RECENT CHANGES MADE IN THE LAW

How Business is Conducted-Gradutions in Pensions-Seneficiaries More Plentiful in the Country Thun in the Towns.

The revision of the invalid and old-age pension law at the recent sension of the the extension of compulsory insurance to Reichstag was carried by a practically unan- certain classes that have hitherto been shut Imous vote. The fact was commented upon by the German press as a most striking technical artists not employed in factories as a most significant fast, says a Berlin Por these classes, in cases where the salary letter to the New York Post, that the soinlists voted solidly for the measure, although they had voted to a mun against the original law ten years ago. Both wings of the radical liberals, too, had voted against two persons eligible for insurance in their the law at that time as being too long a employment. The present law knows nothpossible. Thus, while Bismarck himself is at their own expense reported to have afterward pronounced the

For some years it has been evident that a revision of the system of workingmen's insurance would be necessary, for the operation of the system had brought out some fects as to the population movement, and the earning canacity of the laboring people in the different parts of the country that were not fully known when the existing law was framed. The rapid development of Germany into a great manufacturing country has set in motion a strong tide in the Inbering population from the agricultural toward the manufacturing and commercial sections. This movement was, of course already apparent ten years ago, but it has now reached a volume that was not then auticipated. The effect of it, as respects the in agricultural regions, for it is the young those offices have been left with an unusuand forestry as in manufacturing callings. has been established that there is about medical attention that they insure, have coeded. overthrown the old assumption that farm laborers have better health than factory

But besides much greater longevity and a higher percentage of invalidity, the agricultural offices have relatively much smaller incomes, since farm laborers and other working people in their territory receive very low wages and pay correspondingly low insurance rates. Thus the system has operated, to the disadvantage of the agricultural offices; and, while the offices in manufacturing districts have been accumulating a large surplus, those in agricultural regions have to struggle to make both ends ple, has laid aside a large surplus, the incollecting any further insurance premiums, that of the province of East Prussia has to the year 1. Therefore the twentieth cencontend with a deficit that has been growing tury begins in the year 1901, and not in

In two other respects it was seen that a reform of the law is desirable. It was found that the moneys collected in prepension boards composed of laborers and employers, which should investigate all

claims for pensions, In recognition of the above facts the imperial government laid before the Reichstag in February, 1897, a preliminary bill for the reform of the law in the directions indicated. This bill, however, was not parsed; it was introduced merely to provoke Hacussion and clear up the lines upon which the latter revision would be possible The revision of the law, as now finally adopted, does not satisfy the government, or any of the political parties, fully; and yet it is recognized on all sides that it is a considerable improvement upon the existing law

proposed to equalize the insurance burden. a common fund, and reserving two-fifths as the special fund of each office-the common fund to be divided in assigning pensions upon a national basis and without regard to geographical lines. From this fund the entire expense of the old-age pen-

Old-Age Pensioners.

The bill, as introduced by the government

sions was to be borne, as well as the lump sum that forms the basis of each invalid pension. The Reichstag, however, was too much under the influence of local consider-. The members from the prosperor divisions were not willing to make such large concessions in favor of the weak agrarian offices; hence the method of dividing the common form from the special fund was reversed-that is, two-fifths is to go to the common fund and three-fifths remain for the special fund of the given office. Moreover, not the whole of each old-age pension is to be pald out of the common fund, ing paid by the office granting the pension.

The amount of the pensions is raised moderately. In the old-age pensions the lowest pension is now 106.40 mark, a year; in future it will be 110 marks; to highest in now 190 marks, in the future it will be 230. To each pension the imperial government will contribute 50 marks as at present The method of calculating the invalid pensions has been much changed. At present there is a fixed sum of 60 marks, which added to the 50 marks contributed by the empire, forms the basis of each invalid pension, irrespective of the wage-class of the pensioner, instead of this 60 marks, the new law provides for fixed sums of 60, 70, 80, 90 and 100 marks, according to the wageadditional aums accruing to these fixed sums to form the full pension, the present law provides that the whole number of contribution weeks be multiplied by 2, 6, 9 and 13 pfentigs, respectively, for the four wage-classes, and that these amounts be pensions. Under the new law these multipliers become 3, 6, 8, and 10, respectively, and for the new fifth wage-class 12

In fixing the degree of invalidity, too, the

GERMANY'S OLD-AGE PENSIONS new law is more liberal than the old. The city to earn a living before the insured per son is entitled to a pension, the new law law is more liberal, too, in granting a penmion after twenty-six weeks of continued invalidity, whereas the existing law rethermore, the period of time during which contributions must be made before the con been teduced-in the case of the invalid

> pension from 235 to 200 weeks, and with the old-age pension from 1.419 to 1,200 weeks. Compulsory Insurance.

