

...As the World Revolves...

Saw Lincoln Die.

Dr. Charles Sabin Taft, who was raised upon men's shoulders in Ford's theater into the box when Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, whose hands were on the martyred president's head when he breathed his last, died the other day at his home, No. 39 South Seventh avenue, Mt. Vernon. His death leaves only three survivors of those who were at Lincoln's deathbed. Dr. Taft was 65 years old. Death was due to cancer of the throat. He had been ill for a year, although not until last April was the nature of his malady known. Previously it had been



DR. CHARLES S. TAFT.

thought he was suffering from bronchitis.

Merriam and the Cabinet.

Director of the Census Merriam is a candidate for secretary of the interior. He entered the lists as soon as he learned Secretary Hitchcock had decided to withdraw, and he and his friends have been pressing his case at the white house on every possible occasion. Their activity has been especially noticeable since the death of the late Senator Cushman K. Davis. While Davis lived Merriam had little chance to secure so high an office as secretary of the interior because it was reasonably certain that Davis would fight his confirmation in the senate. With Davis out of the way, however, the aspect of affairs has changed so far as Merriam is concerned. He has taken the ground that he has earned higher honors by his management of the census bureau. If he cannot get into the cabinet he will at least make an effort to have his present appointment continued for a period of seven or eight years, and perhaps until the next census is taken. This has never been done before, but Merriam says that the time has arrived when congress ought to make a departure from the old rule and continue the bureau so that when 1901 comes around the machinery for taking the new census will be in perfect working order.

Roosevelt and Gardiner.

Gov. Roosevelt of New York, removed Col. Asa Bird Gardiner, district attorney of New York county, and appointed in his place Eugene A. Philbin of New York city, at present a member of the state board of charities. This is the fourth official Gov. Roosevelt has removed upon charges, the others being County Treasurer Hutson of Chautauqua county, Sheriff Hulet of Washington county, and Dr. Peter M. Wise, president of the state commission in lunacy. All of these were Republicans. Col. Gardiner is the first Democrat to be removed.

With his decision in the Gardiner case the governor filed a memorandum in part as follows: "The charge vitally affecting the conduct of the district attorney is that which relates to his attitude at and about election time toward the indictment of Chief of Police Devery, after the latter had issued a scandalously improper and sanctioned order to the police force under him."

A Great Reformer.

Dr. Felix Adler, of New York, who is now engaged with Bishop Potter and



REV. DR. ADLER.

other prominent citizens in the reform movement in New York, has a wide reputation as a leader in educational and philanthropic work, and has made a special study of the evils resulting from misrule, disorder, and vice in large cities. When the Society for Ethical Culture was founded in New York in 1876 Dr. Adler, who was then a professor at Cornell University, was called to be its head.

New Government in Japan.

It is only about two months since the present Japanese cabinet was formed, and already one of its members, Toru Hoshi, minister of communication, has resigned. It is hinted also that the resignation may hasten the overflow of the cabinet as a whole, though the reasons for it seem to have been personal rather than political, the minister having become involved in certain financial scandals.

Japanese cabinets never have been long-lived. There have been nine of them since 1885, with an average tenure of office of only twenty months. That is not so bad, however, considering that the government has been all this time an experiment and that political parties are only imperfectly developed as yet. The principal force in the direction of affairs aside from the crown has been that of the old clan leaders, and the opposition has been generally represented by two separate organizations, the progressists and the liberals. In 1898 they managed to overcome their mutual distrust so far as to form both a coalition and a ministry, but the latter was short-lived. It lasted just four months, and then there was a reaction which brought in the cabinet of the Marquis Yamagata, which continued in office until October of this year, or during a term of twenty-two months.

The Chinese Indemnity.

Sir Robert Hart, director of the Chinese maritime customs, has written a letter to the Pekin correspondent of the Paris Temps pointing out how difficult it will be for China to comply with demands for an enormous indemnity. According to the terms of the joint demand of the powers China will be called upon to pay a money indemnity to all the government, societies, companies, and individuals that suffered losses in the Boxer riots. Though no definite total is named, Sir Robert Hart estimates that when the multitudinous claims are presented they may easily amount to \$250,000,000. He justly remarks that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to collect such an indemnity from China in its present crippled and disorganized condition.

