

## AS THE WORLD REVOLVES

### Does Not Know Her Enemy.

The mystery surrounding the shooting of Edith Talbot, an actress, who was hit in the arm the other night at the stage door of the Bowdoin Square theater, is rendered more complex of solution by the announcement made by Miss Talbot to the effect that a wealthy Boston merchant shot her. Shortly after the affair Miss Talbot stated that she did not know who



MISS TALBOT.

was her assailant, but that a woman had fired the shot. This story she now denies. The police, on the other hand, affirm that the wound was self-inflicted and can assign no other motive for the act. Miss Talbot is preparing to get married to Thomas Sharp, a St. Louis banker, whom, it is affirmed, she has never seen, but who courted her by correspondence.

### Peat Found in Norway.

While the island of Ando in the only place in Norway where coal has been discovered, peat of good quality is found in great abundance throughout the country. The number of peat bogs is so great that nearly every farmer has one or more in his waste lands. In consequence of the expense of coal, peat has recently been used along with it and instead of it to heat steam boilers in factories with very satisfactory results. In the case of peat, however, a boiler is required with a much larger furnace than that used for coal. Peat leaves more ashes than coal, but the expense is much less.

### Famous Actress Stricken.

Miss Olga Nethersole, the actress who recently attained so much notoriety in connection with her production of "Sapho," is seriously ill with the grip in New York. At one time alarming rumors regarding her condi-



OLGA NETHERSOLE.

tion were current, but these reports were said by her physician to be exaggerated. Acting under her physician's orders, Miss Nethersole will rest all this week. At last reports she was resting quietly and all fears as to safety had been dispelled.

Miss Nethersole is one of the most striking and powerful actresses on the American stage. In Atlanta last year she presented "The Profligates" and "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray," and in both plays made a profound impression. The quality of her work has placed her in the foremost ranks of her profession.

### Wisconsin Leads the Van.

The Wisconsin Legislature has asked Congress to submit to the states a constitutional amendment providing for the election of senators by popular vote. The present method of election has not worked badly in Wisconsin. Under it men have been elected who have as a rule enjoyed the full respect and confidence of their constituents and who would have found it as easy to get a nomination in a convention as in a caucus. Legislative deadlocks have not happened often. Yet there is a strong sentiment among the people of the state in favor of a change in the method of choosing senators.

### Family of Arsenal Founders.

It has been remarked in connection with the late Lord Armstrong as not a little singular that while he was the founder of Elswick, the arsenal of the north, a member of another branch of the same family was the founder of the royal arsenal at Woolwich in 1716. This was John, a scion of the Liddesdale Armstrongs, who became a very celebrated military officer and engineer, serving with the highest reputation under the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene.

## Current Topics

### Appealed to Congress.

There is a bill before the present session of congress directing the commissioner of patents to issue a patent to James Selden Cowden of Virginia. Mr. Cowden asserts that he has complied with all the requirements in the application for the patent, but although the time in which the application should be acted upon has expired he is unable to secure such papers. This he regards as unjust, inasmuch as a machine built practically on the same lines as the one described in the patent application has for some time been in actual operation, and has been purchased by a foreign government for army use. He also says the inability to secure an American patent is the only thing in the way of making a very profitable deal in which he will secure \$500,000 in cash, and another amount in stock for his patent. He says his machine is worth \$50,000,000. At the patent office it is explained that a patent was granted to Mr. Cowden some time ago, and this he failed to avail himself of for the lack of funds.

### Heads Billion Dollar Trust.

Charles M. Schwab, president of the Carnegie Steel company, who has been selected for the presidency of the great billion dollar steel combination just formed, began his career in the steel business at 17, his age when he entered the Carnegie works as a stake driver at \$6 a week. He is 37 years old, and was born in Pennsylvania. He



CHARLES M. SCHWAB.

received a common school education, and at 15 went to work driving a nail wagon. For a year he was a grocery clerk, and then secured work driving stakes for a new building for the Carnegie works at Pittsburg. In six years he became chief engineer of the works, a few years later general manager, and in 1896 a partner in the firm.

