I was expected to disrobe before this miscellaneous audience. Also, before the audience in the street whenever the door was opened. My clothes I had to store in a drawer under my couch. The publicity of the disrobing act was modified somewhat, however, by the attendants, who by the use of towels formed a temporary screen. After this they gave me wooden sandals with high strips fastened to the soles, which converted them into a sort of high stilt. I saw no use for this contrivance excepting to further the chances of breaking my neck. With these stilts on I was taken to the 'hot room,' where there was a temperature not higher than that of New York city on a hot summer's night. After remaining here some time there was some slight rubbing and a deal of leg pulling and arm jerking."

"Desiring a shower bath, a believer in the True Faith aimed a garden hose at me and doused me with such a sharp stream that I had all the 'showers' I wanted in three seconds. Then they wrapped me in a Turkish towel and turbaned my head for me and led me to a couch and bade me rest. I rested, wishing for an hour in my favorite Turkish bath in New York city, far from the land of Allah, with in earshot of the plinking trolley car and in a district over which reigns only Sheikh Tim Sullivan."

"As a mere idea of satisfying curiosity nothing can top the visit to the Damascus baths. But, unlike the Turkish bath, the Turkish bath is not at its best when sampled on the spot."

Disease-Spreading Skirts.

The trailing skirt is an effective agent for the collection and dissemination of disease germs. Out of homes infected with consumption and other diseases this cumbersome creation goes forth carrying its death-dealing bacilli into the streets, public places and cars where the accommodating apparel of other women gives them hospitality. They are thus transferred to homes not yet contaminated by disease, but which, thanks to every lady's draperies, soon become foci for infection. — Chicago Tribune.

EXPORTING TIN PLATE.

American Manufacturers Making Rapid Gains in Their Attempts to Enter Foreign Markets.

American manufacturers of tin plate are making rapid gains in their attempt to enter the foreign markets of the world. To be sure, their exports are yet small as compared with the domestic demand which they are meeting, but they are again reducing the imports, which temporarily increased in 1900 under the excessive demand and extremely high price of materials, and are at the same time increasing their exports in a manner which proves interesting to those who have watched the development of this comparatively new industry in the United States.

The figures of the treasury bureau of statistics show that the exports of tin plates from the United States, which in the ten months ending with April, 1899, amounted to only 163,953 pounds, and in the ten months ending with April, 1900, to \$75,990 pounds, were, in the ten months ending with April, 1901, 1,300,100 pounds. In imports of tin plates the figures for the ten months show a material decrease as compared with the quantity imported during the same period of the preceding fiscal year, being 95,609,722 pounds, as compared with 123,598,773 pounds for the ten months' period of last year.

Our total exports of tin plate in the fiscal year 1901 seem likely to be from eight to ten times those of 1899, while the importations of tin plates into the United States promise to be little more than one-tenth those of 1891, the year of the largest importation of tin plates into the United States, and but about one-fifth of the average annual importation during the five years prior to the establishment of the tin plate industry in the United States.

When the United States government sent Sidney Mason as consul to Porto Rico in 1892-93, he cut a pretty figure, quite in contrast with Americans in the island at the present time, for he was clad in an imposing coat of blue broadcloth, cutaway, and trimmed in brass buttons, with gold embroidered cuffs and collar. With this coat he wore an embroidered waistcoat and a cocked hat, considerably adorned with rosettes and other ornaments, while his trousers, or perhaps breeches in that day and time, were of white broadcloth, made to fit, fastened under the foot with a strap, and with gorgeous gold bands down the outer seams. A sword swung at his side with a uniquely wrought hilt of amber and gold. This costume is now in the National museum, where it has just been sent by the heirs of the Myers and Mason families.

Along with the costumes, which in view of our present connection with Porto Rico is attracting a great deal of attention, is a wonderfully beautiful collection of toilet articles, family jewels, rare lace and exquisite embroideries worn by members of these illustrious families; the sword used by Maj. Myers during the continental army; the sword of his son, Col. Theodore Bailey Myers, worn during the civil war, and that of his grandson, Theodore Bailey Mason, lieutenant commander of the United States navy from 1868 to 1898.

At a recent meeting of the New York public library a letter was received from James D. Smillie announcing the gift of a collection of 923 prints, for the department of prints. These are from steel engravings, and 628 of them are by the donor's father, the late James Smillie, extending from 1825 down to the close of his life, in 1885. James Smillie was a famous engraver in his day, and his work includes such subjects as Thomas Cole's "Voyage of Life" and A. Bierstadt's "Rocky Mountains."

The prints in the collection are especially valuable, being "engraver's proofs," of which only two or three are struck off from the finished plate, just before it is turned over to the publisher. There are also full sets of working proofs, showing the evolution of an engraved plate. Besides the work of Smillie, the collection includes engravings by about 20 of his contemporaries.

