The Evening Times

MONDAY, JULY 30, 1900.

Publication Office.
THE HUTCHINS BUILDING
PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

Subscription by Mail—One Year:

MORNING, EVENING, AND SUNDAY	$6.00
MORNING AND SUNDAY	4.00
EVENING AND SUNDAY	4.00
SUNDAY ONLY	1.00

Monthly by Carrier:

MORNING, EVENING, AND SUNDAY	*Fifty cents*
MORNING AND SUNDAY	*Thirty-five cents*
EVENING AND SUNDAY	*Thirty-five cents*

Telephone Numbers: Editorial Rooms ..... 486; Business Office ..... 1640; Circulation Department 263

THE TIMES COMPANY,
WALTER STILSON HUTCHINS, *President.*

Circulation Statement.

The circulation of The Times for the week ended July 28, 1900, was as follows:

Sunday, July 22	19,608
Monday, July 23	40,190
Tuesday, July 24	40,316
Wednesday, July 25	40,408
Thursday, July 26	40,058
Friday, July 27	40,110
Saturday, July 28	40,325
Total	261,305
Daily average (Sunday, 19,608, excepted)	40,282

The Murder of King Humbert.

There does not seem to be any doubt that the assassination of King Humbert at Monza yesterday was the work of the organized anarchists of Europe, who are especially strong and active throughout Italy. It is impossible to understand what they expect to gain by the crime. It is true that the kingdom is in a terribly bad way, both economically and socially. It is taxed and rack-rented, monopolized and robbed by officials, national, provincial, and municipal from end to end. The necessity to keep a large standing army as the price of membership in the Triple Alliance alone has driven the country into practical bankruptcy, and its people are notoriously oppressed beyond any other civilized community on the continent.

Yet it is beyond question that the murdered ruler was helpless to reform these conditions, which he inherited or which were imposed by political circumstances impossible for him to control. As far as he had been able Humbert did try to ameliorate them. He gave the larger part of his civil list in works of charity and public benefit. He lived with Spartan frugality, considering his position, for the closing decade of his life, and set an example of honesty and economy which it is a pity his official countrymen have not more generally followed.

Personally the dead King was a popular character. He was an able and fearless soldier and earnestly devoted to the good and glory of Italy. His death will not change conditions as far as the Italian masses are concerned, except for the worse. The iron rule which has been imposed upon the cities and provinces of late years will not be modified as a result of his assassination, and the people who plotted and executed it will find that they have made the lot of the submerged class only the harder by the crime.

Victor Emmanuel, who succeeds to the crown, is not generally regarded as a strong character, and the chances are that he will not impress his individuality on the situation. It is possible, however, that his reported lack of vigor and force, if his critics are correct, may serve to make it easier to reach the accommodation between the Vatican and the Quirinal that has been so often attempted without success. If the irrepressible conflict between the Papacy and the Italian Government could be settled and peace and a good understanding established between them, all the influential forces of law, order, and good government might perhaps be consolidated and concentrated upon the problem of Italy's desperate internal conditions. It is worth hoping that some such good may flow from an event well calculated to horrify the civilized world.

The British Parliamentary Crisis.

The indications are that there will be a general parliamentary election in Great Britain next fall and that the issue, imperialism, will be as prominent there as in our national election here. Of course, imperialism as an issue in England will mean something different from the same term as used in our country. There the Empire is already an accomplished fact and the imperialists are those who would make enormous sacrifices to maintain and extend the Empire; who would, in fact, devote every energy toward a government over alien races at any cost. The opposition or Liberal party is just at this time in a demoralized condition, owing to factional differences growing out of the pending war with the South African Republics, one faction condemning it as an unjust and wanton abuse of power, while the other, though opposed to the policies which brought on the hostilities, yet in a general way support the Government by voting for supplies to carry on the war.

Chamberlain has been exerting himself to induce the Cabinet to take advantage of the situation in the ranks of his opponents to dissolve Parliament and bring on a new election. It is plain that he is sensitive to the censure he has received at the hands of the Liberals, as well for the injustice of precipitating the war as for the unprepared condition of the country in meeting the emergency. The Burdett-Coutts exposure of the horrible condition of the British sick and wounded, who from lack of the commonest kind of attention were dying by hundreds in intense torture—this has added still further to the discomfort of the Colonial Secretary. He is bold enough to all appearances in his after-dinner speeches, and in the Parliamentary debates, but under it all there lurks an uneasiness which will require a vote of confidence of the people to dispel. By reason of the dissensions in the ranks of the Liberals it is believed that if the election of a new Parliament were held in the near future the Ministry would secure a very large majority. Besides, no one can positively know when a revulsion may occur in British sentiment. Complications in China may compel a relinquishment of effort in South Africa, and compel a withdrawal of a substantial part of the army in Africa.

