

ST. LOUIS EXPOSITION WILL BE GREATEST EVER HELD ON EARTH

Estimated Cost, Exclusive of the Value of the Exhibits, Is from Forty to Fifty Million Dollars—Miles of Wonderful Displays in More Than Twenty Buildings.

It is now a little more than two months before the gates will open upon the World's Fair at St. Louis and the public will be invited to see the greatest exposition that has ever been created. The vast exhibit palaces are complete and many of them have been finished for several months. Within the next two months all of them are to be brightened with new coats of paint so that, on the opening day, the magnificent array of palaces will appear as fresh as a newly blossomed rose.

No one, no matter how vivid his imagination, can picture to himself the scene that will be presented when the exposition is complete. The more one sees this great collection of exhibit palaces and countless other buildings, the more deeply impressed he becomes with the grandeur of the undertaking. As the days grow longer and the air becomes balmy with the breezes of spring, the Exposition will take on far greater activity than it has seen during the boisterous days of winter. In spite of the severe weather, work has not ceased upon the construction of the World's Fair for more than a day or two at a time and here is every expectation and promise that it will be complete on the opening day.

The buildings and grounds, magnifi-

been loth to believe such a statement. But such is the fact. The exhibit palaces of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition average much larger than those of Chicago and are greater in number. About 130 acres of floor space are provided in the various palaces of the present World's Fair and more than twenty buildings will be used for exhibit purposes. The largest of these is the Palace of Agriculture, which covers twenty acres. The next in size is the Palace of Transportation, covering fifteen acres and containing four miles of railway tracks for the exhibit of locomotives and cars. At the Chicago Exposition there were practically no outdoor exhibits. At this World's Fair about 100 acres are given up to outdoor displays, supplementing in a most pleasing manner the hundreds of thousands of indoor exhibits. At the Chicago Exposition one building was used for no less than three important departments. At the World's Fair in St. Louis four buildings, covering forty-five acres, are given up to the same four departments.

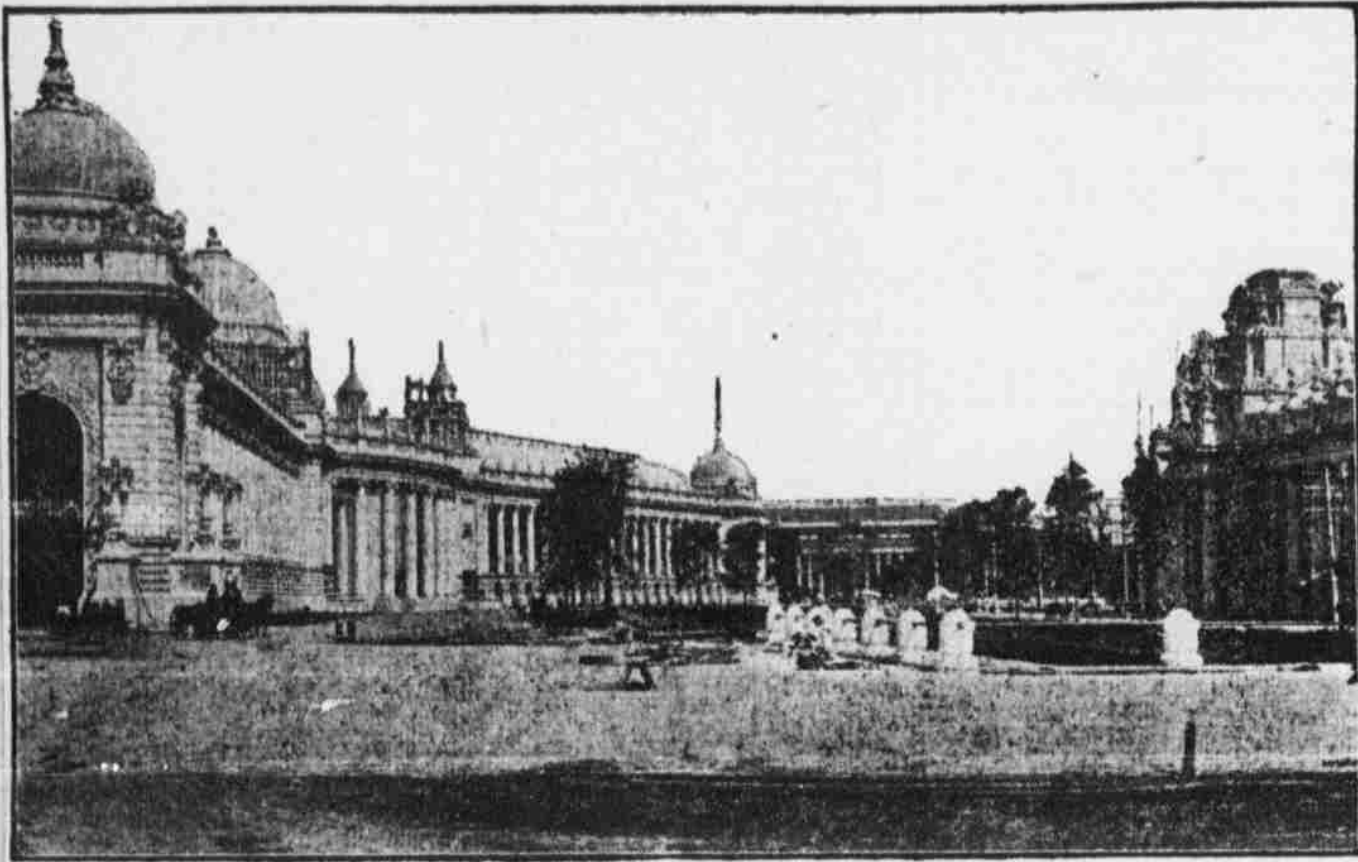
The total cost of the World's Fair is estimated at from forty to fifty million dollars, exclusive of the value of the exhibits. The Palace of Machinery alone will contain exhibits to the value of eight million dollars.