Weds Sister of Actress.

Forbes Robertson, the actor-manager, and Miss Gertrude Elliott, sister



MRS. FORBES ROBERTSON.

of Maxine Elliott, were married in London the other afternoon at All Souls' church. The ceremony was most quiet. There were no bridesmaids, but the bride was supported by Mrs. Madeline Reilly, the playwright, Norman Forbes was the best man.

A Jury Must Be Unanimous.

Colorado has a provision in its constitution allowing a jury in a civil case to consist of less than twelve men. Under this provision the last legislature enacted a law declaring that nine men on a jury of twelve would be sufficient to render a verdict. The Colorado supreme court has now declared this law to be unconstitutional and void, and it is probable that all cases decided by juries impeached under this law will have to be retried. The point made by the court is that a jury must be unanimous. When the constitution placed no restriction on the power of the legislature to provide for juries of less than twelve members it did not lay aside the old common law idea that demands unanimity in a jury's verdict. Thus, while the Colorado legislature can constitutionally make nine men sufficient for a jury, it cannot authorize nine members in a jury of twelve to render a verdict.

Missouri River Commission.

The decision of the Congressional committee on rivers and harbors to abolish the Missouri river commission, and by virtue of that act to make no more appropriations for the improvement of the "Old Muddy" is already exciting violent protest from the states of Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri. The people of these states can not understand why congress should fail to recognize the merits of the Missouri, and why they should not have the benefit of the hundreds of thousands that have heretofore been expended annually in efforts to establish permanent navigable channels.

Ninety-Seven and at Work.

Sidney Cooper, R. A., the famous painter of cattle, was 97 this year, and is hard at work on a picture for next year's academy. The painting is a five-foot canvas—a picture of sheep. It is painted from studies made by Mr. Cooper in 1845. The artist works from 9 till 12:30 every day and says he feels better than for the last four years.

SAYINGS and DOINGS

Cures by Power.

Mrs. Weldon, of Texas—not a name of itself to conjure with, nor that of a society beauty. Merely that of a middle-aged widow, bereft of her one child, who heals human ills by the laying on of hands. To Mrs. Weldon come thousands of America's richest, seeking relief from their ailments. None, it is said, goes away without relief. And her only means of curing them is by the laying on of her hands. No one has explained her phenomenal power otherwise than as she has explained it herself. She says that when her only child died she begged that she, too, might die. It was then that her marvelous power was conferred upon her. In a vision she was given the power to heal. Two continents have rufed with her wondrous works. Princes, royalty itself, men and women of high estate, have been her anxious patients. At Paris during the Exposition her successes were a topic equaled by nothing the Exposition had to offer. Men of the world, scoffers at the super-natural, came, doubted, were healed and became converts.



Mrs. Weldon.

New Minister to Turkey.

J. A. G. Leishman has been named by the president as minister to Turkey. He succeeds Mr. Strauss, who



J. A. G. LEISHMAN.

came home some time ago for a short visit and later declined to return.

Author of Heavenly Twins.

Miss Beatrice Harraden, who sustained a severe accident while mountaineering in Norway last autumn, is recovering and has returned to her home at Hampstead, England. She slipped from her pony, seriously injuring her ankle and foot. While in Norway she received a startling revelation of the free-and-easy ways of the translator. Her "Ships that Pass in the Night" has been rendered into Norwegian. Examining it, she found the last chapter had been omitted. On remonstrating with the translator that worthy replied that in her judgment the story was greatly improved by the omission.

First Sale of Mormon Church.

An interesting relic of the early days of Mormonism, when Ohio was the home of the prophet Joseph Smith, has just been presented to the Western Reserve Historical society. It consists of a massive iron, fire-proof safe, which has held hundreds of thousands of dollars in money and valuables. For a number of years it was the depository of all the money in the Mormon church. Deeds of property, valuable diamonds and other gems belonging to the church were also stored in this little relic of bygone days.