Again the famine in India, which is more or less gingerly treated by the organs of the Government, may be forced into more prominent notice, and in time the public may be brought to conclude that this forcible extension of the empire is worth less than its cost in blood and treasure. Perhaps the best thing for Mr. Chamberlain is to hurry up a vote of confidence before the temperature of the people cools off. But it is said in opposition to the proposed dissolution of Parliament that it is against the spirit of the British constitution for the Government to force a new election in order to take advantage of the demoralized opposition, and that such a policy if once established as a precedent would tend to destroy the party system and organization which has so long prevailed, substituting nothing tangible in its place. If, they say, the Liberal party is destroyed, may not another party, and one far more objectionable to the Conservatives arise from its ruins?

However, it is believed that Chamberlain will leave no stone unturned to have himself and his conduct "ratified," and that he will not let the consideration that he is striking below the belt interfere with his programme. He is not distinguished for generosity toward his opponents, and as he has been permitted to have his own way in the recent conduct of the Salisbury administration, he will no doubt succeed in his present purpose. So we may expect imperialism to be a burning question for the next few months on both sides of the Atlantic.

The Defiance From China.

The Chinese news today is important and startling. Secretary Hay has a cablegram from Consul Fowler, at Chefoo, which states that a letter has been received from the German Legation to the effect that the Chinese suspended their attack on July 21, when the Austrian, Italian, Dutch, and Spanish Legations had been totally and the French Legation partially destroyed. Mr. Fowler also reports that a letter from the Japanese Legation, dated July 22, reached Tientsin, July 25. It said that ten battalions of Chinese troops shelled the legations incessantly from June 20 until July 17. On that day the German, Russian, British, and half of the Japanese and French Legations were standing. The Japanese reported a food supply for six days, but that they had little ammunition left. The Emperor and Empress Dowager were believed to be in city. We assume that the Japanese note referred to is the same which our morning despatches announce as coming to the Japanese Consul at Tientsin through the medium of a runner whom he had sent to the capital for news. The dates do not agree; one account givin July 19, and Mr. Fowler's July 22, but the stories have probably an identical foundation.

The messages on their face are more or less convincing and may be genuine; but they are still very unsatisfactory in that they are silent concerning the ministers and their families. If the Japanese runner penetrated the Pekin Legation quarter and actually obtained the note of July 19 or 22 from Baron Nissi in person, then its genuineness and the accuracy of its information are not to be doubted. But if the messenger used a local intermediary to secure it, the case might be different. It is important that this question should be cleared up for two reasons. Firstly, if a runner from Tientsin can get into the city, other runners, of which many must have been started under promises of heavy pay, ought to have gotten out. Secondly, we are anxious to learn how the German Legation letter was passed through the lines, by whom it was signed, and by whom received. It is possible that the Chinese have the German and Japanese Foreign Office as well as the American State Department code books, and are able to forge such messages as are now reported.

It will be noted that there is a marked discrepancy between the alleged reports from the legations and native leakages. The Imperial edict of July 24 is couched in ominously sinister language. It declares that the Government is supplying the legations with food, and adds: "It is admittedly inadvisable to kill all the ministers, but it is equally unwise to send them to Tientsin. It will be much wiser to keep the survivors at Pekin as hostages."

Accepting the probable reliability of the German and Japanese Legation notes, it would seem to be a reasonable deduction from the text of the edict above quoted that between July 19 or 22 and July 24, the legations had either capitulated or had been taken by assault and some of the ministers spared to be held as hostages. "It is admittedly unwise to kill all the ministers," says the edict. "It would be wiser to keep the survivors at Pekin."

When we consider this language in connection with the cynical observation of Li Hung Chang the other day, that he was sure the ministers, except Baron Von Ketteler, were safe, and that as for the other foreigners in Pekin they were of no importance, the theory is at once suggested that Li had in his mind knowledge that for reasons of state the chief diplomatists had been saved from death, while their families, suites, and guards had been massacred by the Chinese soldiery.

Whatever may be the truth, the Pekin Government is playing a desperate card. It now warns the powers that a movement on their part toward Pekin will be a signal for the murder of "the survivors." It has thrown off its mask as to other foreigners and native Christians, who are ordered butchered wherever found. Massacres are incessant. Within the Empire, and, with few exceptions, in positions from which escape must be now regarded as hopeless, there are probably two thousand Europeans and Americans. Horrible tortures and death are certain to be their portion in most instances. The situation at large is an awful one. Its international aspects are more than grave. China at last has committed an official act of war which this country among others cannot ignore. The capture and confinement of a diplomatic representative is almost as bad as his murder. It is at least equally a declaration of war. What will the Administration do about it?

Just what answer the powers will return to the Chinese declaration that the Empress Dowager will kill their representatives if any disposition is shown to attack Pekin, we do not know. Probably, however, it will take the form of a notice that if they are not instantly liberated the Chinese capital and the tombs of the Ming Dynasty will be utterly destroyed. Incidentally a little also might be done in the hostage line. Li Hung Chang and Sheng should be seized and held until we see what happens.