Another important change in the law is These include master workmen and is between 2,000 and 3,000 marks, voluntary insurance is provided for and the same privilege is extended even to small employ-

The pension offices have hitherto undernow given to it from opposite poles of po-persons treated in hospitals, particularly in litical thought, and socialists and indicases of tuberculosis, before the disease had vidualists unite in helping to give it a more advanced so far as to render the affected person an invalid. The new law facilitates preventive work of this kind. In the matter of local pension offices the Reichstag refused to go as far as the government's bill had provided for. Instead of making the organization of these local boards obligatory, the Reichstag contented itself with making it optional with the different state authorities whether to organize them or not. As all the thirty-one pension offices in the empire are understood to be hostile to the dea, it is considered very doubtful whether any such branches will be set up at all.

It is not believed that the present reform of the invalid insurance law (this is now its official title; will be final. The former state secretary, Von Boetticher, declared in old age pensions, has been very unfavorable the Reichstag, two years ago, that the for these pension offices that are situated present thirty-one offices ought to be replaced by a single insurance office for the and strong laborers, chiefly, that quit the whole empire, and many experts are of the farm for the factory and the mine. Thus same opinion. The argument for this change is the greater economy of administraally heavy proportion of aged persons to be tion that it would insure. At present only provided with pensions. The percentage of about \$3 per cent of the expenditures of persons eligible for old-age pensions-i. e., the pension offices reach the pensioners, the persons 70 years old or more—is found to remaining 17 per cent going for administrabe nearly four times as great in agriculture tive expenses. This is very costly insurance, and the expenses are out of all pro-Furthermore, as respects the invalid insur- portion to the net results to the insured. ance, the interesting and surprising fact A single institution could certainly do the work at much less cost. Nevertheless, the 75 per cent more invalidity in agriculture official mind has not yet become convined branches of manufacturing, with the better that a single office could never have suc-

TALK ABOUT THE CENTURY.

Which Country Will Enter It First!-Some Unlculations.

When do we enter the twentleth century? giecle vivons nous?"

tian era. The first year of this era was

The first year after the birth of Christ passed without opecial notice. As much may be said about the second, third and miums would admit of a moderate increase fourth. In fact, more than five centuries of the pensions paid and that the work of had flown before the people realized that administration could be facilitated by local they had entered a new era. For the Christian era was established early in 532 A. D. by a Scythian monk, Dionysius, nicknamed Exiguus, because he was small of stature. Dionysius the Small assumed that Christ was born on December 25, 753 years after the supposed foundation of Rome, so the 754th anniversary of this more or less mythical event became the first year of our

Later on it was found that the little monk had made a big mistake, and that, thanks to him, the Christian era had been started not at the birth of Christ, but four years and seven days later. This is why the authorized version of the gospels places the

irth of Christ in the year 4 B. C.

The German scientist of 1699 mentions this his pamphlet, but the error, though acknowledged, is suffered to remain. But as between the various offices, by treating such as it was, the era of Donysius Exiguus three-fifths of the income of each office as had no year 0. Its first year was counted as A. D. 1, Its tenth as A. D. 10, and so on. And yet the world at large has made up its mind that it will enter the twentieth cencury in January, 1900.

No one doubts that 100 includes its hundredth unit, but strange to say, according to the ideas of individuals, as well as naions, the world entered a new century on exchanging 1799 for 1800. Truly figures are lmost as illusive as facts.