### Want the Tiger Executed.

The ferocious Bengal tiger Rajah, which killed Albert Neilson, an attendant at Boston's zoo in Indianapolis, last week, is still alive, although bearing many wounds of red-hot irons, and has seven bullets in his head and body. There is a demand of the attendants of the zoo and of the people generally that Rajah shall be killed, and it is understood that shall be his end. The proprietors of the zoo and its animal trainers are specially interested just at present to see if the fierce animal can survive so many injuries. "The tragedy of the mangling and the death of young Neilson still horrifies the public," says an Indianapolis telegram, "but the attendants of the zoo find cause for rejoicing in the fact that Captain Bonavita did not meet a somewhat similar fate from the troop of sixteen lions which he was exercising. They heard the roar of Rajah and smelled the fresh blood of young



ALBERT NEILSON.

Neilson and Bonavita had just time enough to escape their attack. The terrible incident at the zoo appears to have aroused the savage nature of all the wild beasts, but extra precautions are taken to keep them under control."

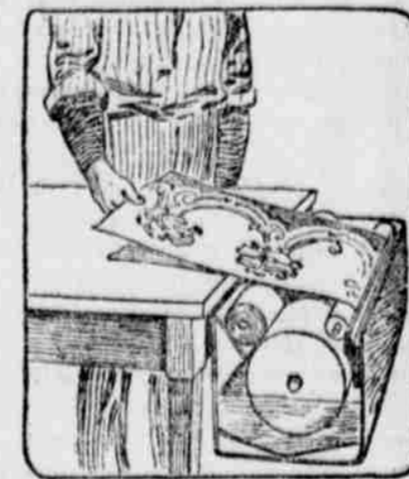
### Metals Need Rest.

It may sound strangely to hear persons talk about a "tired steel axle" or a "fatigued iron rail," but that sort of talk is heard along railways and in machine shops and is considered correct. "What caused the axle to break?" asks the railway superintendent. "Fatigue of the metal," answers the inspector. Sinews of steel can tire as well as muscles of brawn, and metal that does not have its rest will cease to do its work and may cause great damage. At least so the engineers say.

## SCIENCE AND PROGRESS

### Aids the Paper Hanger.

It is somewhat of a laborious task, and one that requires both time and skill, to apply paste to wall paper, and an automatic machine to do the work will be appreciated by all who are connected with the trade. The illustration shows a machine lately designed for this purpose. It consists primarily of a sheet-iron tank with brackets at the ends to support a pair of rollers. The lower portion of the



APPLYING PASTE.

tank contains the paste, in which the feed roller is partially immersed, the small roller serving to press the paper tightly against the feed roller in its revolution. The roll of paper can be mounted on a rod extending across the tank or laid loosely on the slanting support. In the latter case it rests against the feed roller and unwinds as the roller is revolved. To put the apparatus in operation the end of the paper is passed across the paste roller and under the small roller, and as the tank is mounted at the end of the cutting table the paper is drawn onto the latter and measured for cutting, as required. At the outer edge of the tank, and in touch with the paper, is a brush, which serves to smooth and remove any excess of paste from the paper.

### Mrs. Biddle Will Remarry.

Mrs. Constance Drexel Biddle, formerly Miss Constance Morris, the dashing young actress, will marry Millionaire Fernando Yznaga immediately after her husband, Dr. Clement Biddle, will have secured a divorce. It is learned that Mrs. Biddle will not contest the divorce suit brought by her husband, the noted United States naval surgeon, not wishing to be dragged into court. She has, however, made a public statement denying the allegations of improper conduct. After marrying Fernando Yznaga she will retire from the stage.

