

BELL SOLVES THE PROBLEM OF FLYING?

Telephone Inventor Announces Through The World that He Has in New Plane Machine Overcome the Principal Difficulty in Building of Apparatus That Will Enable Man to Fly.

Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the Bell telephone, whose assertion that he has accomplished a thing is accepted without question by the scientific world, makes through The World to-day the exclusive announcement that he has completed the first essential step toward the solution of the aerial navigation problem.

Prof. Bell is opposed to airships of the balloon type like those of Santos-Dumont. He claims that any mechanical body lighter than air is bound to be at the mercy of the wind and therefore impracticable. Birds and all living creatures that fly are heavier than air and therefore have perfect control of their movements. With that idea in mind he went to work on the problem of aerial navigation. Just how far he has gone he tells:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 25. To the Editor of The World:

"The newspapers have been premature in announcing that I have been at work upon a flying machine. I haven't any flying machine at all—and have not been trying to make one. "I am, of course, interested in the problem and have come to the conclusion that a properly constructed flying machine should be capable of being flown as a kite, if anchored to the ground; and that, conversely, a properly constructed kite should be capable of being flown as a flying machine, if provided with suitable means of propulsion. "My experiments have had as their object the building of a kite of solid construction capable of carrying up in a moderate breeze a weight equivalent to that of a man and engine, and so formed that it would be suitable for use as a flying machine if provided with suitable means of propulsion. "I have successfully accomplished this, but do not care at the present time to make public the details of construction."

(Signed) ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL.

No Doubt of His Success in Washington.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.—There is no doubt that Alexander Graham Bell has made important progress toward solving the problem of aerial navigation.

LEFT BED FOR PROMOTION.

Hero of Mounted Squad Leaves Hospital to Receive Roundsmen.

Twenty-five roundsmen were sworn in today by Commissioner Partridge. Among them was Patrolman William P. Davis, of the Wakefield station, who got out of the Fordham Hospital to be present. On Dec. 19, while stopping a runaway in White Plains avenue his horse fell on him and he sustained injuries to his chest and arms which have kept him in bed ever since.

He has been investigating and experimenting along this line since 1893, employing himself thus during his vacations spent at his summer home at Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. As long ago as 1896, Prof. Bell explained to The World correspondent the theories upon which he was working. From his present statement it would appear that he is convinced these theories have proved correct.

Then, as now, Prof. Bell was opposed to the dirigible balloon idea, which has been so largely exploited by Santos-Dumont and other experimenters. In discussing his ideas, he said:

"The kite principle will figure largely in the successful airship. The pressure of wind against surface must be made use of. What is a kite but a tethered airship? My chief difficulty is to restrain myself from building a machine. It is a great temptation, but all of the failures in the airship business are traceable to the error of building an immature and untested idea of what is needed. A step in the right direction is the kite balloon."

Worked With Prof. Langley.

In his investigation of the aerial problem Prof. Bell has worked in connection with Prof. Langley, of the Smithsonian Institution, regarded as the foremost authority in this country, if not in the world, on all forms of air machines, balloons and kites.

Prof. Bell refused to discuss his experiments as compared with the Langley experiments. It is believed he will study the problem at his home in this city this winter from the theoretical viewpoint and not make further experiments until the spring.

In a recent article William A. Eddy, the kite-flyer, said:

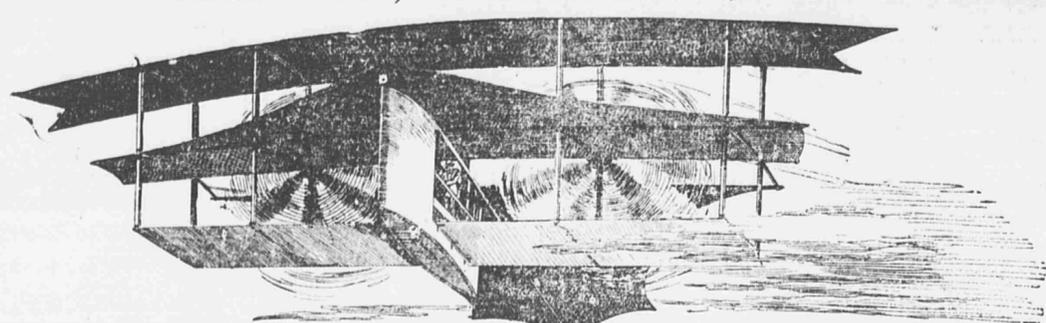
"Octave Chanute, of Chicago, who recently compiled a classified list of flying-machine experiments during the past 600 years, declares that to Prof. S. P. Langley, of Washington, belongs the credit of making the greatest advance in aerial navigation. Prof. Langley, several years ago, built a model flying-machine that made a circuit of three-quarters of a mile at an elevation of 500 feet above the Potomac River. "The aeroplane, as it was called, introduced a new principle in aeronautics, a principle which it is firmly believed is the only one yet discovered that will make navigation of the air a practical possibility."