The French astronomer is perfectly posilive that on December 31, 1900, exactly at midnight, our nineteenth century will vansh into eternity to give place to the next, 'Exactly at midnight"-these three words suggest another puzzling problem: What ountry will be the first to enter the twentieth century? If we reckon the hours moving eastward we find that when the clocks strike midnight in Paris it will be l a. m. in Vienna, 2 a. m. in Suez and Seeastopol, 3 a. m. in Teheran, 4 a. m. in Tobolsk and Bokhara, 5 a. m. in Colombo, 6 a. m. in Calcutta, 7 a. m. in Singapore, 8 a. m. in Shanghai and Seoul, 9 a. m. in Yeddo and full noon of January 1, 1901, in

the Chatham islands. reckoning moving westward, we find that precisely at the same time it will be 7 p. n. in New York. 6 p. m. in Chicago, 4 p. m. in San Francisco, 2 p. m. in Alaska, 1

To remedy this discrepancy Camille Flammarion suggests the world should the cure of other germ diseases will follow "natural selection" that he felt sure of the man-of-war. It is expected that I we agree to lay down a line of demarcation along similar lines. He is without doubt one truth of evolution. He hesitated long department. somewhere in the wastes of the Pacific ocean east of Kamshatka and west of the Caroline islands. If this suggestion be accepted the Americans in the Philippines the Russians to Kamshatka, the English in New Zesland and the French in New Caledonia will all enter the twentieth century at about the same time

Yet the savage inhabitants of Chatham islands will be in advance of them all, as they will have lived through twelve hours and four minutes of the new century when Paris prepares to greet its arrival with raised glasses of champagne. This, however, is only justice; as, for the Chathamtes, this new century is likely to be the Since 1830 their numbers have dwinfrom 1,500 to about fifty, chiefly wing to the fact that their neighbors, the Maoris, esteemed them as a table delicary, making it the rule that the Chathamite should collect wood for the fire at which he was presently to be reasted.

Hapless Chathamites!

GREAT MEN OF THE CENTURY

thirds of the earning capacity. The new Conspicuous Leaders in Various Branches of Human Progress.

Making This a Railroad and a Telegraph Age-Notables in Other Lines.

Who are the ten greatest men of the convry? At first glance this question appears It would be hard to choose the ten greatest proof of the papularity of the system of salesmen and teachers, provided the salaries inventors where there are many of world-workingmen's insurance. It was regarded of such persons be not about 2,000 marks. Wide celebrity; the ten greatest literary men would be still more difficult to select. But Thus was the rule of the railroad insugurated and sturdy resolution are the real conthere has been one personality standing forth head and shoulders above all others as ers that do not keep regularly more than having given character to the whole century was trained to be a painter, but he led the principle he did not hesitate to follow the step in the direction of state socialism, but ing of voluntary insurance, except in the graph—of swift transportation and inthey voted for the revision in June, taking case of persons that have passed out of the stantaneous communication. Behind the in a flash. The experiments that scient political family he succeeded by mere force the ground that the system, now that it is classes subject to compulsory insurance, and railroad stands that great Englishman, tists were making with magnetism at of will to do the right as he saw it. in existence, must be improved as far as are then permitted to continue the insurance Stephenson; behind the relegraph that tracted his attention in 1832 and by 1837 he

in philosophy the majestic mind of Herbert years and even then Morse dreamed of an search for the real and the presentation of

quires a full year of inability to work. Fur. ENCLISHMEN, AMERICANS, AND, GERMANS four miles an hour with it. By 1827 he had so improved his locomotive that he could nake fourteen miles an hour on the road beributor becomes eligible for a pension has Stephenson and Morse Foremost in tween Stockton and Darlington. Then he may the future of the railroad and told his son that he would see the day when the stage coach would be a thing of the past and it would be encaper to ride by rail than to walk. He fought stordily against the prejudices of his time and when arguing for same year as transin, was an innevator in the construction of the Manchester-Liverpool railroad before the Hauss of Commens, he replied to their teers by saying: "I can-not quarribe it, but I can build it?" And In

by the untaught son of a stoker, in his particular work. This has been world in the application of electricity to principle, contrary to all Machiavellian an called the age of the callroad and the tele- distant communication. He it is who has Bismarckian laws of procedure. Fighting equally great American, Morse, Surely had perfected his instrument for sending these must be named among the ich who messages by electricity. The system of by right of realism, psychological analysis passage of the law a mistake, support is taken, within certain limits, to have insured by him and called the depicting of character forcibly and the century now closing. the Morse alphabet has not yet been super- satirically, the leader of our novelists. The In natural science it is just as plain that seded, though the first telegraph line behe directing influence has come from the tween Washington and Baltimore was used another age. It is Thackeray who is nearest powerful originality of Charles Darwin, and in 1843. He had anticipated Europe by five to the spirit of the nineteenth century in the

