

there is some little local business between Lulea and the farming towns along the line, thirty or forty miles north. The country all along is pretty and green, and it is hard to realize in the summer time that the same parallel in which Malmberget is located, continues east and west, leaves Iceland and the Klondike to the southward and cuts across the White sea 195 miles north of Archangel.

**THE FALLING OF THE CAMPANILE AT** Venice recently and the gradual dissolution of the Sphinx in Egypt has caused much attention to be paid to other notable structures that have withstood the test of time. A writer in the Chicago Inter-Ocean gives an interesting description of certain famed buildings that have been found to be in some danger of going to ruin. Recently it was pointed out that St. Paul's at London must be repaired at once, and in commenting on this the Inter-Ocean writer says: "The general uneasiness over St. Paul's cathedral was for a time quieted by Canon Newbold. He declared that it was positively wicked to suggest even the immediate probability of danger befalling the artistic church which Sir Christopher Wren, the skillful architect, began in 1675. But the opinions of the experts cannot be gainsaid. St. Paul's cathedral is in a decidedly dangerous condition. It took thirty-five years to build this old landmark. The cost of it being paid by a tax on coal, Sir Christopher himself was contented with a salary of \$1,000 a year. He was the only architect employed. It is no fault of his that the cathedral is now in danger. He could not foresee what would happen. A century after this church was built, a sewer was run through near enough to draw the moisture from the soil on which the sacred edifice stands. When he built the church, with the moisture there, the ground was hard enough to support so heavy a weight as St. Paul's for all time. Unless the cathedral be put on an entirely new foundation, which would cost not less than \$200,000, it will share the same fate as the Campanile. And this without a moment's delay. In the western portico of St. Paul's the cracks are large enough to allow any one standing on its roof to see the people moving inside the church below. And every day the great building is spreading wider and wider apart. The portico is directly over the great entrance to the cathedral through which hundreds of tourists every day pass."

**THIS SAME AUTHORITY CALLS ATTENTION** to the condition of the famous Belfry of Bruges, which has been an attraction to tourists from all over the world. In this belfry hangs a celebrated chime of bells, and added to this feature is the fact of the historical associations that cling about this famous tower, which has stood for 500 years; but unless some means be taken shortly to preserve it, its doom is sealed. Among other buildings mentioned as in danger of collapse are one of the original churches built by Constantine in 896, called St. John's, and located in Rome; Cleopatra's needle in Central Park, New York city; the bell tower of San Stefano; and the Parthenon of Athens. The last named building, as is well known, has been in existence since the early days of Grecian history and though it has been restored once, still the ravages of time are clearly shown in its structure. The Archaeological society of Athens has now taken the subject of its preservation in hand, however, and it is announced that the weaker portions of this grand old building will be strengthened and made safe against chances of further destruction.

**AN INTERESTING STORY RELATING TO THE** traits of the Indian is given by a writer in the Rocky Mountain News. C. E. Ward of Denver who has devoted ten years to the study of the red man, is authority for the claim that the secret of trading with the Indian is for the white trader to appear indifferent and he gives several instances designed to prove this point. Mr. Ward evidently intends to correct the beliefs of many white people as to the character of the Indian as is shown in the delineation of the red man's character which he presents as follows: "The Indian is one of the most faithful followers in the world if he has confidence in you. If he takes a liking to you, there is nothing you can ask he will not do. If he dislikes you, the less you have to do with that Indian the better. The Indian is a very much abused fellow, and he has never been treated as he deserved to be by the white man. His vices are largely the fault of his white neighbors, and one of the greatest dangers that threatens the Indian race is the traveling shows. The government reports declare that the Indians who went to Europe with Wild West aggregations were a lasting menace to their people when they returned home.

They had contracted all the vices and none of the virtues of the white man. The nature of the Indian cannot be learned from books. It must be studied by actual contact. So far as I have observed, all the Indians are Catholics. They graft their own ideas on to that of the Roman Catholic religion, and it is indeed a peculiar mixture. You can't eradicate the Indian nature by any education, and it is a mistake to send Indians away to school. They should be educated at home among their own people, and their progress ought to be gradual, otherwise the whole race will soon disappear. Our government has been in too great a hurry. Let the Indian develop along lines congenial to his nature, and something may come out of all the expense and time devoted to the solution of the Indian problem. My idea is that the Indian is all right, but his ways are not our ways. Let us give him a chance and give him time to work out his salvation. A Carlisle Indian gets the swelled head, and one such Indian may spoil an entire village. He is over-educated, but in the end he is worse off than at the beginning."

**AN IMPORTANT SUBJECT OF INVESTIGATION** by the proper authorities at Washington is in regard to the survival of the Indians. One authority insists that 90 per cent of the Indians die of tuberculosis, and the question has been raised as to whether this disease has been introduced by the contact with the whites, for it is well known that it has gained greater inroads of later years than at any other time in the history of the Indians. Without doubt, this question is an important one and to those interested in the survival of the red men must be of much interest.