"Prof. Alexander Graham Bell, who was associated with Prof. Langley in some of his experiments, and who engaged the past summer in perfecting a flying-machine on the aeroplane principle."

Old Man's Feet Frozen.

Joan Vats, sixty-five years old, no home, was found lying behind a pile of lumber at Frankfort and Vandewater streets this morning and was removed to the Hudson Street Hospital suffering from frozen feet.

FLYING MACHINE ON KITE PRINCIPLE AND PROF. BELL, WHO HAS SOLVED THE PROBLEM.



CITY'S FREEDOM FOR DR. LORENZ.

Honor Will Be Conferred on Distinguished Viennese Surgeon Through the Mayor by Vote of the Board of Aldermen.

CASKET HOLDS PARCHMENT.

In the historic Governor's Room at the City Hall, in the presence of the Mayor, the heads of all the city departments and 100 invited guests, the freedom of the city of New York will on Tuesday afternoon be presented to Dr. Adolf Lorenz, through Mayor Low, by a vote of the Board of Aldermen. A document engraved on parchment and enclosed in a silver casket will bear the expression of the city's welcome to the distinguished surgeon. Over the seal of the corporation will be recited the fact that the honor is conferred in consideration of the visitor's distinguished services to science and his charitable work among the poor of New York.



SCHOONER RUNS ASHORE.

Life-Savers Go to Aid of Crew Stranded at Little Beach, N. J.

A despatch from Little Beach, N. J., says that there is a three-masted schooner ashore near that point. Life-savers from the station have gone to her assistance.

FUGITIVE MIDWIFE CAUGHT.

Warrant for Nearly Three Months and Is Found by Accident

Mrs. Louisa Wagner, the midwife, for whom a warrant was issued on Oct. 5 charging her with irregular practice on two girls in her house, at No. 205 East Fifty-fifth street, was caught this morning by Capt. Langtry and Detective McCauley, of the East Fifty-first street station.

paper and smoked a cigar, the stub of which lay by the side of the bed on the floor. The gas jet at the head of the bed, in easy reach of the man's hand, was turned on full and the room, which had only one small window, was filled with gas. Coroner Jackson was notified and also the man's relatives in Massachusetts.

BRIDE 65, BRIDEGROOM 78.

Old Couple Surprise Their Neighbors by Marrying.

(Special to The Evening World.)

BRIDGEVILLE, N. J., Dec. 27.—Gill here (Edmunds, ex, seventy-eight years old, and Fawcett Ann Richardson, sixty-five years, residents, of this place, have caused surprise by announcing their marriage. It took place on Christmas evening, Rev. E. M. Stanton, of this place, performing the ceremony. The bride had been a widow for twelve years and the groom a widower for two years. Both own farms here. Neither show their age much.

DIED WITH SAFETY IN REACH

Man Asphyxiated by Gas Escaping from Jet Short Distance Away

Henry Drake, forty-five years old, a conductor on the Manhattan Elevated road, was found dead in bed in his room at No. 133 East One Hundred and Twenty-eighth street, this afternoon, asphyxiated by gas.

PANIC AT FIRE NEAR THE TOMBS

Fifty Men at Work Pinned in by Flames Had to Get to Street by Way of the Fire-Escapes.

NO ALARM IN THE PRISON.

