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The author's name is withheld for the present.

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Arctic Explorers.

A dispatch to the Philadelphia Press under date of New York, August 29, says: "It will not be necessary in the future for Arctic explorers to die from starvation because they are lost from civilization," said Signor Marconi today to a reporter. He had just arrived on the Cunarder Lucania.

"By means of the wireless telegraph it will be very easy for an exploring party to keep in daily communication with their home people. Every Arctic expedition hereafter probably will be equipped with a wireless telegraphic outfit. Should an explorer be so fortunate as to reach the North Pole he can announce the fact at once to the civilized world. He can tell his friends at just what point he stands. If he is in need of supplies he can direct how these shall be forwarded to him, and of what they shall consist. He can announce how long he can wait for the supplies to reach him, and can direct his rescuers how to reach him.

"All that applies to the Arctic explorer applies with equal truth to the explorer in the jungles of interior Africa and Australia. Had the wireless telegraph been invented in Dr. Livingstone's time it would not have been necessary to send Henry M. Stanley to Lake Tanganyika to find him. It is quite likely that future African explorers will consider a wireless telegraph equipment as necessary as a medicine chest."

Wine Testing by Telephone.

Wine testing by telephone is the latest contrivance of a Paris inventor. Unscrupulous vendors will not bless M. Maneuvrier, assistant director of the laboratory of researches of the Paris faculty of sciences. He has just discovered an infallible method of ascertaining by the use of the telephone how much a given quantity of wine has been watered. The principle on which the invention rests is the variable conductivity of different liquids, notably of wine and water. The apparatus works as follows: Two vessels, one containing wine known to be pure, the other the same quantity of the wine to be tested, are placed on an instrument outwardly resembling a pair of scales. The telephone is in contact with both liquids. If the sample of wine under observation is as pure as the standard used for comparison no sound is heard; if, on the contrary, it contains water, the telltale telephone "speaks," and the greater the proportion of water the louder the instrument complains. A dial on which a number of figures are marked is connected with the telephone. To ascertain the proportion of water in the wine tested, the operator moves a hand on the dial until the telephone, which has been "speaking" all this time, lapses into silence. The hand has thus been brought to a certain figure on the dial. This number is then looked up in a chart which the ingenious and painstaking inventor has drawn up, and corresponding to it is found indicated the exact proportion of water contained in the quantity of wine.—New York Tribune.

Greed for Ivory.

The governors of the various British possessions in Africa have been directed "to prohibit by every means in their power the indiscriminate slaughter of elephants." The colonial secretary has further written to Simla asking whether it would be possible to train African elephants with a view to their being employed in work similar to that performed by Indian elephants. This action on the part of the colonial secretary has been warmly welcomed, as it is thought that unless prompt measures are taken the elephant will be as scarce in Africa as the bison is on the plains of America.

An English traveler has sent home a melancholy story of the "unlimited

slaughter" of elephants in Africa. They are being exterminated, he states, at the rate of many thousands a year. They are killed for the sake of their ivory, and in one drive no fewer than 250 elephants were secured. Of these 100 died from anthrax.—Chicago Journal.

Arizona's Antique Jail.

Graham county jail, at Clifton, Ariz., is probably the most unusual in America. It comprises four large apartments hewn in the side of a hill of solid quartz rock. The entrance to the jail is through a box-like vestibule, built of heavy masonry, and equipped with three sets of gates of steel bars. Here and there in the rocky walls holes have been blasted for windows, and in these apertures a series of massive bars of steel have been firmly fitted in the rock. The floor of the rockbound jail is of cement, and the prisoners are confined wholly in the larger apartments. In some places the wall of quartz about the jail is fifteen feet thick. Some of the most desperate criminals on the southwest border have been confined in the Clifton jail, and so solid and heavy are the barriers to escape that no one there has ever attempted to make a break for freedom. The notorious Black Jack was there for months.—Tombstone Epitaph.

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The World's Deepest Hole.

The deepest hole in the world is in Germany, near Leipzig. While boring for coal Captain Huysen made some very valuable observations. He got down to a depth of 5,790 feet, and to do so cost him \$50,000—a record sum for a single experiment, of which the main purpose was to add to scientific knowledge. The hole was less than half a foot in diameter at the surface and tapered off to the thickness of a man's finger. A costly diamond drill had to be used; the rods to which it was attached weighed 20 tons and could not be put together or taken to pieces in less than ten hours.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.