Like all iron safes of the real old-fashioned type, this Mormon safe has hidden springs in sufficient number to tax the ingenuity of the person not acquainted with their location. One of the springs covers the keyhole. It works from without and is simple in construction. By pressing one's thumb on the iron stud nearest the keyhole the hole is immediately closed, giving the same appearance of having no keyhole whatever.

Rev. Frank A. Gregory, a son of the dean of St. Paul's and the oldest missionary of the S. P. G. in Madagascar, is the recipient of the cross of the Legion of Honor for his services not only to natives, but to the French soldiers in that island. This graceful action evidences the harmonious relations between the French and English missions. Mr. Gregory has been working in Madagascar for the last twenty-six years.

Plans are about complete for the building in Pittsburg of a monument to the memory of Col. A. L. Hawkins, who led the Tenth Pennsylvania regiment in the Philippines and died on the ocean transport which was bringing the regiment home.

Mme. Jean Pommerol, a French authoress and explorer, is about to start on a new expedition into the heart of Africa. Her object is to study the manners and customs of the natives in the Sahara and embody her experiences in a new book.



If the plans of Thomas W. Lawson to have Boston represented in the trial races to pick a defender for the America's Cup are successful, and if the Boston boat is selected for the honor, it will be Tom of Boston against Tom of London; copper against tea; Boston brains and New England seamanship against similar British products.

Although he does not say so in so many words Mr. Lawson hints that he will have the assistance and advice of that successful veteran of cup defense history, General Charles J. Paine, of Boston, owner in whole or in part of the Puritan, Mayflower and Volunteer.

The make-up of the crew has not been settled beyond the skipper, and Mr. Lawson hints that notable college athletes will have places in the crew, but this may be changed as the programme evolves. Mr. Lawson's desire to have the yacht sailed by New Englanders, from Watson down, with a sprinkling of amateurs, is in line with his desire to make the boat thoroughly representative of that section of the country that has led the world in yachting for years.

There will be no secrecy about the Boston boat. She will not be built in a tightly closed shed and launched in "petticoats," as was the Columbia. Neither will it be given out that she is to be built by one firm, while another is secretly at work upon her. The public will be at liberty to inspect her at all stages, and invitations will be issued to the members of the syndicate controlling the New York boat and to the Herreshoffs to attend the launching of the Boston yacht.

From now on all those connected with the building of the boat will

be offered by Mr. Lawson himself, in competition in a Boston flower show. Then various efforts were made to capture it. An offer of \$5,000 for a stock plant was made by Higginbotham, of Chicago. Then came an offer of \$15,000 from a New York firm for one half the product of the greenhouse at which it was produced. Mr. Lawson raised Mr. Higginbotham's offer by \$1,000, or \$7,000 for a single plant, to be given to the city of Boston for propagation by the city forester, provided its name be not changed and the right to propagate it be given to no one else. Then, the competition waxing warm, he made his offer of \$30,000 for the whole "output," or 8,000 plants. It was the largest price ever paid any variety of marketable flower.

Mr. Lawson is said to be willing to pay as extravagant a price for a winning yacht.

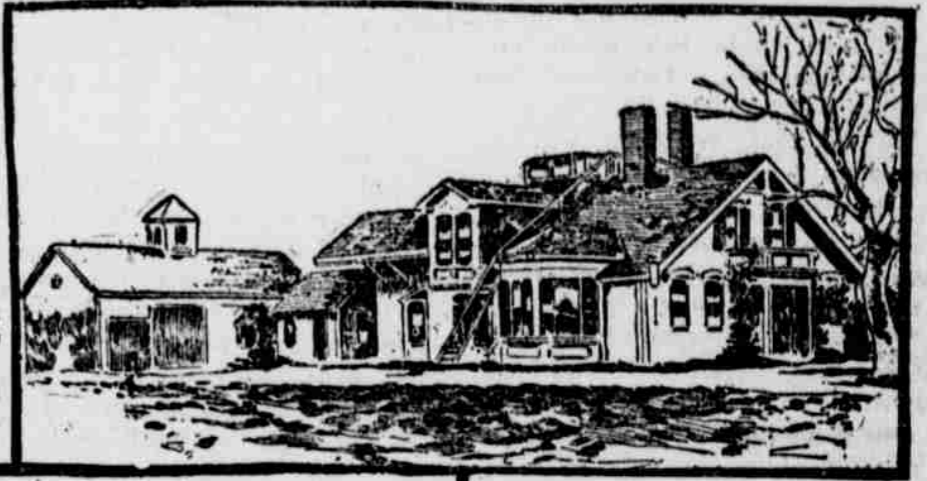
Beveridge and the Treaty.