AT THE WORLD'S FAIR, ST. LOUIS.

Exposition season, thousands of birds representing many species and climes.

The largest hotel ever built, containing 2,300 rooms, is within the World's Fair grounds. The largest statue ever cast will stand in the Palace of Mines and Metallurgy as the exhibit of the Iron Industries of Birmingham, Ala. Twelve acres are devoted to a mining gulch containing all manner of mining machinery and exhibits. A floral clock, 112 feet in diameter, the hands of which weigh more than a ton each, will tell the time of day upon the slope north of the Palace of Agriculture. A map of the United States, six acres in extent, planted with cereals and other plants common to the various states, is an interesting display by the United States Bureau of Plant Industry.

Forty acres are devoted to the Philippine exhibit and thirty acres are devoted to the Indian display. Six acres are devoted to the garden of roses. Twenty acres are set apart for the accommodation of airships, which will participate in the contests for prizes amounting to \$200,000. The Quadrennial Olympic games will be held during the World's Fair upon the athletic field of the Exposition grounds. An intra-mural railway, having fourteen miles of track will convey the visitors to any part of the Exposition. Some forty restaurants will feed the multi-



View looking east from the Plaza St. Anthony. Palace of Varied Industries on the left. Palace of Electricity on the right. Palace of Manufactures in the distance.

ent though they be, are but the setting for a far more interesting display. All the buildings the best products at the world can offer will be arranged in the most attractive order and will convey to the mind a better idea of what the wide world is doing than could years of study and inquiry. Fifty-one nations of the world and all the states of the American Union will be represented in this extensive array of the world's present-day art.

Those who are familiar with the Columbian Exposition at Chicago have been asked if the Louisiana Purchase Exposition would equal in extent or grandeur the celebrated Exposition of 1893. When told that it would be twice as large in extent of grounds and 50 per cent larger in exhibit space in buildings, they have

To mention the big things of the World's Fair of 1904 would be to give a catalogue of the greatest achievements of man in many lines of endeavor. For example: We shall see the largest locomotive ever built, weighing ninety-five tons and having twelve driving wheels. We shall hear the largest organ in the world in the most beautiful festival hall ever built. We shall see some of the greatest sea-coast defense guns manufactured for the United States government. In the Government Building, which is the largest exhibit building ever erected by federal authority at an Exposition, there will be a model of a half of a battleship for the Navy display. The United States Government has also erected a bird cage so large that tall trees grow within the inclosure, in which will be held captive during the

tude, and an amusement street a mile long, containing the most novel and wonderful entertainments, will furnish diversion to the guests of the Exposition.

All St. Louis is preparing for the World's Fair, which will open on April 30 next and continue for seven months. Hundreds of buildings have been remodeled into hotels, and thousands of homes have been listed, upon invitation of the World's Fair management, to help care for the visitors. Every preparation has been made for a period of unusual festivity, and St. Louis expects to give her visitors a delightful season of sight-seeing and entertainment.

Thirty-five miles of roadway have been constructed within the World's Fair grounds.