We are not much surprised to learn that Lord Roberts has given up his chase after General Botha and returned to Pretoria. The military situation in South Africa is not by any means a satisfactory one for the British. Baden-Powell is besieged in Rustenberg. There are six thousand burghers entrenched in the hills at Fourlersberg. The weather is severe and the British troops suffer severely from exposure to mud, wet, and wind. Unless Roberts should by accident bag De Wet, and Steyn who is with him, and so bring about a surrender, the guerrilla war seems likely to last into the autumn.

A Belated Admonition.

(From the Chicago Record.)

It is a pity that the cheap politicians who have cast their country into disrepute at a critical time in its new foreign relations could not have been kept out of Cuban offices, since they would not keep their hands out.

Education in Cuba.

(From the Philadelphia Record.)

Instead of seeking to limit public school facilities the Cuban authorities should increase them, even though as a result an enlargement of the budget of public instruction should be necessary.

POLITICAL NOTES AND GOSSIP.

Hill and Croker Harmonized.—Hill and Croker have been brought together by Chairman Jones. Vice Chairman Stone and other members of the Democratic National Committee who have been in New York for several days, and as a consequence the betting odds on the Presidential election already have been hammered down in Wall Street from five to one to three to one in favor of McKinley. This is on the general result. The betting on New York has not yet taken form. This is considered one of the most significant signs of the campaign. The sudden drop in the odds, however, can be regarded as an indication of the immediate effect which the reconciliation of Hill and Croker has had upon the situation in New York State as viewed by the Wall Street gamblers. In common with the Democratic national managers they believe that the Empire State can be carried for Bryan and Stevenson if Hill and Croker want to carry it that way. A poll of New York city proper, made yesterday by a newspaper, shows a change in the vote of the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx of about 30 per cent from McKinley to Bryan. Estimating upon this basis, that part of Greater New York will give Bryan and Stevenson a majority of about 90,000. If Croker and Hill have effected a working arrangement, as there is every evidence to believe, the vote in Brooklyn and the other boroughs ought to bring the Bryan majority up to more than 125,000, for it must be understood that a political partnership between the master of Wolfert's Roost and the Tammany chieftain carries with it the harmony of the McLaughlin forces in Brooklyn and the allied hosts throughout the enlarged city. This prospect, then, reduces the situation to Hill's liking and makes it incumbent upon him to send the Republicans down to Harlem with a majority smaller than that which was rolled up for McKinley four years ago. If he can hold them down to 100,000 the problem will be solved. That Hill's State organization can do this is not doubted by the national managers. At any rate, it seems certain that they are going to depend upon him to do it. The arrangement made by Messrs. Jones, Stone, and others contemplates a harmonious division of work along the old lines and a corresponding division of responsibility. In other words, if Hill's State organization does not make the proper showing the fault will lie wholly at the door of Hill. If the city vote does not come up to expectation the fault will be Croker's. With responsibility thus clearly fixed and the eyes of the National Democracy fastened upon the two leaders, it goes without saying that each can be depended upon to do his level best to deliver New York's electoral vote to Bryan and Stevenson. Failure to do so would eliminate both Hill and Croker from national politics, unless they could present the best possible reasons for fluking.

On a "Quiet" Mission.—A tall, scholarly-looking gentleman is the Hon. Charles A. Nagel of St. Louis, who arrived in Washington last night on an important political mission. Mr. Nagel's name sounds Germanic. This makes him of especial interest to the Republican managers at this juncture. More than that, Mr. Nagel is a much-heralded anti-imperialist who is going to vote for Mr. McKinley and who is determined to hold the German vote in line for the Republicans. No mention is made of the fact, when these statements are put out concerning the gentleman, that he is a lifelong Republican. Apparently the effort is being made to impress the always credulous public mind with the belief that Mr. Nagel is not a Republican. The press of that party, to say nothing about Mr. Hanna's literary bureau, is flooding the country with various interviews recently extracted from Mr. Nagel on the subject of why anti-imperialists should vote for Mr. McKinley. It is expected that something new in this line will be fulminated before the scholarly Mr. Nagel leaves Washington. It is thought that he will even be induced to say something about the attitude of the venerable and venerated Dr. Emil Pretorius, of his town, who, although an anti-imperialist of much exploitation, is going to vote for Mr. McKinley and hold the German vote of the Mississippi Valley to the support of the President. Dr. Pretorius never voted any other than the Republican ticket, and almost from the foundation of the party has been one of its leaders in the Middle West. When these facts become generally known it is not believed a great deal of capital can be made out of the example being set gentlemen like Messrs. Nagel and Pretorius.