Senator Beveridge of Indiana, became, temporarily at least, a factor in the senate during the discussion of

the committee waited upon him to engrave the set of gold buttons for the suit in which the first president of the United States was to take his oath of office, did the work and refused compensation, saying that the honor was sufficient.

Music and Plants.

The latest musical folly is that recently announced by Professor Hans Tietgen, a German musical savant. He has discovered plants that are sensitive to music. He says he has a plant that unfolds its leaves when some one begins playing, but closes them again if the music becomes dissonant. Some plants, he affirms, are stimulated by pleasant harmonies and a symphony will expedite the blossoming of a rose. It is to be hoped Professor Tietgen will follow up his investigations. If a single plant is amenable to the concord of sweet sounds a whole garden of plants should manifest the same peculiarity, provided there is music enough. A brass band might be usefully employed in expediting the products of a



MR. LAWSON'S TRAINING FARM.

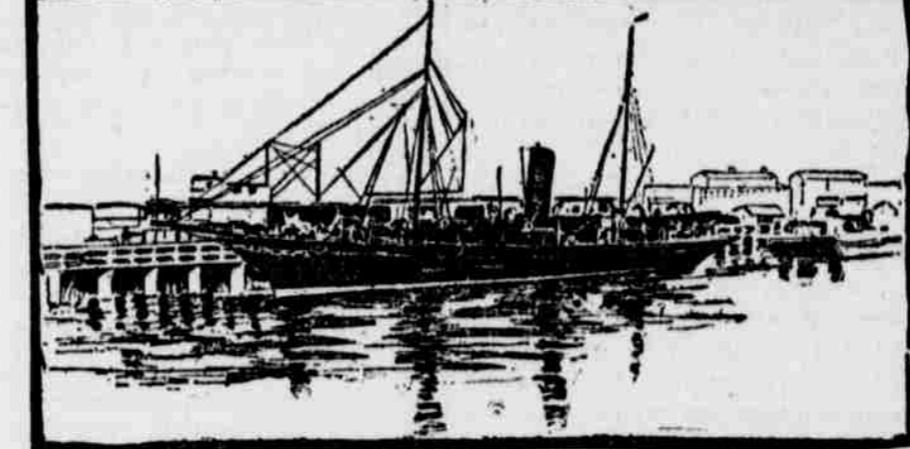
truck farm, while a mandolin orchestra could be relied upon to stimulate a flower garden much as it does a "rosebud garden of girls." Some discrimination should be used, however, in the music played. No one can imagine the havoc which might be created in a cabbage field or a celery farm if a Strauss tone poem were let loose in all its noisy dissonance.

Europe's Industrial Crisis.

The state department at Washington is advised by its consultants at some of the European trade centers that an industrial and financial crisis is impending there, if indeed it has not actually begun. From Germany comes the assertion that "the wave of industrial prosperity in Europe, which has steadily risen since 1895, has taken its turn and begun to recede;" that all signs point to a crisis in industrial lines before two years have passed, and that any political disturbance might bring on the inevitable crash with extreme suddenness. In verification of these discouraging predictions it is pointed out that house rents and industrial stocks have begun to decline, that factories are closing and that the shipping interests and water material industries are making the most of the South African and Chinese disturbances. German students of economics analyze the situation as being the result of overproduction.

Edinburgh university is to lose its octogenarian president. Sir William Muir, who is 81, will retire before the new century is many months old. His public service goes back to the Indian mutiny, through which he was in charge of the intelligence department at Agra.

Dr. Jameson, the leader of the famous raid on the Transvaal, left for South Africa today with the intention of urging Cecil Rhodes to push his scheme for the federation and pacification of South Africa.



ONE OF MR. LAWSON'S STEAM YACHTS.

