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THE DAILY EXAMINER

JANUARY 24, 1898.
SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

A FRENCH FLYING MACHINE—MONEY VALUE OF ACCURATE SCIENCE—A GAS ENGINE OF HIGH EFFICIENCY—LIFE AT REST—SUBMARINE PHOTOGRAPHY—A NEW THEORY ON RABIES—CREOSOTE AND CONSTIPATION—EXTERMINATION OF WEEDS—COMPRESSED FLOUR.

The steam-propelled aeroplane of Messrs. V. Tatin and Charles Richey has a very light silk covered wood frame, to which are attached by steel wires two similarly constructed fixed wings and a tail. A steam engine drives two screw propellers—one at each end, rotating in opposite directions. An experimental apparatus recently tested had about 14 square yards of wing surface, weighed about 73 pounds, including water and coal for a flight of three miles, and developed a speed of twenty yards a second; the size and speed being considerably greater than those of Langley's aeroplane. The longest flight thus far has been about 150 yards, the machine having a tendency, in its present stage, to take headers. The start is made on a car rolling down an inclined plane 82 yards long, at the end of which the aeroplane is automatically released for free flight.

The accurate determination of the atomic weights is shown by Prof. F. W. Clarke to be a matter of real practical importance. The atom's weight of chromium is still placed by European analysts at the old determination of 52.5, while American chemists have adopted the corrected value of 52.1. A result is that chromic iron, which is imported by the Baltimore chrome ore works in cargoes of about 2500 tons, is valued by Glasgow assays at \$367.50 per cargo more than by Baltimore assays.

The novel feature of the gas motor of Herr Diesel, of Munich, is stated to be the bringing of the fuel in the working cylinder into contact with air so highly compressed as to be intensely hot. The engine may be adapted to use coal dust, petroleum or coal gas, the second form consuming about 0.55 of a pound of petroleum per horse-power hour.

The measurement of a degree of latitude in Spitzbergen is a Swedish project, Russian co-operation to be invited.

Much of the problem of life is intermingled with that of the vitality of seeds, which is still a matter of difference among biologists. Some hold that there is simply a slowing down of life in the dormant seed, imperceptible change and respiration continuing to take place; while others believe that the vital machinery is brought to an absolute rest for a time, to be started again when external conditions become favorable. In a recent Royal Society paper Messrs. Horace T. Brown and F. Escombe

pointed out that the former hypothesis overlooks the remarkable evidence available. The late G. J. Romanes keeps seeds fifteen months in a vacuum of a millionth of an atmosphere, and also in such a vacuum followed by an atmosphere of carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, hydrogen, sulphide, ether, chloroform, and other gases and vapors, and such treatment had little effect upon subsequent germination. There could have been no respiration of ordinary kind. In 1884 Pictet and C. de Candolle exposed seeds and microbes four days to a temperature of 100° below zero C. without effect, and the authors have since been enabled by Prof. Dönar to keep seeds at 183° to 192° below zero 118 hours, still with no perceptible influence on germination. Chemical action being annihilated at 100° below zero, molecular interchange in the protoplasm itself is disproven. This state of complete chemical inertness in living protoplasm is likened by C. de Candolle to that of an explosive mixture, whose components can remain indefinitely in contact without combining until a certain temperature is reached.

A photographic apparatus for divers on submarine excursions has been devised by Senor Bortens of Rio de Janeiro. It consists of an incandescent lamp with reflector in the divers' head-piece, and an ordinary camera enclosed in a rubber envelope having a glass front. Electricity for the lamp is supplied by a small dynamo in a boat above. Pictures are taken by pressing buttons through the rubber covering and objects in Rio de Janeiro Bay have been photographed under water at a distance of ten or twelve feet as easily as in full daylight.

Hydrophobia has animal instead of bacterial origin in the view of Dr. A. Grigorjew, a German biologist who has isolated what appears to be a protozoan from patients suffering from rabies.

