

MACHINES OF WAR.

THE GREAT MUSEUM OF WARFARE AT CHICAGO.

Guns Fired at Bunker Hill, Yorktown and Fort Sumter and the Ones That Are Yet to Be Fired for Cause—Magnificent Weapons.

ENCIRCLING THE central division of the space occupied by the War Department in the Government Building at the World's Fair, is a fringe of old guns. All are black with age, or reddened with rust. Many weapons are they when contrasted with the great twelve-inch rifle. Insignificant, when viewed with but a passing glance. Yet any one of them could tell, were its mouth gaped with speech, more of the glory and sorrow, the pomp and horror, the pride and despair, of war, than all the fine new armaments of the nations.

Sometimes one of the girls at the carriage machine will stop her work to call the attention of a visitor to these silent memorials. Comparatively few, however, seem to care for what war was, because of interest in what war will be should it come. The veterans hunt up their old comrades, how-



MOTCHKISS MOUNTAIN GUN ON PACK MULE.

ever, and fraternize with them, for these old guns and a stand of battered muskets are full of interest to men with memories of thirty years ago.

At the southwestern corner of the enclosure is the gun that fired the first shot at Fort Sumter. Most people regard this as being the first shot fired during the war. Even if, as is said, some one down in Texas burnt powder previously, this old cannon opened active hostilities. It is a four-pounder, made with a brass or bronze eagle in center. It is unmounted. As a companion piece to this old cannon, a gun that fired the last shot at the Merrimack is mounted. This is a wrought-iron three-inch bore. Its record is its last shot at the battle of Appomattox Court House, prior to the surrender of Lee's army in 1865. It was the left piece of Elder's Battery, Battery B, First United States Artillery.

Of the other old cannon, one is a bronze English flint lock with three-inch bore.

There is a Chinese breech loader of the fourteenth century, a standing monument of the adage, "There is nothing new under the sun." There is displayed also a veteran of the Mexican war in a bronze six-pounder. The bronze French gun Lafayette presented to the United States is also in the exhibit, and others, including a gun the British forces surrendered at Yorktown. A novelty is an old-fashioned Colt's revolving cannon, with six shots, the caliber being two inches.

Relics from battlefields are not numerous, but whatever there is possesses interest. There is the stump of an oak tree that was cut down by musket balls during the battle of Spotsylvania Courthouse, May 12, 1864. A wheel is shown with its record in detail. Other relics of the rebellion are shown in a stand of bent, shattered and rusted muskets gathered from many battlefields. Several have bullets imbedded in the metal of the barrels. There are specimens of the balls fired from Fort Sumter on April 13, 1861.

To mark clearly the difference between what is thought warlike to-day and the weapons of the past, an exhibit of modern arms is made in close proximity to the old guns just described. In an upright case are models of most of the famous European makes; not all, however, of the latest model. A Martini-Henry is an ugly looking weapon, with a sword bayonet with saw-teeth on one side. The Springfield breech loader, model of 1873, is shown with a trowel bayonet.



12-INCH BREECHELOADING ARMY RIFLE, WEIGHT FIFTY-TWO TONS.

It has been the aim of the government to show the advance in gun making from the earliest times to the present. That this end may be attained, on the east wall of the building is arranged a series of old guns, which work up through the centuries, passing the arms just described, to the most recent models, which are arranged convenient for handling on a horizontal platform.

The oldest of all is a Chinese wheel-lock pistol. Next comes an Arabian matchlock. There is a smooth-bore matchlock of the fourteenth century and a weighty wheel-lock rifle of 1520. The growth of the flintlocks, invented in the sixteenth century, is shown. An Albanian musket and a fine Arabian piece, with a barrel fully six feet long, is shown. There is a matchlock from India, a stand of old locks of all pat-

terns, specimens of swivel guns and a table of shot of all kinds. Specimens of brass cannon balls are shown, chain-shot that has seen service, and a curious contrivance called a turbine shot, which is cylindrical and has a hole passing through the center. Among these relics is a little French howitzer, mounted on a stand which would make an interesting paper-weight, but in modern warfare would be insignificant.