Dick on the Toboggan?—A very interesting story concerning the Hon. Charles F. W. Dick is being quietly whispered around at present. To state it briefly and baldly, it is to the effect that that eminent statesman has been placed on the toboggan by the Hannaites. His transfer from the Secretaryship of the Republican National Committee to the Chairmanship of the Ohio State Committee was made, as is well known, by Mr. Hanna at the direct request of Mr. McKinley. As things go, this was a step downward for Dick. The immediate cause of it is said to be the President's fear that something might be printed in the papers about the unusual influence wielded by General Dick in various contests at the Philadelphia Convention, and also the large and lucrative department practice which his Washington law firm has accumulated. The General is now eliminated from national politics in that he is no longer officially connected with the national organization of the party, though of course he will retain his seat in Congress for at least another term. After that, however, there is said to be no telling what will happen to him. The Forakerites don't like him a bit, and they are going to have something to do with the redistricting of Ohio by the next Legislature. If Summit county should be removed from the Nineteenth district, where it really does not belong, General Dick will be where he wants the flag to be in the Orient—high in the air. But this is another story, and probably will be developed in its own good time.

HOPEFUL AND CONFIDENT.

Cheering News Brought to Democratic Headquarters.

John S. Ray, Congressman from the Third district of Kentucky, was a caller at the Democratic headquarters today. Mr. Ray is hopeful of the outcome of the Presidential election in his State.

Senator Jones is expected to arrive in Washington from New York on Wednesday.

S. B. Cooper, member of Congress from the Second district, Texas, and Chairman of the State Central Committee, has been in the city several days. He is confident that the Lone Star State will roll up the usual majority for the Democratic ticket.

HAS NOT RESIGNED.

Commissioner Duell Still the Head of the Patent Office.

Charles H. Duell, Commissioner of Patents, has not yet tendered his resignation to the Secretary of the Interior.

Walter H. Chamberlain when asked concerning the reported statement of Mr. Duell, that he intended to resign, said: "I do not think that report was authorized. Mr. Duell has set no date for his resignation, although I believe that it is his ultimate intention. He is at present away on vacation and will return to this office about the first of September.

Trusts Are at the Front.

(From the Columbus, Ohio, Press-Post.)

A trust attorney is Attorney General in McKinley's Cabinet. Another is our Ambassador to London. Foraker, Thurston, and a lot of other National Senators are trust attorneys. The supreme boss and grand high and majestic dictator of the imperialism party is a trust baron. McKinley is an abject slave of the trusts. Verily the trusts have been getting their innings. It is time to call a halt.

THE LATE KING HUMBERT.

Sketch of the Life of the Slain Italian Ruler.

King Humbert was the eldest son of King Victor Emmanual II and of Adelaide, Archduchess of Turin. He was born in Turin on March 14, 1844, and was christened Renier Charles Emmanuel Jean Marie Ferdinand Eugene. On ascending the throne, in 1878, he took the title of Humbert I, in Italian Umberto.

Prince Humbert was early initiated in political and military affairs by his father, with whom he was associated in the war for Italian independence, although he was too young to take an active part in this important struggle. In the movement for the unification of Italy, which succeeded the events of 1859, he had a more important share, and in especial he was active in the work of reorganizing the ancient Kingdom of the two Sicilies. He visited Naples and Palermo in July, 1862, and shared with Garibaldi the enthusiasm of the populace.

When the war between Prussia and Austria was threatened, he was sent to Paris to discover the views of the French Government in regard to the proposed alliance between Italy and Prussia. When hostilities began Prince Humbert hastened to enter active service, and was placed in command of a division under General Cialdini, with the title of lieutenant general. He was present at the disastrous battle of Custozza, on June 23, 1866, where he is reported to have performed prodigies of valor.

Prince Humbert was married to his cousin german, the Princess Marguerite Marie Therese Jeanne of Savoy, daughter of his uncle, the Duke Ferdinand of Genoa, his father's brother, on April 22, 1868. After the occupation of Rome by the Italian troops in 1870, Prince Humbert and the Princess Marguerite went to live in that city.

On the death of King Victor Emmanuel II, on January 9, 1878, King Humbert succeeded his father. The first attempt to assassinate him was made on November 17 of the same year. As he was entering Naples Giovanni Passananto approached his carriage and attempted to stab him with a poinnard. The King only received a slight scratch, but the Prime Minister, Signor Cairoli, who was with him, was badly wounded in the thigh. The assassin was condemned to die, but the King commuted the sentence to penal servitude for life.

The second attempt to end the life of King Humbert was made on April 22, 1897. He was driving to the Capanelle race course, when a workman struck at him with dagger. The blow was turned aside, and the man was caught and condemned to life imprisonment.

King Humbert and Queen Marguerite celebrated their silver wedding in Rome in April, 1893. Their only son, born in Naples on November 11, 1869, Victor Emmanuel Ferdinand Mary Jennarius, who bore the title of Prince of Naples, was married in October, 1896, to the Princess Helen, of Montenegro.

King Humbert was a man of mild manners and kindly disposition, and was beloved personally and respected by the Italians. He had been in feeble health, it is said, for years. He was tall and of striking appearance, with a fierce snow-white mustache and white hair, which he wore in pompadour Italian fashion.