**ONE OF THE INTERESTING RELICS RELATING** to the war of 1812 was recently delivered to the National Museum at Washington by Thomas A. Byrne of Bladensburg. This relic was in the form of a cannon ball and a roll of parchment containing the record of one man's effort to aid the country against which he was compelled to do battle. An interesting story is connected not only with the origin of this relic, ninety years ago, but as well with its recent discovery. According to the interesting report made by the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Tribune a force of men was recently engaged in cutting a road near Bladensburg. John Key, one of the laborers, was working at the bottom of a steep fifty-foot slant when the pick of a laborer at the top of the elevation dislodged from the earth, where it had lain for nearly a century, a great cannon ball. The ball rolled down the hill and struck Key with considerable force, breaking his leg near the ankle. After Key had been cared for and put on a train for Washington, the foreman of the gang rolled the cannon ball to a nearby creek and removed some of the earth and rust. He noticed that the ball was hollow, and, not knowing that explosive shells were not in use during the war of 1812, curiosity impelled him to dig in the interior of the relic with a knife to see, as he explained later, how the powder in the shell had withstood the ravages of ninety years. After the foreman had cut away the dirt from the two-inch hole in the big piece of iron, his knife brought out a roll of parchment, yellowed and discolored with age, but which when unrolled proved to be an interesting communication. A considerable portion of the writing is illegible, but enough could be read to make a generally connected whole.

**IT DEVELOPED THAT IT WAS A RELIC OF** an old rusty cannon ball fired from a British field piece in the attack on Bladensburg by the British force under General Ross and Lieutenant Wainwright during the war of 1812. Enclosed in this ball was a parchment addressed to "The commanding officer of the American force defending Washington," and containing a detailed account of the plans of Admiral Cockburn, the commander-in-chief of the British naval force in the Potomac, and of which the land expeditions was part, for his march on Washington and the destruction of the national capital. The communication was signed "Timson Howard, mate of the American merchantman 'General Stone' and a victim of British press gang." The Tribune correspondent says: "The communication signed by Howard who, from the character and phraseology of the document, was a man of some education, explains that he had been impressed into the British service shortly before the beginning of the war and had since been compelled to serve against his country. While acting as orderly to Admiral Cockburn he had learned that the British commander in chief intended to sack and burn Washington and lay waste the surrounding country. A portion of the writing says: 'With the aid of God Almighty let all

—patriots rally to—Washington and—marauders who are coming—rapine and murder—defeated in former years—regain—through naval supremacy—press gang outrages—lost before.' A postscript to the note explains that Howard wrote nearly 100 of the warnings, and knowing that the Americans made a practice of using over again the cannon balls fired at them by the British, had slipped the papers into shells carried by the land force which marched on Bladensburg, in the forlorn hope that at least one of the notes might be discovered."

**EXPERIMENTS HAVE RECENTLY BEEN** carried on with some new submarine boats in Peconic bay, as stated in a dispatch from Greenport, N. Y., to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. It seems that a test was to be made as to the ability of the submarine boat to discharge a torpedo at the end of the two-mile submerged run, straightaway, during which not more than three observations of not to exceed one minute each were permissible. Having met every requirement in regard to speed and, in fact, having exceeded the requirements from a quarter of a knot submerged to a knot awash, the contractors voluntarily offered, instead of making the comparatively easy two-mile run, followed by the discharge of the torpedo, to make a run submerged, make a return to the starting point, the firing of the torpedo to take place there. The trial board recognized this as being a much more difficult test than that originally contemplated, and accepted the proposition. To the surprise of those who witnessed the trial, in making the turn at the lower end of the course Captain Cable made it under water. Except for the fact that the Auler rose for observation and that it carried a hollow mast to which the periscope was attached, which left a slight ripple in her wake, it would have been impossible for an observer, no matter how vigilant, stationed on the deck of a battleship at anchor where the target was, to pick up the submarine boat making the attack. The boat proved able to rise, take an observation and dive in scarcely more than half a minute.

**THAT EXTRAVAGANCE IN THE USE OF** public funds is not confined to a republican form of government is shown by a story coming from Russia and told by the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Chicago Tribune. This story concerns the movements of Finance Minister De Witte's policy in regard to the modern and costly new city of Dalny. This correspondent says: "The Dalny Vostok of Port Arthur not only throws doubt upon the necessity for fountains and parks in a city which so far has no inhabitants but pronounces the choice of the site for the new city as most unfortunate. Dalny has no natural harbor, lying on the open sea where the water is shallow. The artificial harbor had to be connected with the sea by a canal, two miles long, which it is dangerous to approach in even moderately windy weather on account of rocks and sand on both sides. Up to February \$6,500,000 had been spent at Dalny, of which only one-half was for the harbor. Work on the harbor had to be stopped half way because the appropriation had been exceeded, large sums having been expended for the beautification of the site. The splendid looking brick and stone houses, however, are declared exceedingly inconvenient and cold, the architects having, as usual with Russian architects, subordinated the interior arrangements for comfort and convenience wholly to supposed exterior beauty."

**A HOTEL IS IN COURSE OF ERECTION IN** New York city that is designed for the exclusive use of women who are engaged in the task of supporting themselves. The building, which is to be formally opened some time next month, is twelve stories in height and modern throughout. The New York American and Journal is authority for the claim made that there are at least thirty thousand wage-earning women in New York—artists, teachers, stenographers and the like—able to pay for such accommodations as this hotel will furnish, but only five hundred will be fortunate enough to be guests until other similar enterprising plans are put into effect. The project was begun some years ago on the same line as D. O. Mills had planned for the men. Women of wealth and social position subscribed \$1,000 each, and when \$300,000 was in the treasury the Woman's Hotel company was incorporated. Mme. Molka Kellogg, the opera singer, daughter of Charles D. Kellogg, secretary of the hotel company, was one of the most ardent workers for the cause. Mrs. James Speyer, Mrs. Levi Morton, Mrs. J. Pierpont Morgan and many others subscribed liberally for the project.