Of the recent arms, the Krag-Jorgenson, approved for service in the army of the United States, is of greatest interest. In the exhibit of the patent office is shown the approved gun of the model of February 21, 1893. The gun is of thirty caliber, sighted for 2,000 yards, and adapted to the use of smokeless powder. The barrel is thin, it having been found unnecessary to use the cooling jacket that was formerly thought necessary. The breech block has a double motion and can be removed and thrown away on pressing the trigger fully home, so that the piece can be rendered useless, if its owner is obliged to discard it.

The clip, or repeating reservoir, holds five cartridges. From a repeater the gun can instantly be converted into a single shot weapon. The new model has several improvements over the older style of Krag-Jorgenson as used abroad. Patent rights will be secured for the use of the United States government and the guns manufactured here. Smokeless powder, it is said, is a complete success. A Springfield rifle is shown, caliber thirty, with thirty-six and one-half grains of powder, penetration at twenty yards was nineteen and a half inches in an oak block, crossing the grain, and twenty-four and a half inches going with the grain. The Springfield rifle was selected for the test, to prove that guns now in use can be converted and used without danger from the rapid ignition of the powder. The most recent models of European countries are all of the same general type as that of the gun approved for use in the country. Smokeless powder is favored, the use of small calibers, and the loading "clip" entering the lock from side or bottom appearing in all the rifles.

Of modern ordnance there are many examples. Noticeable are the rapid-firing guns of the Hotchkiss type.

Guns of this make are calibrated for balls running from eight pounds to thirty-three pounds, fitting a four-inch caliber. For the field there is a piece throwing a ball weighing 13.2 pounds 6,000 yards with a charge of smokeless powder, the initial velocity being 3,200 feet per second. For naval use a fine rifle is made to throw a three-inch fifteen-pound shell 5,000



ARMY DEPARTMENT IN THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

yards. There are hydraulic cylinders to take up the recoil and a shoulder whereby the gunner can aim and discharge his piece. From ten to twelve shots per minute can be fired. Small pieces are made for use in mountain warfare, so arranged that they can be carried on pack animals. They are shown in the War Department mounted on mules. Some of the Hotchkiss guns are exhibited on the man-of-war on the lake shore east of the government building, while the company has a special exhibit in the transportation building. Here is shown a stand of shells, with cardboard imitations of the new smokeless powder. One of the best of the naval guns fires seventy-one pound shells per minute.

The big twelve-inch rifle receives much attention from visitors. This gun weighs fifty-two tons, fires a projectile weighing 1,000 pounds, the charge of powder being 450 pounds. Its length is thirty-six and a half feet and it cost the government \$32,000. It was manufactured at the Watervliet arsenal at West Troy, N. Y. This is the largest gun made in America. There is also a United States eight-inch breech loading steel rifle on service carriage.

WILLIAM E. QUINBY.

Sketch of the New American Minister to the Netherlands.

For the next four years the United States will be represented at the Netherlands' capital by one of America's most distinguished journalists, William E. Quinby, editor and chief owner of the Detroit Free Press. When Mr. Quinby became connected with the Free Press in 1861, that paper was suffering from the vacuum created by the removal to Chicago of Wilbur F. Storey, the Nestor of Western Journalism.

Though a WILLIAM E. QUINBY, young man he had well defined ideas of what a newspaper should be; he had built an ideal and at once set about to produce its counterpart. The paper had been aggressively partisan in its tendency. This spirit was quickly curbed by the new helmsman and the publication soon had the confidence and respect of the people of the State, irrespective of party. For all that is good and pure in American journalism the Free Press stands as a shining example of the best possibilities. Mr. Quinby is a native of the State of Maine and comes of good old Yankee lineage. The active management of his paper will devote on his two sons during his sojourn abroad.

WING SHOTS.

BY J. A. EDGEMONT.

The question now is, has the tariff question passed into a state of innocuous desuetude?

The Rothchilds only have one more nation to conquer—America. Can they conquer her?

It has at last been discovered what has become of the tariff. They've got it in Ohio to fight their campaign on.

It is said that Gov. Stone, of Missouri got into a fight the other day. We always thought that this Stone was a hard one.

Man can only work a small portion of the time. He must sleep, he must eat, he must rest. But interest works every hour, night and day, week day and Sunday, winter and summer.

A man in this city inserted an ad in a Chicago Sunday paper for a room. On the succeeding Tuesday he had received 601 replies. There is nothing like advertising in this world.