The reign of King Humbert was marked by a number of happenings which had a bearing on the development of the kingdom and its foreign relations.

Italy, in the early years of King Humbert's sway, was desirous of taking an active part in European affairs. Through its premiers the country declared that it wished to live in peace with neighboring nations on condition of being one of the great powers. Whether on account of jealousy or defiance of France, or whether to obtain for itself the strongest support, the Italian Government was brought into close relations with Germany and Austria and with England, taking its cue for colonial expansion from the latter, especially under Crispi's ministry. The Triple Alliance formed by Germany and Austria against France was completed in 1891, by the accession of Italy, in which she undertook to keep up a vast standing army and a great navy far beyond the country's means, draining its treasury and oppressing the people by onerous and heavy taxes.

In January, 1885, Italy undertook to cooperate with the English against the Mahdi, the Italian troops occupying Massawah, on the Red Sea. The Government having secured this unimportant territory, declared its intention of following in the steps of the great powers in colonial expansion. In spite of the great financial burdens imposed by this expedition and the sacrifices made of men and money, reverses in 1887 and in 1888, when the Italian troops were defeated by the Mahdi, provoked opposition to the colonial policy at home. However, the Italian possessions on the Red Sea were constituted the Erythrean Colony by a royal decree promulgated in 1890.

Italy's misfortunes were commercial at this time rather than otherwise. Her exports were reduced in 1888 by the Government's refusal to renew the commercial treaty with France which had gone into effect in 1881. Between 1880 and 1884 the state of Italy's finances improved and March 1, 1893, the ministry was able to resume specie payments. Since then great military and naval expenses have caused frequent deficits in the budget, and the difficulty of meeting them has been one of the chief difficulties of Italian statesmen and the cause of many changes of ministry.

The relations between the Italian Government and the Vatican were a constant cause of unrest during King Humbert's reign. The Government was always trying to respect is guarantees to the Pope, while the latter has been protesting that the situation forced upon him at Rome no longer offered him security.

King Humbert's relations with the heads of foreign states was friendly. In 1884 his personal courage was shown by a visit to the plague hospitals of Naples at the time of the cholera epidemic. His conduct in speaking to the patients increased his popularity.

WEST VIRGINIA CHARTERS.

New Companies Incorporated With the Secretary of State.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., July 30.—Charters were issued during the week by the Secretary of State as follows:

To the National Carbide Company, of Philadelphia, capital $1,000; the Georgia Manganese and Iron Company, of New York, capital $500; Bear Mountain Coal Company, of Philippi, capital $500; the Lowltur Oil Company, of New Martinsville, capital $32,000; National Roofing and Corrugating Company, of Wheeling, capital $500; Romney and Cumberland Telephone Company, of Springfield, capital $150; Washington Oil and Development Company, of Clarksburg, capital $250; Bluejay Placer Mining Company, of Pittsburg, capital $400,000; Larmon Grain Cleaning Company, of Chicago, capital $10,000; Hood Manufacturing Company of Wheeling, capital $1,200; Weston Social Club, of Weston, capital $50; Keener's Oil Natural Gas and Fuel Company, of Weston, capital $1,000; Emerson Pump Company, of Washington, capital $130,800; Liberty Oil and Development Company, of Pittsburg, capital $500; Tyler County Milling Company, of Friendly, capital $10,000; Two Sticks Gold Company, of New York, capital $1,000; Freeport Smokeless Coal and Coking Company, of Philippi, capital $2,500; the Elk Creek Railroad Company, of Clarksburg, capital $20,000; the Mannington Glass Works, of Mannington, capital $20,200; Nova Scotian and Mexican Mining Company, of Providence, capital $500.

No Democratic Apologies.

(From the Omaha World-Herald.)

Democracy is not making a campaign of apology and explanation this year. Apologies and explanations are the chief products of the Republican machine in this campaign. The Republican machine has a patent on that sort of thing now, and Democracy has no disposition to infringe upon it.

GERMAN ARMOR PLATE.

Enormous Profits Made by the Few Manufacturers.

Richard Guenther, Consul General at Frankfort, has submitted the following report on German armor-plate manufacture to the State Department:

"In the report of the committee on naval affairs of the German Parliament, a letter was read from Baron von Stumm, one of the armor-plate manufacturers, which he said he was compelled to write in consequence of statements in the newspapers.

"The business profits of the Krupp and Dillinger works on armor plates, he said, had been stated at $41,888,000. The new armored ships required 49,000 tons of armor material at a cost of $23,894,000. Therefore, even if it were taken for granted that half of the price constituted a clear profit, this would only amount to $13,328,000, which, divided over sixteen years, would be $833,000 annually, or $416,500 for each concern.

"The manufacture of armor plate, he continued, was very difficult; within twenty years the method of manufacturing has had to be renewed three times. The least mistake results in rejection, which imposes heavy loss. For years, the prices for armor plates had not been raised, although wages and cost of raw material had doubled.