### Single Wheel Vehicle.

The accompanying picture shows quite a novelty in the way of driving vehicles, lately patented. The inventor states that the vehicle is designed to take the place of cycling and horseback riding, but to make a pleasure vehicle out of it the size of the wheel should be increased until it will readily pass over ruts and obstructions in the road. The wheel here shown would answer for use on smooth roads, and for training trotting horses on tracks. The apparatus would also be



FOR TRAINING HORSES.

useful in breaking colts, as it would be next to impossible for the animal to upset the vehicle or to become entangled and throw itself, and the trainer, being so close to the ground, could instantly step out of danger in case of an accident. The device consists of a curved shaft, provided with the supporting wheel at the lower end and a pivoted turret connecting it to the back pad of the harness. This latter arrangement would allow the horse to turn completely around without entangling anything but the reins.

### Tribute to American Invention.

Angus Sinclair, who is probably the most foremost writer of the day on locomotive engineering and locomotive history, says in an article reviewing the birth and history of railroads: "An impression prevails that railroads and their operating machinery were copied by pioneer American engineers from British models. These engineers may have copied the plans of making tramways, but the rolling stock used was purely the product of native ingenuity, and always bore the stamp of the original American designer. There is good reason for believing that the American express train would have resounded through our valleys as soon as it did had not James Watt, the inventor of the steam engine, and George Stephenson, credited with inventing the locomotive, never lived or never built an engine."

# THE TROUBLE IN SPAIN.



THIS MAP SHOWS THE CITIES IN SPAIN WHERE RIOTS ARE MOST SERIOUS.

The riots arose in an anti-Carlist demonstration, caused by the marriage of the Princess of Asturias with a man of supposedly Carlist sympathies.

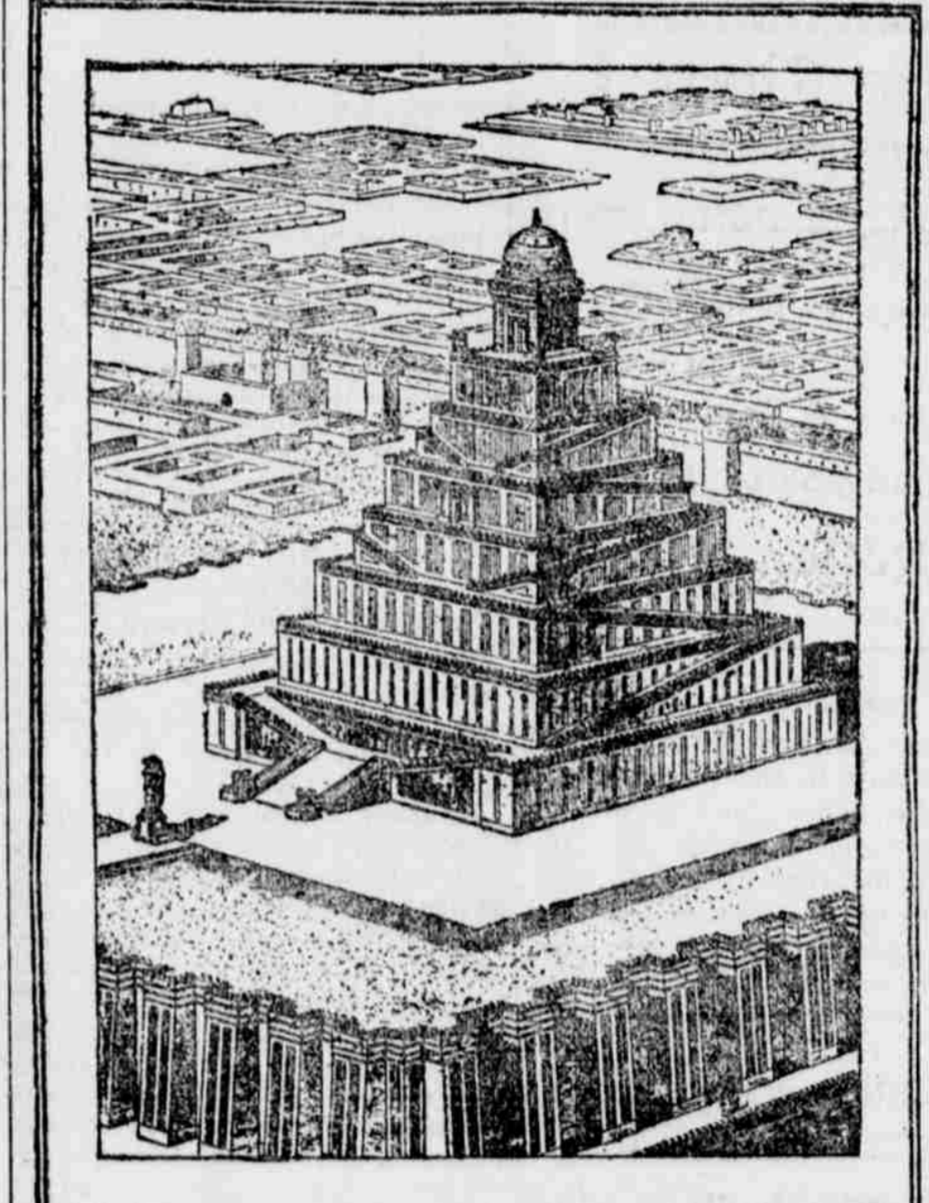
General Weyler has established a rigid press censorship. El Heraldo has been suppressed, with many other papers. For all that, the news leaks out that