Fire in a building on Centre street, opposite the Tombs, to-day caused a panic among fifty or more men at work there and did about \$2,000 damage. The fire started on the third floor of No. 102 Centre street, occupied by Becker & Jacobson manufacturers of silver novelties. It spread to the fourth floor, occupied by Goldman & Miller, makers of umbrellas.

For an hour the blaze was a lively one and had it not been for the quick work of the firemen the whole block might have been destroyed.

As soon as the fire was discovered Warden Van De Carr, of the New City Prison, and his keepers took every precaution to prevent any fright among the prisoners.

As there are no prisoners in the cells at the front of the prison few of the inmates knew what was going on.

The cause of the fire is unknown. It is supposed that somebody dropped a lighted match in waste saturated with benzine used by the workmen of Becker & Jacobson.

The building is owned by the Lorillard estate.

All of those in the building got out in safety. Some came down the fire escapes and others slid down the elevator shaft.

VANDERBILT IS OUT OF DANGER

Physicians Issue Final Bulletin to the Public in Which They Confidently Predict His Ultimate Recovery.

TO CRUISE IN HIS YACHT.

So much improved is the condition of Cornelius Vanderbilt that his physicians have discontinued the issuing of bulletins. The final and most hopeful one was issued to-day. It reads:

"For the past three days Mr. Vanderbilt has been steadily improving. Although his temperature is not yet normal we think it safe to predict his ultimate recovery, provided no new complications arise. In view of the fact that the disease has been so severe his convalescence will necessarily be slow.

"Unless something unforeseen shall take place no further bulletins will be issued.

"JANEBWAY." As Dr. Janeway left the house he was asked to further explain the present condition of Mr. Vanderbilt.

"Fine and dandy," he said and smiled most generously.

Arrangements are already being made for the care of the invalid through the expected long period of convalescence. It is understood that his steam yacht, which is now on the Riviera, will come to New York at once, and that Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt, with Dr. W. A. Brown and perhaps a friend or two, will start the latter part of February for a long cruise through the Mediterranean.

USUAL BLOCK ON "L" ROAD.

The West Side Line, South of Eighth Street, Tied Up by a Derailed Car Early This Morning.

PASSENGERS "ALL OUT."

The now daily blockade of the Manhattan "L" occurred at 4 o'clock this morning and lasted for fifty-five minutes. In that time southbound trains ran only as far as Eighth street, where grumbling passengers were compelled to alight and take the surface cars to their places of business further downtown. Meanwhile no uptown trains were run between South Ferry and Eighth street.

The block was caused by the derailment of the Collector's car while rounding the curve from West Broadway into Murray street. The Collector's train, which takes up the night receipts, usually consists of an engine and trailer, but to-day a single electric car was used.

It was evidently too light to take the curve at full speed, and as it went about a loud explosion was heard on the third rail. The car was lifted in the air and fell half way across the track, blocking both the up and down tracks.

Collector Nixon and his two assistants scrambled out and walked back to Chambers street station, where the wrecking crew was summoned from Rector street. The blockade signal was also sent out to all stations, notifying agents not to sell tickets through to South Ferry until the tracks were cleared.

It took the wreckers almost an hour to jack the displaced car back on the rails and open the system for traffic.

NOTED GEOLOGIST IS DEAD.

Prof. Vandiest Expires Suddenly in Colorado.

DENVER, Col., Dec. 27.—Prof. V. H. Vandiest, one of the best-known geologists in the world, is dead at San Luis, Col. He dropped dead at the feet of his son, although apparently in the best of health.

Pope Receives Americans.

ROME, Dec. 27.—The Pope to-day received in private audience Commander W. H. Reeder, of the United States training-ship Hartford, and Mrs. Reeder and Chaplain J. Brennan and Lieut. Henry J. Ziegemeier, also of the Hartford.

KATIE'S LETTER TO SANTA CLAUS.

Through The Evening World It Reached Its Address—Now Little Lady Writes Thanks.