MARKETING FOR THE SEA COW.

Is Necessary Now to Cut Through Ice to Get at the Eel Grass.

The man who does the marketing of the Aquarium's sea cow has had to some lively hustling this winter to get that big animal supplied with food.

The sea cow is eight foot long, weighs 800 pounds, and has a healthy appetite. In the first eighteen weeks of its arrival here from Florida, on Oct. 3 last, it ate ninety bushels of grass, six bushels of fennel-leaved weed and two bushels of ulva, sea lettuce, making ninety-eight bushels of aquatic plants in all in sixteen weeks, or an average of about five and one-half bushels a week, which is about its present rate of consumption.

The eel grass and other things for the sea cow's table are gathered in the adjacent Bay or the waters thereof connected. Baymen say that the search has been the hardest winter yet, as the water in twenty-five feet. On many days it has been necessary to cut through the ice to get

HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND.

Amusing Error of Frenchman That Cost Him \$5.

A French visitor to New York, an enthusiastic automobilist, has learned a lesson as to how things are done in America. On several occasions when speeding a machine through Central park he has seen policemen hold up a hand. The result was an increase of speed and a wave of the hand in return. The police have been in the hopes of catching him, and finally one of them did so by placing his horse in the auto's track, compelling it to come to a standstill. In court the Frenchman was amazed at the cause of his arrest. He took the signals of the officers as commendations and congratulations and turned on more power to show them what he could do. The lesson cost him \$5.

French Taxes Increase.

Returns of the revenue from indirect taxes in France in 1903 show that receipts amounted to \$568,280,380, an increase of \$26,557,580 over the estimates, and \$30,175,860 over 1902.

Swiss Industrial Schools.

There are industrial schools for clock and watch making in Geneva, Le Locle, Chaux-de-Fonds, etc.; there are also industrial working schools in Zurich and other cities for women. There are industrial schools for hand trades in most of the cities and towns of the country. The subjects taught in these schools are drawing, arithmetic, geography, bookkeeping, German, French and practical instruction in the trade chosen by the pupil.

Wholesale Marriage.

No fewer than forty-two couples were married simultaneously at Plougastel (Lower Brittany) one morning recently. Work in the village and in all the surrounding hamlet was entirely suspended for the day, for the excellent reason that there was scarcely a living soul in the neighborhood not related to one or other of the brides or bridegrooms, for the good people of Plougastel never marry outside their own commune.—London Mail.

How the Starfish Feeds.

A starfish can neither see nor hear. Neither has it the sense of smell. In spite of those seeming impediments, nevertheless, it seeks and devours its prey as neatly as an ordinary fish. The starfish lies upon its prey and folds its "arms" or rays completely about it. Then it pushes its stomach out through its mouth and will wrap even a large oyster and shell within the folds of its stomach. The mouth of the starfish is in the center of its rays.

DOLLARS AND CENTS.

It's dollars and cents that rule the world
With greed as the nursing bed;
But there's a banner that's still unfurled
With hearts as the fountain-head—
The banner of love for a fellow man
And hope for a zeal intense
To keep humanity in the van
And discount dollars and cents.

For dollars and cents won't always win
And wield such a potent sway;
There's something else that is coming in
And love will avail some day.
Old clubs are trumps at the present time
In all the different marts,
But coming sure is the world a rhyme,
And the trumps will all be hearts.

For there's nothing else in life, my boy,
That nature's art so deft,
Can bring you sunshine, hope, and joy,
Like the three-beat on your left;
It's all there is in the world of strife
With trials and griefs immense—
You can take some love at the close of life.
But you can't take dollars and cents.
—Harry S. Chester, in Chicago Inter Ocean.

THE STORY THAT TOLD AND SOLD

By O. E. ULNESS
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Dear Miss Stanley—Enclose please find check for your story, "The Price of Fame." We will gladly consider anything else that you may care to submit. Yours truly,
The Arcadian.

The recipient of this letter could hardly believe her eyes. It was the first remuneration she had received for her work during long years of struggle. Her successful effort was the story of a woman who had sacrificed love to win fame in her chosen profession, in which she succeeded. She reaped wealth, fame and honor, but her heart was not satisfied. The man whom she had rejected, but still loved, was now bound to another. She had paid "the price of fame."

The same day on which Agatha Stanley received payment for her story, she read in the society column of a daily paper the following:
"Mr. Reginald Lorimer, the newly appointed editor of the Arcadian, is said to be worshipping at the shrine of Miss Florence Lippincot, a prominent society belle of the city in which he lives."