Spain is at present in worse shape and facing a graver crisis than at any time in her history, not excepting the period of the Spanish-American war.

## The Birthplace of Abraham.

The birthplace of Abraham is to be dug up, and the work of excavation will be begun within a few weeks at Ur, from which city the great ancestor of the Hebrews originally set out, with his family and relations, on the way to Palestine. A flood of light is expected to be thrown upon early narratives of Genesis by the expedition organized for the purpose, which is led by Dr. Edgar J. Banks and backed by the Royal University of Breslau, Germany. The ancient city is represented at present by a group of mounds, the most conspicuous feature of which is the remains of a gigantic pyramidal tower, regarded by Assyriologists as the most perfect specimen of Babylonian archi-

ecture known. This structure, which is built in a series of rectangular stages, like the famous Tower of Babel, with a flight of broad steps running up the outside, once supported the temple of the Moon God—a fame which for more than 3,000 years was the center of moon worship in Assyria. The Moon God was a great divinity anciently in that part of the world, and exerted a powerful influence over the minds of the people. Indeed, the tower was hardly more than an immense altar, and the adoration of Sin, the lunar deity, was so profound that his name has survived in Sinai, the "Mountain of the Moon God in Palestine, as it is called.



THE GREAT TEMPLE AT UR AS IT PROBABLY APPEARED IN ITS GLORY.

### A Baltimore Mystery.

The case of Miss Frances Caspari, who was recently tried in Baltimore upon the charge of obtaining money under false pretenses, involves a mystery which Hawthorne would have liked to analyze and Conan Doyle's friend, Sherlock Holmes, might well return to earth to unravel.

Miss Caspari has been principal of a public school in Baltimore, a prominent church worker, and secretary to the pastor of one of the leading Unitarian churches in that city. During her service in the latter capacity she secured sums of money from the members, until the total reached \$180,000, upon the assurance that the money would go to the Leaflet association of New York, which would pay the investors a dividend of from 8 to 10 per cent. Such confidence was reposed in Miss Caspari that most of the members advanced the money without question, not even asking for a receipt.

For a time some dividends were paid, but when they ceased investors grew suspicious and made an investigation. They found there was no such association and demanded a settlement, with the result that Miss Caspari was unable to make good about one-half the amount invested, and that many of the checks were found to be worthless, being either forged or drawn upon banks

where she had no money. Then she was arrested, tried first upon the question of sanity, and found sane, then upon the legal charge and found guilty.