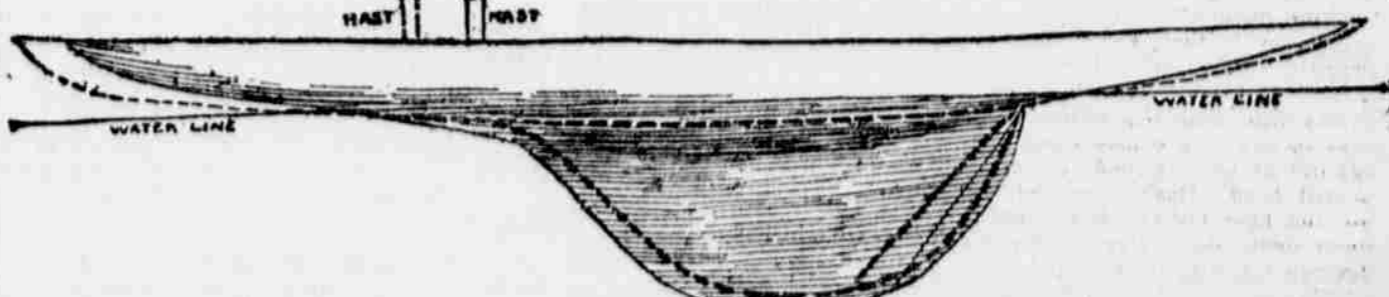
hustle. Designer Crowninshield gave an order last week for the model, that is the little wooden image to exact scale of the new boat. When this has been passed upon by the Advisory board it will be reduced to blue prints, and the work of drawing each frame and part to scale will be begun.

Mr. Lawson is a New Englander by birth and a Southerner by descent. He is in line from John Lawson, first surveyor-general of North Carolina in the province period, who came over from England in or about 1709, roamed about the country in the pursuit of his calling, came much in contact with the Indians and wrote a book on the Carolinas, which was published in London. Three of Mr. Lawson's uncles were Episcopal clergymen, and he was reared in the Episcopal faith.

Mr. Lawson's love of flowers and knowledge of them is one of his notable characteristics. The story of his "\$30,000 pink" has traveled the country. For four years before this particular carnation flower, Mr. Lawson was the purchaser of all that were grown, buying for his wife first when she was an invalid. Upon her recovery it was used largely in dinner table decorations, and in vases in their several homes. At length, out of compliment to his wife, it was given her name—"the Mrs. Thomas W. Lawson pink." Then the new flower won a silver cup,

the Hay-Pauncetote treaty. He had original and logical ideas about that instrument. He was opposed to the original draft and made his opposition felt both in and out of executive session. It would take a long time for Beveridge to overcome the impressions he created immediately after his first advent in Washington. The older senators will hardly forgive him for the course he pursued during the first session of the fifty-sixth congress. This was indicated about ten days ago when the number of the leaders of the Republican majority got together one night for a conference on the Hay-Pauncetote treaty. They assembled at a somewhat later hour than had been originally fixed and Senator Frye was the last member of the conference to arrive. As he entered the room where the meeting was to be held and glanced around at his dignified associates he caused a ripple of laughter by gravely asking, "What, has not the leader of the senate arrived? Really, I can not see how we can proceed to transact business." He mentioned no name, but everybody understood who he meant.

Charles Rollinson Lamb, the architect of the Dewey arch in New York city, is a grandson of Charles Rollinson, who was the most prominent steel engraver of his time, and who, when



THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE COLUMBIA AND LAWSON'S DEFENDER—THE SHADED HULL SHOWS THE LINES OF THE COLUMBIA AND THE DOTTED OUTLINE SHOWS WHAT LINES WILL BE FOLLOWED IN BUILDING LAWSON'S CUP DEFENDER. THE BOSTON BOAT WILL BE FIFTEEN FEET LONGER OVER ALL, WITH BEAM ABOUT THE SAME, POSSIBLY A LITTLE WIDER. SHE WILL HAVE A SHOALER BODY, WITH HER FORWARD OVERHANG CARRIED OUT FURTHER AND FULLER FORWARD ON THE WATER LINE. IT IS ALSO LIKELY THAT HER MAST WILL BE STEPPED FURTHER FORWARD.