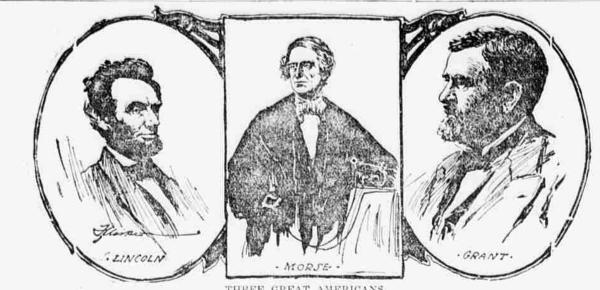
could make thirty miles an hour or more.

of the greatest benefactors of the race in about publishing his theory, for he knew that it would arouse a storm of oppositi George Stephenson (1781-1848) the son of and he was naturally of a retiring and a stoken managed to learn to read by the time he was 17 and after studying all that to make amount ement of the theory long steam could about steam custiess decided that By 1815 he had constructed the first locostive in the world and ran at the rate of with the proofs which he had accumulated in support of evolution. The storm burst is he expected, but during the fifty years that have elapsed since the publication of the "Origin of Species" (1858), palaeon-

tology, embryology, geology and all of the demonstration of the truth of evolution. It is to Darwin that the entire credit for Abraham Lincoln (1869-1863) born in the the world of statesmanship, no less than the great evolutionist in the world of science. To him is due the new statesmanship, like the new diplomacy, built upon honesty and Above the trickery of the politician he believed and proved that truth

structive elements in public as in private

The Grentest Novellst. William Makebeace Thackeray (1811-1863) comunitie tales of Scott and Bulwer belong to Spencer must be acknowledged supreme. In ocean cable. Others may have known the society as it is. What though this modern



THREE GREAT AMERICANS the department of education the great ad- properties of electricity, but the credit of Swift cuts us to the quick with his irony vance of the period goes back to Pestalozzi its first imporiant application will belong the is all the greater teacher thereby. Becky

and Froebel, but it is the practical side of to Samuel Morse for all time to come. and forestry than in manufactures. The that a single office could be better. Count child nature and the reaching of it that

First Kindergartner. sick-fund organizations, which exist in all Posadowsky declared in the recent debates gives the latter his supremacy. The dis- Friedrich Froebel (1782-1852) had no chil- Aram has long passed away. Coming generaevery of the principle of inoculation, the dren of his own, but claimed the children of tions will read Thackeray to understand our

basis of the germ theory of disease, makes the world for his. A lucky desire to be- time and they will not misunderstand it. Jenner the commanding figure in medicine, come an architect brought him in contact | The followers of Thackeray are legion-but That Beethoven is the greatest of the musi- with Pestalozzi, from whom he gathered lans of the age may be questioned by those new ideas on pedagogics. The apparent who find the great musical originator in misfertune of the death of a brother Wagner, but the influence of Beethoven has brought him back home to teach that nouncement of Darwin's discoveries he had certainly been far greater up to this time, brother's children and the children of some In 1900 or 1901? The dispute is not a new Whether the other is indeed the music of neighbors joined the classes when they one. Similar questions were raised in 1799, the future is aside from the present purpose, heard how delightful Froebel made the path "First Principles," the cornerstone of the in 1699, and even as far back as 1599. A Thackeray must be put down as the greatest to knowledge. Soon made principal of a huge philosophic structure to which he has learned German of two centuries ago made novelist of the century, the influence of school in a small German town, he began to been adding constantly year by year ever this the subject of a learned disquisition, whose works is greater by far than that of commit his ideas on teaching to paper, pubsince. In this age of psychological research which gave rise to quite a literature, pro and even such a genius as Balzac, who produced lishing his first book in 1828. He wandered a great co-ordinating mind like that of Spencontra. And in 1800, Paris witnessed a but did not aspire a school. There have to Switzerland and then back to Germany, cer was needed to show the significance of comedy with the title: "Mon dieu, en quel been many statesmen during these hundred where he opened the first kindergarten in the discoveries of science in the realm of years, yet to the eyes of must of us Lincoln Blankenburg (1887). His later books, his thought. He has acted as a check and corscined and yet, says Camille Flammarion, the stands out as the most constructive of all games and songs have exceed the kindergarmeet. - While the Berlin office, for exams famous French astronomer, the answer to statesmen, not even excepting Bismarck and ten all the world over, from far Japan to and chemical science and by his laying down the question is simple enough. Ten is the Gladstone. And it is an American again the United States. The joy that he has of logical principles clarified the atmosphere terest upon which alone is sufficient to meet all the demands made upon it, without of them. There was no year 0 in the Chris- Grant—whose energy and skill won victories he imparted to the art of instruction make might be reached. Ethics, psychology, so-



TWO GREAT GERMANS.

ments of the leaders of Europe. Napoleon, age. greatest general of all time, belongs more supreme admiration, as do the old masters. as Michel Angelo and Da Vinci?

the close of the century?