"In answer to this letter, it was argued that the total demand for armor plate, based upon the estimates for new vessels and remodeling, for the next sixteen years would amount to the sum of $61,880,000, not to $26,894,000. If, therefore—as would seem to be admitted in the letter—half were net profit, this would amount to $30,940,000, which would be derived by only two firms. A net profit consisting of half of the contract price was exorbitant. A termination of the monopoly, either by the establishment of works by the Empire or by participation of reliable competitors, was urged. The enquiry was also made whether the nickel-steel armor of those vessels which had to be replaced could not again be used.

"The representatives of the Government replied that an answer to this question could not be given at present, inasmuch as the condemnation of old armored ships so far had not applied to nickle-steel armored ones, but only to common iron-armored ships, and these armors are no longer used. The monopoly question was of great importance to the Navy Department; such monopolies existed not only for armor plate, but also for guns and ammunition. The manufacture by the Empire would be an enormous undertaking; furtheremore, it was not certain whether the profits on armor plate were really as high as they appeared, when the capital invested is taken into consideration. The aim of the department was to create competition and to break the monopolies.

"The speaker was of the opinion that this could be done, all the more if by the passage of the bill permanent business for shipbuilders were guaranteed.

"One of the members said that it had been recently stated in Parliament that England was building her ships 20 per cent cheaper than other countries. If this were so, it would make a difference of $59,024,000 to Germany on her new and remodeled ships. The representative of the German Government replied that the reason might be that the English shipyards were well appointed in every particular; that material and coal were somewhat cheaper in England, and especially that keener competition existed in England between shipbuilders."

A BOXER PLACARD.

The Year One of Rapine and Cessation of Sorrows.

Following is a translation of a placard posted by the Boxers throughout China in April last:

"In the presence of the Reverend Mother, the Goddess of Mercy.

"This year being one of rapine, and swordsmen being a peculiar evil, the myriadfold Holy One has descended to earth and the good and the evil are to receive speedy retribution, since the multitude have ceased to believe in Buddha and are unfilial toward the parents. High Heaven is despatching in its anger a million spiritual soldiers to reward the good and punish the evil. By burning incense night and day and practicing filial piety an entire family may escape the bitterness of the sword. But whatever family may set their hearts to revile the gods and to neglect filial behavior toward father and mother that family will be cut off and will fall into perdition. Should the people continue in unbelief there will follow hereafter ten unspeakable sorrows:

"First Sorrow—Incense burning will cease throughout the Empire.

"Second Sorrow—Blood will flow and fill the streams of all the hills.

"Third Sorrow—Grain and meal will be as refuse.

"Fourth Sorrow—All the living will be involved in iniquity.

"Fifth Sorrow—The roads will be without passengers.

"Sixth Sorrow—Homeless orphans and widows will speak of the dwelling places.

"Seventh Sorrow—There will be none to protect from rapine.

"Eighth Sorrow—All the living will enter the Yellow Springs.

"Ninth Sorrow—Disease and distress will affect the people.

"Tenth Sorrow—There will be no peaceful years.

"Issued under the light of the Red Lamp at Su-Chiao. If those who see this paper circulate it immediately they will escape the suffering on the sword."

RIVAL RANGE FINDERS.

A Clash as to the Use of Lewis and Rafferty Devices.

The Army ordnance officers are endeavoring to introduce in the coast fortifications a new range finder, but there may be serious obstacles to this scheme for putting out the invention of an artillery officer, Lieutenant Lewis, who is said to have offended them by his criticisms.

The Chief of Ordnance issued an order replacing Lewis range finders of type B, now at coast defence sites below sixty feet, by Rafferty finders "as fast as they can be purchased." The Lewis finders, which have been called in, will be available after correction of graduations for issue to high sites above sixty feet.

A circular issued by General Brooke, commanding the Department of the East, inviting attention to this decision of the War Department, concluded with this paragraph:

"In the event that it is necessary or desirable, for any reason unknown to this department, to retain the instruments temporarily at any particular post, the orders for their shipment will be withheld until such time as the instruments can be spared."

It is possible that the War Department will not be able to secure the Rafferty range finder. It is the invention of Capt. William C. Rafferty, First Artillery, well known as an expert in artillery matters and a graduate of the artillery school of 1881, and now on duty at Fort San Jacinto, Texas. Some time ago Captain Rafferty applied for a patent upon his range finder. His application was denied, however, on the ground that his device was an infringement upon the Lewis patents. This will make it difficult to secure a manufacturer of the Rafferty finder, and may block the plans of the War Department to substitute the Rafferty invention for the Lewis one.

The Board of Ordnance and Fortifications, as long ago as April, 1899, having under consideration the subjects of an emergency type position finder, decided that both the Rafferty and Lewis instruments complied with the service requirements, and the question as to which should be procured the board thought must be "determined by the cost." The Lewis range finders cost $500 each, and the Rafferty finder costs $800.