Little Katie Walsh, of Astoria, whose mother told her that because her father was not working Astoria would be too far for Santa Claus to come this year, and who wrote to Postmaster Roberts, of Brooklyn, lamenting the fact, has written another letter to Mr. Roberts, this time thanking him for having The Evening World publish her first letter. The letter reads:

"Dear Postmaster Roberts: I want to thank you and The Evening World for telling old Santa about us. Mama was right about it being too far for him to come here, but you told him about us and he sent everything we wanted. Natalie Blizzard, of Philadelphia, sent me 2 dolls, 3 story books, shoes, stockings, a hood, a bureau, box of candy, pussy cat, a pair of pants for my little brother with a lucky penny in them and a one f bill for me. L. Barchard of 4 high st, Passaic, sent a lot of things and so did others, all of them through dear old Santa Claus. Natalie said the things she sent me were all her own things but that she had a good home and knew that Santa Claus would bring her more. I would like to know Natalie. I like her very much. I hope everyone will have as happy a New Year as I have had a Christmas. KATIE WALSH, "34 Steinyway avenue, Astoria."

Walked Into the River. ELIZABETH N. J., Dec. 27.—The investigation into the death of John McTammany, whose body was found in the Elizabeth River, has satisfied the police that the man was neither murdered nor committed suicide. The police say that the man had been drinking and that he had wandered aimlessly around and eventually walked into the river. McTammany was employed as a fireman in the factory at Tremley, N. J. He was twenty-four years old and boarded at No. 411 Elizabeth avenue.

Watches and Diamonds. Love & Prices. Reliable Goods. TRANSACTIONS CONFIDENTIAL. Call, Write or Telephone. American Watch and Diamond Co., 19 MAIDEN LANE. TAKE ELEVATOR.

MILLIONAIRES' SONS MAKING MEN OF THEMSELVES.

How the Heirs to the Great Fortunes of To-Day Are Leading Useful Lives and Putting Their Wealth to Good Uses.

TO-MORROW'S SUNDAY WORLD

IF DRINA DE WOLFE MARRIES "FRED" GEBHARD—?

The Possible Culmination of Events as Assisted by Mrs. Osborn's Little Society Playhouse, Which Figures in the Story.

THE WALL ST. CODE.

How Members of the Stock Exchange Admit or Reject Applicants for "Seats," and Some Big Financiers Who Have Never Become Members. An Interesting Story of the World's Financial Centre.

Around the World in 27 Days.

Recent Achievements in Rail-roading and Ocean Travel that Now Make Past Records Look Ridiculous. How the Trip Can Be Made in Less than Four Weeks.

Two New Ways of Being Strenuous ADOPTED BY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

His Hour at Single Stick with Gen. Leonard Wood, and His Half Hour of Leg Exercise. How the Chief Executive of the Land Keeps Himself in Fine Trim. Illustrated in Colors and Fully Described.

World-Wide Triumph of the American Girl.

A Remarkable List, Showing How the American Girl Has Conquered Foreign Society and Has Won Fame and Fortune Everywhere in the World.

ON MARITAL UNREST.

The "Suppressed" Paper by Elizabeth Bacon Walling Which the Women of the Eclectic Club Refused to Hear. A Startling Analysis of Married Life.

LADY CURZON'S FOUR NEW GOWNS FOR THE DURBAR FESTIVITIES---The Most Elaborate Ever Made.

(Reproduced from Sketches Sent Exclusively to the Sunday World, with Lady Curzon's Cabled Permission.)

The Wonders of New York.

ITS SCHOOLS. Article No. 9 in a Great Series Intended to Acquaint New Yorkers with the Marvels of Their Own City.

Is the World's End Near?

Prof. Wilhelm Meyer's Startling Assertion, Which He Endeavors to Prove, that We May Expect Judgment Day Almost Any Time Now. Are You Ready for It?

The Secret of Making Dresses by Pattern.

An Article by Harriet Hubbard Ayer of Incalculable Interest to Women Who Have Been Unable to Make Dresses from Paper Patterns.

\$50.00 in Puzzle Prizes.

Think Up All the Trades and Occupations You Can To-Day, for To-Morrow's Puzzle Page Contains a Dozen of Them, and You May Want to Win a Prize.

A Tale of Christmas by Joel Chandler Harris.

Conclusion of the Great Georgia Writer's Clever Story of a Southern Christmas.

Clarence the Cop's New Year's Resolutions.

And How They Got Him Into Trouble as Usual. One of Many Amusing Features in the Sunday World's Great Comic Section.