A mingled expression of surprise and pain came into Miss Stanley's eyes. "I never dreamed that he was the editor who accepted my story," she soliloquized. "Did it merit publication, or did he act from personal motives, I wonder? Could he read the author's heart between the lines? If so, how he must mock it. Am I to suffer a like fate with my heroine? It can only be in degree, however, not in kind; for, is not mine 'the price of fame?'"

Reginald Lorimer and Agatha Stanley had been playmates, schoolmates and friends. As they grew to manhood and womanhood their friendship had developed into love.

When Agatha was nineteen, her father died, leaving a large family in poor circumstances, and it fell to her to look to the welfare of the family. Some time after Mr. Stanley's death Lorimer declared his love and asked Agatha to become his wife. Feeling that her duty was at home, and although it nearly broke her heart, she rejected his offer. She gave him no hope for the future, and so they parted.

Time passed rapidly. Lorimer had gone to a distant city and entering the field of journalism had made rapid strides.

Miss Stanley had taken up literature as her life work, but her journey was long and disheartening. At length, however, her persistency was rewarded. One manuscript placed seemed to clear the way and her subsequent efforts were accepted with requests for more. Still, with success standing brightly before her, there was an aching void in her heart.

One beautiful morning in early June Agatha was sitting by an open window, writing. She seemed unable to

"Thanks; but, Mr. Lorimer, higher praise is due to you because of your rapid advancement. I sincerely wish you happiness."

"I am truly grateful, but for your praise, which is flattering, and for your sentiments of friendship; but I would ask you, can success, alone, make us happy?"

Miss Stanley colored slightly, and answered: "It depends on what one is successful in. Happiness, itself, is the greatest of achievements, but its acquirement is dependent upon success in various directions."

Mr. Lorimer laughingly replied: "Possibly I have earned the good will of some budding genius by sending a welcome check. Rather a slim source



"I should think that a certain Miss Lippincot ought to have first place."

"Why me, more than others you have helped, Mr. Lorimer? I should think that a certain Miss Lippincot ought to have first place."

"Miss Lippincot! I do not know that I have done anything to merit her good graces."

"Haven't you? This would seem to contradict you," she said, handing him the paper in which she had read the item concerning him.

When he had read his mirth was uncontrollable. Finally regaining composure, he said:

"Well, well! That is news to me. Whoever wrote that notice must have been under some strong mental hallucination. The idea of associating my name with that of Miss Lippincot, whom I have met but a few times. No frivolous creature like her for a staid chap like myself. A sensible woman is what I want. Agatha—Miss Stanley, do you know why I have come here to-day? Simply to tell you that I have waited patiently for a different answer to the question I once asked you. The outward obstacles then in the way are now removed. You are on the road to independence. Is there any other barrier? Have I waited in vain, and must I, too, pay 'the price of fame?'"

The story that sold has also told.

A New Enemy of Whisky.

The Shawnee News gives a novel remedy for the "drink habit"—or, "sworn off" to remain "on the water cart." It consists of ice water drunk through a raw potato. Peel the potato and cut down one side of it until it can be easily inserted in the mouth; dip the potato in water and suck it every time a craving for strong drink comes on. It is claimed that this treatment will effect an absolute cure. The why and wherefore are not stated, but the process is such a simple one that there can be no harm in trying it if one is afflicted with a thirst which he really desires to lose.—Kansas City Journal.

"Condensed Eggs."

Condensed eggs are being largely exported to South Africa and are meeting with a ready sale. Fresh eggs are from 85 cents to \$1.80 a dozen in Johannesburg, so that the substitute is welcomed. It is prepared by depriving the ordinary fresh egg of its superfluous water and by adding sugar. The mixture is then inclosed in tightly sealed cans, fifteen eggs to the pound. When unsealed the compound with a little added water is whisked rapidly and, according to a British consular report, cannot be told from the fresh egg.

By an open window.

concentrate her thoughts; from her work to the grand scene outside, and then to the feelings of her own heart. As she sat dreaming of the old days, her attention was attracted to a man coming up the walk toward the house. He rang the bell, and as Agatha opened the door an exclamation of surprise escaped her lips; for there, before her, stood Reginald Lorimer. It was the first time they had met in three years.

"Miss Stanley, allow me to congratulate you on your success. It is certainly merited."

HOANGHO A CROOKED RIVER.

It is 2,600 Miles Long, Draining 750,000 Square Miles.