Lieut. I. N. Lewis, one of the inventors, is of the Seventh Artillery, and recorder of the Board of Ordnance and Fortifications. He presented to the Government the patents for his range finder.

A MILLIONAIRE INVENTOR.

Cornelius Vanderbilt's New Firebox a Great Success.

NEW YORK, July 30.—Cornelius Vanderbilt returned to his desk in the Grand Central Station Friday from a business trip to Philadelphia. The young millionaire inventor was flushed with success. His patent firebox, which experts declare is one of the greatest improvements possible to add to the modern locomotive, had been tested at the Baldwin Locomotive Works and found to work perfectly.

The result is that the Vanderbilt firebox has been adopted by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company for its new locomotives. The new engines of the Union Pacific and of the New York Central will also be equipped with this improvement.

Mr. Vanderbilt expects that there will be few locomotives built in this country in the future without his patent firebox. He will receive large royalties. The invention accomplishes a great saving in fuel and water. When the friends of the young inventor congratulated him yesterday he said: "I have accomplished all I set out to do."

He would say nothing further. A confidant of the young millionaire told a reporter the story of his success:

"We all remember the message he sent his father when his invention was first tested, years ago. Young Cornelius had studied and labored for two years over the model and patent. He had engine No. 787 equipped with his corrugated iron firebox. The test was made on the Albany division. Young Vanderbilt acted as engineer. A train of fifty freight cars was made up and he ran it thirty miles an hour with great economy of coal and water. After the test he wired his father at Newport, 'It works.' Experts then began to see that the young man who had spent two years over a drawing board in the construction department had really invented a great contribution to the modern locomotive."

The success of the Vanderbilt firebox on the New York Central attracted the attention of the Baldwin Locomotive Company several months ago. They had experts visit New York, and consultations were held with the millionaire inventor as to having all locomotives turned out at the Baldwin works equipped with his patent. Mr. Vanderbilt was pleased with the plaudits of the men who have spent their lives in building locomotives. They asked for the privilege of equipping an engine at the Baldwin Works with the patent contrivance, so tests could be made.

"Yes," replied Mr. Vanderbilt, "and when you equip the engine I will go down and run it myself."

Thursday was selected as the test day. Wednesday Mr. Vanderbilt went to Philadelphia and stopped at the Bellevue Hotel. He slept in room No. 13. He laughed when Superintendent Van Clain called his attention to the supposed boodoo.

"I never give such silly things a thought," he said. "A hundred times at college I have sat in parties of thirteen, but a suggestion of bad luck never entered my mind, and I do not think the experience has ever brought me misfortune."

In the morning when Mr. Van Clain and Mr. Vanderbilt started to make the test, the rain was falling in torrents. Mr. Vanderbilt drove in a cab to the office of the Baldwin Works. There were many devotees of fashion in the corps of high officials there, and they received a rude shock when the young millionaire arrived. He was dressed in a blue serge suit of obsolete design and marred by many creases. His straw hat was storm-beaten and showed signs of hard wear. He had on a negligee shirt of purple hue, with a black four-in-hand scarf.

The engine to which the Vanderbilt firebox had been fitted was waiting on a siding of the Reading tracks. Through the rain Superintendant Van Clain and the young inventor walked. Mr. Vanderbilt climbed into the cab, followed by Superintendent Van Clain. In a few minutes Mr. Vanderbilt was at the throttle and the test was begun.

For an hour the engine was run up and down the road. Superintendent Van Clain made various tests as to speed and use of coal and water. All this time Mr. Vanderbilt was at the engineer's post. Superintenent Van Clain became enthusiastic as the test progressed. He complimented the millionaire on his skill in handling an engine and on his ability as an inventor. When he stepped down from the cab Mr. Vanderbilt said with a laugh:

"My firebox worked all right, so I am satisfied no evil influence was associated with my stay in room No. 13 last night." Superintendent Van Clain was enthusiastic. He said the new Baldwin engines would be equipped with the Vanderbilt patent.

The improvement which the Vanderbilt firebox makes to the locomotive is important in addition to the saving of fuel and water. The firebox is built of heavy corrugated iron plates and thereby increasing the heating surface. When the firebox of the old type gets out of order 1,500 bolts have to be unscrewed before repairs can be made. This takes much time. In the case of the Vanderbilt firebox the mechanics have only to knock off the heads of a few rivets and repairs can be made at once.

The new firebox requires thicker metal plates, and therefore it takes longer to generate heat in the surrounding water, but this defect is offset by its other qualities. It is of such simple construction that the cost of repairs is reduced to a minimum.

The invention was conceived by Mr. Vanderbilt after studying under William Buchanan, superintendent of motive power and construction of the New York Central road for many years. Mr. Vanderbilt decided, while he was still on good terms with his father, to make himself competent to handle the great railroads of the Vanderbilt system in a perfect manner. He started to study every department of the business thoroughly. His taste for mechanics was developed early in life. He started as a common workman and had to spend from eight to ten hours a day in the shops and at his drawing board for $100 a month salary.