In dealing with chronic constipation, the bane of so many a person's existence, massage of the abdomen and electricity are expensive and require too much time, while drugs ordinarily soon lose their action leaving the patient more constipated than before. Dr. Valdimir de Holstein, of Paris, reports the best results from the use of creosote, which he supposes to have the effect instead of that of a purgative—of neutralizing some toxin causing inaction of the intestinal tube. The creosote should be given pure in water or other liquid, beginning with a small dose—say a single drop—on account of the burning sensation, and increasing gradually to seven or eight drops, or even more, if this proves insufficient. The dose is to be administered twice daily after meals. The treatment is continued several months, and it is found not only to remove the constipation but to increase the appetite and improve the general condition.

An idea of the fearful slaughter of birds that is steadily going on may be had from the fact that on the 13th of last April nearly half a million birds were sold at an auction in London. These details of the consignment were given the Selborne Society Mrs. by Edward Phillips: Ostrich plumes, 11,352 ounces; vul. ure plumes, 1863 pounds; peacock feathers, 251,051 bundles; birds of paradise, 2,362; Indian parrots, 228,289; bronze pigeons, including the gours, 1,677; tanagers and sundry birds, 38,198; humming birds, 116,490; jays and kingfisher 48,759; Impyan and other pheasant and jungle fowl, 4,952 fowls and hawks, 7,163. There was a similar sale, in February, with other to follow in July and October.

Flour compressed into bricks by hydraulic pressure, the material occupying only a third as much space as the loose flour, is being tested for army and navy use. Results thus far appear to show that the treated flour is quite unaffected by dampness, and is free from mould and safe from the attacks of insects. Unlike loose flour it may be safely stored for a long time.

Prussia now has 2837 steam engines for electric generation of, 191,935 horse power, the number of engines having trebled in six years. Not less than 93 per cent of all the engines are used for electric lighting purposes.

THE KING OF METALS

BY A BANKER
From the very earliest times the desire for gold has been the one predominant craving of mankind, the one ruling passion which, to a greater or less extent, according to the idiosyncrasies of the individual, inspires and instigates his actions.

Even before the fall of man we read of gold, and are told that in the vicinity of the Garden of Eden gold existed, and that "the gold of that land was good." And all down the ages history presents one long record of the overwhelming might and potency of that intense and ardent coveting of the precious metal which animates the entire human race, with the sole exception only of those few savage tribes which are sunk lowest in the scale of humanity, and whose wants are scarce higher than those of the animal world. To these gold is useless.

In a recent times the metal appears to have existed in much the same proportion as at the present day, though, of course, in the absence of that comparatively modern invention, paper money, which represents vast sums of gold which do not exist, the corresponding wealth of the populations is not capable of comparison with that of the present time.

In the year B.C. 323 we read that Alexander the Great captured in Persia 351,000 talents of the precious metals; and assuming that one half of this enormous sum was in gold, the value of the whole would represent the substantial sum of more than a thousand million pounds sterling; while for the sole purpose of erecting and lavishly decorating the glorious and magnificent temple of Jerusalem, King David amassed the colossal sum of one hundred thousand talents of gold, an amount equal to five hundred and forty million pounds sterling of our money. In more recent times perhaps the largest amount of the precious metal accumulated for any purpose was the ransom offered to the Spanish Conqueror Pizarro by the Peruvian Inca, which was arranged to be a room filled with golden ornaments, coins and vessels to the height of nine feet from the floor, the size of the room being seventeen feet by twenty-one feet. The total production of gold throughout the

world is now nearly forty million pounds sterling, of which about one half is produced in the British Empire (including the Transvaal and other protected States) the estimated amount for the year 1894 being £37,930,000, of which £18,403,000 is registered as under the latter category; the amount coined in that year in the three British mints of London, Sydney, and Melbourne, having been £12,912,000 more than half of which was coined in Australia.