American Trolley Cars at Athens. Trolley cars built in this country will soon go whizzing and clanging from Athens to Piraeus in modern Greece, says the New York World. The contract for constructing the line has been let. In a general way the cars will resemble those used in Brooklyn.

The electric boom has struck Greece so forcibly that electric light plants are being manufactured in the United States to illuminate Calamata, Lyra and Patras, the latter the most important seaport in the kingdom and the export point for large shipments of currants.

It is calculated that the sum of \$12,000,000 is spent annually by the 270,000 visitors who frequent the Riviera during the winter season of 150 days.

Hazing at West Point. Hazing has again been stopped at West Point, says the Chicago Record-Herald, and it remains to be seen whether the boys will continue to be boys.

A Swiss City. Among the 112,442 inhabitants of the city of Basle on December 1, 1900, there were 43,139 foreigners; that is, only 61.76 per cent. were Swiss.

WILSON'S MANY PLANS

Proposes to Supply Home Markets with Rice and Macaroni.

Wheat Suitable for the Manufacture of the Letter Seen to Supply Factory Which Has Been Established—Rice Land in South.

During the coming year the agricultural department will do a great deal of work which has for its purpose the establishment of new industries, or rather the extension of those which are now in the infant stages. Secretary Wilson has approved the plans which have been mapped out, and which when executed will show a permanent result in the experiments of the department. These contemplate the production of cereals from which macaroni can be made and encouraging the establishment of factories at which this product will be produced. Other work done by the department will be with a view to expanding the rice industry, and fostering the date palm, and the production of tea. Practical tests of great benefit to the cotton industry will be made as well to induce the production of bulbs such as hyacinths and tulips, most of which are now imported. The encouragement of tree planting of all varieties, including those which produce nuts, will be sought after. At the present time 15,000,000 pounds of macaroni is imported into this country. Seeds of macaroni wheat have been planted and within a short time a crop of wheat from which macaroni is made will be harvested. A factory has already been established which will handle 100,000 bushels of this wheat. There are prospects of other factories being established, and with the encouragement this industry receives at the hands of the department it will be but a short time, it is believed, when enough domestic macaroni will be put on the market to supply the demand.

Millions of pounds of rice are imported every year, and unless Secretary Wilson and Prof. Galloway, who has direct charge of this work, are greatly mistaken, within a comparatively short time enough rice will be produced in the south to supply the home demand, together with a large surplus which they believe will find a market abroad. The best quality of rice that can be found will be employed in building up this industry.

Postage Stamp Issue. Interesting Figures Showing Economic Number of Different Denominations Issued During Year.

A statement has just been issued by the director of the bureau of engraving and printing at Washington, a New York Tribune special says, showing the official estimated number of postage stamps distributed in the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901. According to this statement, the issue of the year includes 1,300,000,000 one-cent stamps, 2,500,000,000 two-cent stamps, and 209,236,800 of higher denominations. The total, including special delivery ten-cent stamps, is 5,116,236,000, against 4,377,727,000 for the previous fiscal year. The number of stamp books issued, containing 13, 24 and 49 two-cent stamps is estimated at 3,400,000, 1,226,200 and 45,200 respectively, making an additional total of 49,720,000. The estimate shows the issue of postage due stamps to be 25,321,000, against 25,154,000 last year.

The number of Pan-American stamps thus far issued is 239,500,000. The figures to show the face value of the postage stamps issued this year have not yet been completed, but the number produced will exceed all former records by over 1,500,000,000.

AMERICAN FLAG AT AUCTION.

Scandal Connected with the Closing of the American Headquarters for Paris Exposition.

A big scandal has been caused in French official circles and the American colony at Paris by the closing up of the American headquarters for the Paris exposition and the seizure of its furniture for overdue rent.

These large and expensive offices are situated in the Avenue Rapp; the landlord is a French insurance company and the president of the company says he has applied frequently for the rent and that he could not procrastinate any longer, as he understood the commission had plenty of money. Consequently he closed the doors, sold the furniture and pulled down the American flag.

There is much bitterness over the fact that the commission did not come to the rescue of old glory and have it folded with honor instead of permitting the weather-beaten flag to be sold for 20 centimes under the auctioneer's hammer.

D. B. Woodward, acting commissioner, has taken office elsewhere and calmly assumes that payment of the rent is a matter for Maj. Brackett, the disbursing agent, to look after. Maj. Brackett is in the United States.

Legal Loopholes.

Hypnotism and psychic suggestion are two handy excuses, declares the Atlanta Constitution, for those who want to escape responsibility for their acts.

California Lumber.

Timber experts tell us that California alone has a capacity of lumber in her standing forests of over 100,000,000,000 cubic feet.

Pyramids of Cheese.

There are 4,000 tons of stone in the pyramid of Cheops. It could be built for \$20,000,000 to-day.