Afterward he devoted all his time to studying the locomotive. He saw no improvement could be made by him in the driving gear. Then he gave his attention for months to the generation of steam in locomotives. The improvements in the firebox came to his mind and the models were perfected after two years of work.

Mr. Vanderbilt is now devoting his time to departments of the railroad business other than construction. When in New York he spends several hours every day at his desk in the comptroller's office. He is going into every detail of this work. Mr. Vanderbilt went to Newport yesterday to sail his 70-footer, the Rainbow, in the yacht races. This is his only recreation outside of an occasional drive in Central Park when in New York.

CURRENT HUMOR.

The Season's Odor.

(From Harper's Bazar.)

Mrs. Houser—What a strong expression of annoyance is on Mr. Daintley's face?

Mr. Houser—Yes. He looks as if he were smelling moth balls.

A Misunderstanding.

(From the Chicago Times-Herald.)

"They say the young man Melissa Perkins is goin' to marry is a reg'lar paragon."

"Land sakes! Do tell! I thought he was a clerk in a grocery."

Removed in Bits.

(From the Chicago News.)

"How did you get rid of those unsightly bowlders?" inquired the man on top of the coach.

"Easy enough, stranger," responded Amber Pete. "We just told people a big Injun fight occurred on them rocks an' in less than a year these tenderfoot tourists had chopped them all away for souvenirs."

Contrary Evidence.

(From the Chicago Record.)

Railway Agent—Our railway, madam, is strictly up to date in every respect.

Madam—Nonsense. Look at this woman on your excursion folder; her sleeves have been out of style for three years.

NOTES OF THE DAY.

The Grand Canal in Chile covers a limit of length aggregating 200 miles.

Sheffield is the smokiest city in England. In proportion to its size it consumes eight times as much coal as London.

The longest continuous run on a railway train in Europe is that from Paris to Constantinople, 1,921 miles, in 64¼ hours.

The British Government, it is said, makes a profit of nearly 3 pence on every shilling turned out from the English mint.

A New York druggist said recently that according to his experience men use hair dyes to a much greater extent than women.

Endless leather belts, acting as moving staircases, convey the patrons of the large Parisian stores from one floor to another.

Felix Hoenmiller, who is now seventy-five years old, has taught school in the same room at Ste. Geniveve, Mo., for more than fifty years.

The tube of a 12-inch gun has fifty spiral grooves inside, which cause the shot to revolve seventy-five times a second as it rushes through the air.

In a perfectly dry atmosphere animal life can exist at a temperature of 300 degrees Fahrenheit; that is, 88 degrees above the boiling point of water.

Sand registered the hours in the Middle Ages. For this purpose black marble dust, boiled nine times in wine, was a favorite recipe with learned monks.

In the past year, according to authority, Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Princeton, Pennsylvania, and Cornell universities expended $304,243 on athletics.

Shepherds in many places depend upon the wool on their sheep's back as weather indicators. If the wool is curly the atmospheric conditions are likely to be favorable.

An estimate of the money lost on the turf throughout the world during each year places the amount at $250,000,000, of which $50,000,000 is lost on English race courses.

Chinese bicycle riders are frequently seen in the streets of Hongkong and Shanghai carrying an open umbrella and a fan, and in some instances with the handle bars removed.

A teamster got stuck in the mud over in Hoboken a few nights ago, and before he was extricated he was stung by mosquitoes so badly that he had to be taken to a hospital.

Kansas City will send some of her firemen to Paris, to show the Frenchmen how to get out of bed, hitch the horses and get the fire engine out of the engine house in eight and one-half seconds.

There is a well-authenticated report in the newspapers that the leading merchants of Athens are urging the Grecian Government to impose heavy duties upon Turkish products entering Grecian ports.

There is a tree in Venezuela known as the cow tree. It produces a liquid that resembles the milk of the patient domestic animal, and those who have drunk it say it tastes like the same lacteal fluid.

On first-class roads a passenger engine, it is said, will average about 35,000 miles a year, or say 100 mils a day, and will consume about 70 pounds of coal to the mile. The life of an engine is about 16 years.

Free lectures given under the auspices of the New York City Department of Education show an increase in attendance of 18,673 during the last winter and spring, as compared with the same period of a year before.

A Viennese dentist, while experimenting at the Hygienic Institute at Wurzburg, claims to have discovered the successful application of electricity for the destruction of bacteria. It is said that the treatment is very simple.

The people of the southern Appalachian Mountains number about 2,000,000, their descent being from the Scotch-Irish, French Huguenots, English, and Germans. They have been in these mountains since long before the revolution.

A good giraffe skin is worth from $10 to $20 in South Africa today, and much more in Europe. On their hunting trip ten or fifteen years ago it was a common matter for one hunter to kill forty or fifty giraffes in one day.

Naturalists say a lion always places its head near the ground when roaring. The beasts probably do so on the principle that the earth, being a conductor of sound