The mystery of the case is, first, that Miss Caspari is a woman of irreproachable character and of decided intellectual ability. She insists upon it that the Leaflet association will make the deficiency good, even when confronted with proof there is no such association. She will not say where the money was invested or by whom. She has not used the money herself, she has none of it in her possession, and it cannot be found that she has been benefited a cent's worth by her work. Yet still she insists there is such an organization and that it will pay in time, while saying she knows no one connected with it and nothing about it. Her own counsel is as much in the dark as any one else, and his theory is that she is the tool of some stronger-minded person, upon whose suggestion she has acted. It is apparent that Miss Caspari either is much shrewder than the ordinary criminal or that she has been the victim of hypnotic suggestion. Which?

### Reflected Glory Club.

The suggestion that it is time to organize a Reflected Glory club comes from a Chicago man. He neglects to

say whether he would be eligible for membership, but he very carefully outlines his plan, as follows:

Something is certainly due to the husbands of women who are constantly in the public eye. It is unfair to them that all the glory that is lying around loose should be hoarded by their better halves. In many instances they have to work hard to support their wives, and the accumulation of glory merely adds to the burden. Just a plain woman is worthy of any man's effort, but a woman wrapped up in the self-importance that usually accompanies fame is nothing short of a terrible load, and as some slight recompense for his labors in her behalf the husband should have a little of the glory shed upon him—at least enough to let the public know that such a man exists. To this end I think a Reflected Glory club should be organized, and it seems to me it would be quite appropriate to make Mr. Wilhelm of Holland the president of it, with either Mr. Ella Wheeler Wilcox or Mr. Charlotte Perkins Stetson as vice president. They are all estimable and accomplished gentlemen, I believe, but in the language of the day they do not seem to "cut much ice" just at present. Among the charter members I would include Mr. Alice Blackwell Stone, Mr. Carrie Chapman Catt, Mr. Mary Elizabeth Lease and Mr. Carrie Nation. No doubt some of your readers will be able to suggest others who should be included in the list, and I think you would confer a lasting boon upon some very deserving men if you would give a little space to those who are entitled to a place on the roster of the club. If I think of any others I certainly shall send in the names as a mere matter of justice to them.

### Oppressive Labor Contracts.

The killing of a negro farm laborer in South Carolina has brought to light an oppressive form of labor contract in use in at least one county, under which negroes are practically held in slavery. The agreement which ignorant blacks are induced to sign gives to the employer the power of imprisonment and the right to sell the services of the signers to third parties. In accordance with this kind of contract negroes are confined in stockades to keep them to the fulfillment of their agreements, and are treated like convicts. The killing of one of the victims, apparently for trying to escape from a stockade, has aroused a Columbia judge to attack this system, and in his charge to the grand jury he denounces it as worse than slavery.

The unreliability of negro labor will probably account in large part for the creation of this illegal contract system. Farmers in the south cannot depend always upon their colored employes to work continuously through a season. The negro does not take his responsibilities as seriously as the white man does. He is often known to weary of his task at the most critical time in the gathering of crops and to go off and seek amusement while the cotton or tobacco perishes through neglect. Southern employers of labor say it is necessary to have a rigid contract of some kind in order to keep colored laborers from defaulting on their agreements. This is undoubtedly the excuse which the South Carolina planters will give for their oppressive system.

Westbrook seminary, a Universalist school at Portland, Me., has received a legacy of \$10,000 from the estate of Miss Eunice A. Niles of North Jay. The legacy is divided into two funds of \$5,000 each; the income of one is to be used by the trustees as they think best, and the income of the other is to be used in aiding worthy and needy students. The latter fund is to be known as the Eunice A. Niles fund.

An Indian skeleton was found in New York recently by workmen engaged in digging the new subway. Close beside the skull were found clay pipes and a tomahawk.