Man Who Conquered Smallpox.

Edward Jenner (1749-1823) did more toward the prevention of disease than any | Charles Durwin (1869-1882) gave the cen

in such wise as to overshadow the achieve. him the greatest teacher of teachers of the

properly to the last century, if not also- of symphony and sonata, reformer of orgether in time, certainly in methods. What chestra and the theory of music, one of the of the other departments of human endeavor? most fruitful of all composers and most What of astronomy, chemistry, archaeology, widely imitated, he stands as the undisgeology? There have been great men in puted leader of the musical genius of the all these departments in our age, but the century. More than 250 sheaves of comorigination came from earlier periods. In positions flowed from his fertile soul during art, too, while much may have been pro- his brief career, and Weber, Spohr, Schuduced, there has been nothing that claims mann, Brahms, Raff, Rubenstein, even warrange admiration as do the old masters. Wagner, betray his influence. It was Bee-Turner and Meissonier, Veretschagin and thosen who made every instrument in the orchestra force, unknown before his day Thorwaldsen-are they of the same order his symphonics have not been equaled nor have his sonatas been surpassed. Song to directions, and in a few moments the pain in glancing over this list of the ten even was enriched by the power and variety is all gone. We have also used Chamber supreme spirits of the century one striking he gave it. Every one of his compositions feature is noticeable. Eight of them art has a tale to tell. He composed as a painter either American or English, only two are creates his pleture; in fact, he says that German and the rest of the world cannot there was always a picture in his mind its claim to representation. The toward which he worked up. He plays no originality, the great impulses of the age harmonic tricks for the sake of showing came from the Anglo-Saxon stock. Is this life originality, but develops the idea in the the key to the predominance of that race at harmony with the directness and naturalness of the realist. It is the realization of his emotion or thought that he neeks and finds.

other physician before his day or since, tury not only a theory, he gave it a princi-When he devised vaccination as a preventive ple. Take away evolution from the thought of smallpox no fewer than five-sixths of the of our age and it is robbed of its richest On the other hand, if we make the same inhabitants of Europe had the dread disease treasures. The young naturalist who reand one-fifth of them died. Since his in- turned from a five years' trip on the troduction of vaccination smallpox has "Bengle" was prepared to doubt the dogma ceased to be a scourge, appearing only rarely then generally received of the permanence and then through neglect of his preventive and invariability of species, but he was m. in Honolulu, and finally, exactly noon. But the idea of inoculation to prevent the not yet ready with the explanation of the of December 31, 1900, in the Chatham worst forms of diseases has led to the "how" the process by which one species discovery of lymphs which are used to cure might develop from another. It was only or prevent cholera, diphtheria and probably when he had hit upon the theory of

FIVE GREAT ENGLISHMEN.

Sharp will live as a creature to be abhorred when Rob Roy is forgotten, and Eugene they follow at a distance

Herbert Spencer (1820) may be called the evolutional philosopher. Before the anbeen working along similar lines in the department of thought. In 1860 he published ciology, all fall within his purview. has used a single golden thread to guide him through all his investigations-the development from natural causes. His is the nine teenth century philosophy, a system which astounds the reader by its comprehensiveness and thoroughness.

Ulysses Simpson Grant (1822-1885) suc ceeded where many generals failed. It is not always fair to judge by results alone but the man who gets the results after years of fighting must have something real in him. Grant was the fighter among all the union generals quarreling for promotion and Lincoln knew it. He had mastered the sccret of striking at the heart of the enemy's country and striking promptly. deserved to succeed is proved by not one, but a hundred successfully planned campaigns, brilliantly carried out. The hero of Gettysburg understood his business so well that there and then he settled the long drawn out war. His strategy consisted in planning carefully and never halting until he had carried out these plans. Yet, with the courtesy of the truly brave man, he showed deep consideration for the defeated foe. Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770-1827) father The capture of Vicksburg, all of his early successes, were only indications that he war the man for whom the president was looking-the fighter who would end the strug-

"We still keep Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy in the house, says George H. Healey, editor of the Ga for children we have found nothing to approach it. When the baby cries hard and we believe it is suffering from colic we give it a dose of the medicine, diluted according Februar / 4th lain's Cough Remedy with good resulta."