These latter coins may be recognised by a very minute Mint-mark, S. or M., representing respectively Sydney or Melbourne; and if the glowing accounts of the extraordinary richness of the gold fields of Klondyke are at all reliable, the proportion of British-produced gold may be expected to be materially increased. The British coinage is now in a much more satisfactory condition since the wise and equitable law was passed in the year 1891, by which the light coinage was called in, the proportion of worn coins in circulation below the limit of least current weight, which previous to that date was nearly fifty per cent., being now quite insignificant. The writer has the satisfaction of having initiated the movement which resulted in the passing of that Act.

The Klondyke gold fields present a striking object lesson of the wild eagerness with which men will rush into perils and dangers in the insatiable greed for gold. They undertake a long and perilous journey through a wildly bleak and inhospitable arctic desert, climbing over precipitous mountain paths, where a false step may mean death, clambering over slippery rocks which form rude stepping stones over raging torrents, and braving the fierce hurricanes of frozen snow which almost beat the very life out of the eager gold-seekers. And when at length having reached their destination toiled for their gold, and are driven away by the severity of the polar blasts, and by the scarcity of food, they find that laden with the gold they have acquired, the journey back is more arduous than the outward expedition, and they arrive home, nearly starved to death, and perhaps robbed by murderous marauders of every ounce of that precious gold they had worked so hard to acquire.

But if we would devote an energy equal to that we display in the acquisition of the precious metal, to the task of gaining that "crown of pure gold" which will be awarded to those who "fear God and keep His commandments," we shall find that the quest is attended by no hardships, by no disappointments, and by no uncertainties; and that when that glorious reward is allotted to us its possession will confer untold pleasure and transporting enjoyments which will endure for ever.

The Gordon Highlanders' Benevolent Fund, inaugurated in Aberdeen, now stands at £1,723 2s. 9d.

Lord Wemyss has invented, and now uses a new three-barrel gun, 16 bore.

To remove paint from window glass rub a little vinegar on the spots.

Hood's Pills
Rest to take after dinner; prevent distress, aid digestion, cure constipation. Purely vegetable; do not gripe or cause pain. Sold by all druggists. 25 cents. Prepared only by C. L. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Gray's Syrup of Red Spruce Gum
For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Sore Throat, etc.
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The Question
Now is where can we get a suitable Xmas present for the least money. Below will be found a list of a few of our cut prices for the Holiday Season only, which will enable you to decide at once, as the time is now short
Eight day, half hour, cathedral gong, striking Clocks, for \$3.50
Silver Cake Baskets, (quadruple plate), 2.75
Napkin Rings, 50c up
Spoon Holders and Pickle Dishes, 1.50
A Waltham Watch with Chain (good timekeepers) 7.50
Ladies' Genuine Gold Filled Waltham Watch, 15.00
Ladies' Long Chains, warranted five years, 3.00
Ladies' Solid Gold Gem Rings, (heavy) 3.00
Brooches, Cuff Buttons, Stick Pins, Chains, Charms, etc., at extraordinary low prices. Repairing promptly attended to by a competent person. Clocks, Watches and Jewelry.
C. C. JURY

She Was Too Natural.
At last the young woman who had been haunting the theatrical manager's office was to be given a chance.
"I want you to play the part of a divorcée," explained the manager.
"Oh!" she exclaimed, and there was so much disappointment in her tone that he noticed it.
"What's your objection to it?" he asked.
"Why, to tell you the truth," she answered, "I was in hopes you would give me a part that would require some acting. What's the use of going on the stage just to be natural?"
As might have been surmised from her ambition, she was one of them.—Chicago Post.

Costly Shooting.
Projectiles used by the United States army for its great modern guns cost as follows: Solid shot, 8 inch, \$69.80 each; 10 inch, \$144.50 each; 12 inch, \$212 each; 13 inch mortar shells weighing 800 pounds, \$114 each; 12 inch mortar shells weighing 1,000 pounds, \$195 each.