The price of coal continues to rise, the price of wheat continues to fall. In one case prices are forced up by a trust, in the other they are forced down by a conspiracy. In both cases the farmer suffers.

Jim Belford in a recent speech at Denver, said, "there is going to be a fight over the silver question as sure as God made little apples." Belford is the man who said somewhat earlier in his career, "If I owned Texas and h—l, I would rent out Texas and live in h—l."

Ex-Secretary Foster has spoken. He has elucidated a great mystery. He says the tariff has more to do with the present panic than anybody would imagine. If he will now explain how the tariff caused his bank account to be overdrawn \$136,000 he will confer a favor upon humanity.

Grover Cleveland is a great fisherman. He fishes on decoration day, he fishes on the fourth of July; he fishes in season and out of season. But when he begins angling with that extra session bait, he may catch a whale, and, then like a certain other historical character, he will yearn for somebody to help him let go.

The plate papers are wailing. "O if there were only more confidence in the country, everything would be all right." Is that so? Well, the way to have confidence is to have something for it to rest on. Confidence does not create conditions, but is created by conditions. It is hard to have a maximum of confidence on a minimum of currency.

The republican politicians are blowing loudly that the cause of the panic is that we have a democratic administration. Yet the democratic administration hasn't done a blessed thing but change a few postmasters and call an extra session of congress. If little things of that nature can cause a panic our finances must be in a shaky condition indeed.

If J. Sterling Morton don't quit getting himself interviewed on subjects that he doesn't know any more about than the law allows, he will soon find himself occupying a position similar to that of another noted Nebraskan—Mr. George Francis Train. If Nebraska could be represented at the World's Fair by J. Sterling, George Francis and Buffalo William, wouldn't she gain a blooming reputation.

Col. Calhoun says in the last issue of the Lincoln Herald, that if Cleveland is using the public patronage for a club to beat democratic congressmen into line for the repeal of the Sherman law, he will go down to posterity the most despised man who ever sat in the presidential chair." If he is! Don't you know he is, Bro. Calhoun? Take your own case, for instance, or most any other case in sight. What is the use of beating the devil around the bush?

The World-Herald tells of a married couple in this city who did not live together in that peace and harmony that should mark the conjugal relation. One day when the man was asleep the woman concluded she would get rid of him. Taking an old butcher-knife she tried to cut his throat. The knife was dull and the sawing woke the man up. "Here," he said, "if you want to kill me I want you to sharpen that knife." While she was whetting the instrument the man concluded he didn't want to die after all and knocked her on the head with a club.

The love which the republican papers of Nebraska show to our republican governor is really pathetic. He has been called all the names in the vocabulary from traitor down. He has been abused, he has been traduced, he has been denounced. He has been asked to resign, he has been told that he was a disgrace to the state; that he was a Catholic; that he was a mugwump; that he was Rosewater's tool, etc., etc., ad infinitum. This is a vulgar and vulgarly untrue. We told 'em all about Crotzner before they elected him. But they wouldn't believe it. And now every little republican editor in the state is making faces at him. Well, our conscience is clear. We did all in our power to prevent the calamity. But it availed not. They elected him. Now let 'em take their medicine.

For the quarter ending June 30 the failures in the United States number 3,190, as against 2,119 for the second quarter of 1892. For the first six months of 1893 the failures number 6,401, against 5,593 during the same period in 1892, showing an increase of 898. The total liabilities of all the failures occurring in the first six months of 1893 are \$108,000,000, while for the same period in 1892 they were \$62,000,000, showing an increase of \$46,000,000.

The St. Charles hotel at the foot of O Street is the most popular farmer's house in Lincoln. Only \$1.50 a day.

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Altgeld's Study of Criminal Jurisprudence.

By his pardon of the anarchist Governor Altgeld of Illinois has become a national character. His position before the public can hardly be said to be an enviable one, but some recent investigations indicate that Altgeld has been in past years quite a student of criminal jurisprudence.

It may be said that the press has universally condemned Altgeld, but in the great majority the criticisms have been more on the fact that Altgeld extended the pardon as an act of justice rather than an act of mercy. In 17,000 words he arraigned the court and court officials for unfairness and came very near completely exonerating the anarchists from all blame.