The most crooked river in the world is the Chinese river Hoangho, or Yellow river. It is crooked both in habits and shape and a more uncertain stream cannot be found, for it is subject to sudden changes of depth, volume and channel, says the Montreal Family Herald. Before the great floods of 1853 its outlet was 300 miles south of its present mouth.

The Hoangho, in its course of 2,600 miles, drains nearly 750,000 square miles of land. Its crookedness can be gathered from the following facts: Flowing from the Kuen Luen mountains, it runs northwest, then northeast, then changes to east as far as Hanchow, whence it flows due north to Dunchu. Here it takes a complete curve eastward for some 200 miles, then abruptly goes direct south. For some 200 miles it flows on to Tungchow, then changes to an easterly direction to Hoaking. Avoiding its former bed, it finally flows to the northeast and enters the sea at the Gulf of Pechili.

Other very crooked rivers are the Brahmapootra, the Niger, the Volga, the Mississippi and the Jordan, but these are far behind the Hoangho for irregularity of course.

SOLITUDE DRIVES TO MADNESS.

Effect of Life in Far-Off Siberian Settlement.

Harry de Windt, the explorer, describes in a recent book Sredni-Koymysk, a dismal Siberian settlement in the arctic regions. While the expedition party was there the place had a population of 300, fourteen being political offenders, the remainder officials, criminal colonists and natives of the Yakute, Lamute or Tungus races. This outpost drives one to insanity; there is not a single person of perfect mental balance among the exiles the author saw there. "A couple of years usually makes them shaky," said the official, "and the strongest minded generally become childish when they have been here for five or six." "But why is it?" I asked. My friend walked to the window and pointed to the mournful street, the dismal hovels and frozen river darkening in the dusk. "That," he said, "and the awful silence. Day after day, year after year, not a sound. I have stood in that street at midday and heard a watch tick in my pocket. Think of it, Mr. de Windt. I myself arrived here only a few months ago, but I shall soon have to get away for a change, or—" and he tapped his forehead significantly.

His Monumental Bluff.

When Brander Matthews went to his club one evening not long ago, according to the Bookman, he went to the letter box and looked through the compartment marked "M," and found in it a very peremptory dun from a tailor. Mr. Matthews was puzzled, as he had no dealings with the insistent tailor, until he again looked at the envelope and found that he had unwittingly opened a letter belonging to another member of the club; so he put the bill back into the envelope and returned it to the compartment. As Mr. Matthews was turning to go he noticed the member for whom the bill was intended coming toward the letter box. A minute later he came into the reading room, where Mr. Matthews was sitting with several others. Taking from its envelope the bill, he read it attentively for a few minutes, sighed, tore it into bits, then with a wink and the leer of an invincible conqueror commented: "Poor, silly little girl."

His Misery Complete.

When the doctor came to see what he could do for the Herlilly family, by whom he had been hastily summoned, he found Mrs. Herlilly in bed, her face and head adorned with plaster and bandages, and Mr. Herlilly sitting in solid misery at her bedside.

"Cheer up, Tim," said the doctor, "she'll pull through all right. I don't believe there are any bones broken."

"Don't be tryin' to raise me moind," said Mr. Herlilly, darkly, "for it's impossible, docter. Here Oi had her insured against accident of ivery kind only four days ago, an' paid down no \$5 as prompt as any man cud, an' before the week is gone she falls down stairs with a bucket of coal, an' now luke at her, married from ind to ind!"

—Youth's Companion.

Woman Sexton of a Cemetery.

Another Meriden woman has taken a position unusual for the fair sex. Mrs. Annie Gibson has been appointed by the Selectmen as sexton of the East cemetery, which is owned by the town. Her property adjoins the cemetery, and for many years she has had a sub-contract for caring for the yard. The position has no salary, but for every grave that is opened \$4 is paid to the sexton and out of this amount she will have to pay about half to the gravedigger. Many people owning plots call upon the sexton to keep the plots in order and for this work she will realize a fair income.—Hartford Times.

Arcadie.

A crimson, windy sunset,
Through the whimpering, leafless trees
A silent winter evening
Creeping in across the leas.
A snapping, crackling oak-log
In the ancient, blackened grate,
The wraiths of old-time faces
That the thin, red flames create.
A pipe of sweet tobacco
And a stein of ripened brew,
A shuff of tales and verses,
An easy chair—and you
Sing me no birds and sunshine,
No birds and skies of blue,
Nay, just a winter evening,
Some books, a grate—and you.
—Frederick Palmer in Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.