Must Help Each Other.
A beautiful moral in tandem bicycling for a young married couple is that both must work if they want to get along.—Philadelphia Times.

The oldest national flag in the world is that of Denmark, which has been in use since the year 1219.

Sleeplessness.
Sleeplessness brought about by nervous excitement, mental strain or overwork can be cured by a harmless home remedy, which anybody can easily test. Simply take a moist towel, fold it up and place it across the neck. For sleeplessness of nervous people who suffer from cold feet while the head is hot there is no better remedy than to rub the legs, and particularly the feet, briskly with a brush or a rough towel. This will benefit the circulation, and a sort of tired feeling is the result, which soon produces sleep. Drugs cannot be used successfully for either of these forms of sleeplessness, while the local application of water will almost unexceptionally give immediate relief.—Philadelphia Ledger.

London Streets.

If any one were to undertake to walk, one way only, through all the streets of London, he would be obliged to go a distance of 2,600 miles, or as far as it is across the American continent from New York to San Francisco. This will give an idea of the distance one will have to go to see thoroughly even the greater part of the city of London—the largest city in the world.

Italian Ware House
Beals' Corner
Cor. Crafion and Ct. Geo. Sts
North side Queen Square
Opening To-day
Jules Robin
Medicinal Brandy
JOY & DAVIES,
Wholesale Wine Merchants.

Klondyke.
Start from Vancouver
Because
1. VANCOUVER is the best outfitting point on the coast, goods being considerably cheaper than in the United States.
2. VANCOUVER is the nearest port of departure to the Yukon district.
3. VANCOUVER is the terminus of the C. P. Railway, whose steamers will start from VANCOUVER this spring.
4. All north-bound steamers call at VANCOUVER.
5. Direct steamers to Yukon ports have now commenced to run from VANCOUVER.
6. VANCOUVER is the only Canadian port where passengers transfer direct from train to steamer.
7. KLONDYKE is in Canada, outfit in VANCOUVER, and save 30 per cent. Customs Duty.
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Charlottetown Dec. 1, 1897—law & wsm

ladies' jackets

The balance of our stock of above all new; this fall's importation with the exception of six
We offer them at sacrifice prices to clear at once It will pay any buyer to see them
T. J. HARRIS, London House

REMOVAL.

Miller Brothers, the P. E. Island Music House, have removed their business to
Owen Connolly's Old Stand,
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Where we have more room and better facilities than ever for the carrying on of our large and
Ever Increasing Business
Come in and see us. Statue of late Owen Connolly on top of the building.

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200 Bicycles Wanted
To be stored (free of charge) for the winter, and cleared repaired, nicked or enameled, thoroughly renewed, ready for spring.
ENAMELING
We use the highest grade Enamel (black or colors) that money can buy in New York, and bake it on in a manner that the most fastidious cannot criticize, and the cost is the same as others charge for ordinary paint. See sample at shop.
W. P. DOULL, Kent Street

We are Fully Equipped
For the Holiday Season with a complete stock of nice lines of Footwear.
We have all kinds of Shoes, honest Shoe dancing Shoes and Temperance Shoes (that don't go tight). Slippers in great variety, Rubbers, Over shoes Gaiters, etc.
Big Values, Low Prices, Honest Goods, Best Style
Will make almost any one happy. We are more than happy to think that we have pleased you in the past, and know that we can do so now better than ever.
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La Grippe Cured

This modern malady has become dreaded not more for its direct fatality than for the weakness of body and mind it leaves behind it. Prolonged debility, permanent prostration, melancholy and suicide follow La Grippe. For this disease there is no remedy superior to Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

"The best remedy for la grippe that I know of is Ayer's Cherry Pectoral."

Rev. JOHN K. CHASE,
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"My wife and five children were taken down with la grippe, while the disease was so widely prevalent. I dosed them with Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and before using quite two bottles my family was restored to health. I know of several obstinate cases of the same complaint which were also cured by this remedy."

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Write to our doctor. We pay him to advise you free. J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.