The sentiments expressed by Altgeld in his statements of "reasons for pardon" has led to an investigation of his "sentiment record."

Altgeld was at one time a judge of a Chicago court. He was the author of a book entitled "Our Penal Machinery and Its Victims."

In this book Author Altgeld says: Our penal machinery is immense, costly, and its victims are counted by millions, and strange to say, the feeling is spreading that somehow or other it does not protect society. It does not seem to be a success. It does not deter the young offender, and it seems not to reform nor restrain the old offender. One is naturally led to ask whether there is not something wrong with the system, whether it is not based on a mistaken principle, whether it is not a great mill which somehow or other supplies its own grist, a maelstrom which draws from the outside and then keeps its victims moving in a circle until swallowed in the vortex.

For it seems first to make criminals out of many who are not naturally so, and second, to render it difficult for those once convicted to ever be anything else but criminals, and third, to fall to repress those who do not want to be anything but criminals.

"The truth is," said Author Altgeld, "our penal machinery seems to recruit its victims from among those who are fighting an unequal fight in the struggle for existence."

He maintained that the manner in which arrests are made by police officers rather than inspiring respect for the penal machine, prompted hatred. Of the 32,800 people arrested in Chicago, said Mr. Altgeld, in the year, 10,743 were discharged by police magistrates, to say nothing of those against whom the grand jury returned no bill. These men, he declared, were marched through the streets, some were clubbed, some handcuffed and nearly all were treated gruffly. At the police station their names went down in the prison records and they were all thrown into jail. He argued that every one of these would feel the indignity and have a natural aversion to the "machine" so long as they lived. Then Mr. Altgeld said:

Incredible as it may seem we now daily take thousands who are not criminals and subject them to every kind of degradation and do what we can to destroy their self-respect and send them from bad to worse, and when they finally land in the penitentiary, we discover that in order to restore them to society we must undo everything we have done.

Mr. Altgeld advocated "indeterminate sentences" having the maximum length of confinement fixed by law. Then prisoners should be sentenced generally, leaving the actual length of their confinement to be determined by their good behavior.

He favored the abolition of the grand jury. Courts, he said, should always be open to the trials of criminals, who should be prosecuted on information so that a trial should take place immediately after the offense had been committed. "The speedy trial," said the author, "is what the guilty always dread."

In 1885 Mr. Altgeld delivered an address before the National Prison Reform association at Detroit in which he argued against wholesale imprisonment of people for violation of city ordinances. At that time Mr. Altgeld said:

As we have been trying the crushing policy with unsatisfactory results, let us dispense with a little of the brute force and try a system of development which while it will protect society better than the present system, will also make it at least possible for the accused to come out with more character, moral strength and self-respect than he had when taken into custody.

If the purpose of the searchers of Altgeld's "sentiment record" has been to show that he is a sympathizer with anarchism, that purpose has failed so far as "Our Penal Machinery and Its Victims" is concerned. The words which the author has uttered concerning the "penal machine" will be indorsed by thousands of thinking people. That there is something wrong with that machine is demonstrated every day in every city in every state in the union. The poor wretch who has stolen a loaf of bread or seeks shelter in a box car or stands in rags upon the street corner is hurried off to a cell. But the man who has robbed widows and orphans of thousands is placed under guard at the best hotel.

Police authority must necessarily be arbitrary to a degree, but there is a chance for a decided improvement in the exercise of that authority. Judging by his "sentiment record" Mr. Altgeld is a man who having closely observed the operation of the "penal machine," has become disgusted with its many defects. The injudicious message which accompanied the pardon of the anarchists was probably the outcome of a good deal of brooding on the part of Mr. Altgeld. It will be remembered that during the recent session of the Illinois legislature Governor Altgeld caused to be introduced a bill providing for jury trials in all cases before a man could be sentenced. Judged in the light of all these things it is fair to presume that Governor Altgeld is a man strongly possessed of a thoroughly conscientious idea. The world is merciful, however, in its criticisms and Governor Altgeld might have done better had he pardoned the anarchists without a word of explanation. The time might come when the actions of the men themselves would justify the pardon. His literary effort could have well been reserved for the future when it might have stood as a worthy sequel to "Our Penal System and Its Victims."—World-Herald.

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