Appropriation for Good Roads. Appropriation for Good Ronds.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Jan. 2.—The most important step which the League of American Wheelmen has yet taken in its work for good roads is about to be inaugurated. President Keeman of the League of American wheelmen has arranged for the early presentation in congress of a bill appropriating \$5,00,000 for the construction of improved highways throughout the United States. Representative Graham of the Twenty-third congressional district will father the measure, which every League of Twenty-timed Congressional district will father the measure, which every League of American Wheelmen member and official throughout the United States will be asked to give his energetic support. President Keenan states that he feels assured of the hearty co-operation of the farmers all ever the country in securing the massage of a

Battleship Rendy for Trial. SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 2 - Work has ir advanced on the United States battl hip Wisconsin that it will make its tri





REMARKABLE SERIES OF ARTICLES.

FAMOUS MEN

WRITE FOR THE BEE ON THE

"Edge of the 20th Century"

To begin the new year, 1900, THE BEE announces a number of great special articles, fully illustrated. Each of them is written by a man celebrated the world over, each discusses a topic of universal interest, each reviews in some degree the progress of

W. T. STEAD.

For January 7th Editor of the "English Review of Reviews,"

"Breaking Through the Veil."

Beginning with a brief review of the progress of the country in science, Mr. Stend lends upward through the marvels of the materfal world, telegraphy, telephone. X-Rays, the telelectroscope and wireless telegraphy, to the borderland just beyond-to the possibilities of thought transference or telepathy, the wireless telegraphy of thought. He presents the whole subject of psychic research as it appears at the end of the century in the clearest and most convincing manner. In this article the writer also gives the exact methods of communicating by telepathy, so that anyone may

W. T. STEAD.

Editor of the "English Review of Reviews"

For January 14th

"True Incidents of Thought Transference."

This is an unusual series of latter-day ghost stories, giving a scientific account of many notable instances of telepathy, of dual embodiment, and of apparttions, some of which came under the writer's personal observation. The article also treats fully of methods of medium writing.

HENRY M. STANLEY,

The World's Greatest Explorer,

For January 21st

"The Unexplored Regions of

In this story of the undiscovered the world's greatest explorer describes some of the tasks which the geographer of the 20th century must solve. He tells with graphic interest of the hunger of Germans, the French, have been crowding deeper and deeper inte the jungle-and yet leaving vast areas almost untouched. His account of the commercial and scientific possibilities of undiscovered South America, Australia, Siberia, is of a kind to fire the imagination of the younger generation which must solve these problems. The article will be very fully illustrated with maps and with the

Dr. CYRUS EDSON.

Famous Chief of New York Health Department,

For January 28th "Medicine in the Closing Year of

the Nineteenth Century."

A repid and fascinating survey of the recent astonishing accomplishments in medicine and surgery, with an invaluable summany of the very intest methods of treatment of some of the more important diseases. "Can typhoid fever be cared?" "What are the chances of recovery in pneumonia?" "Does Pasteur's inoculation really cure rables?" These questions and many others equally important and interesting are all answered by one of the greatest of American authorities in medicine and in the light of the world's

Dr. FREDERICK A. COOK

For

Famous Antarctic Explorer,

"Walking to the Pole."

Dr. Cook believes that the pole will finally be reached by a sturd: party of Americans on foot; he gives in this article the reason for this belief; tells what equipment is necessary and how long a time will be necessary to complete the expedition. The article is, in short, a clear and concise presentation of the very latest conclusions of explorers on the problem of the poles. It will be richly illustrated with pictures taken by Dr. Cook in the ice regions

PROF. N. S. SHALER,

For

February 11th

Famous Geologist of Harvard,

"The Earth's Deepest Depths."

Immediately following Prof. Shaler's article, there will be articles by SIR NORMAN LOCKYER, England's greatest astronomer; by PROF. JOHN DEWAR, the famous Chemist, who was the first to liquely hydrogen; and by several other men equally celebrated.

This article promises to be of much more than ordinary interest.

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