

## Varied Uses of the Kinetoscope

Already an institution in recording for both present and future the notable scenes and occurrences of the world, kinetoscope or moving pictures are becoming useful for scientific as well as for amusement purposes.

In hospitals, particularly, the invention is finding wide application. One hospital in New York is now adopting a machine to record minutely the actions of patients in epileptic fits and similar affections and many moving pictures have been taken showing the movements in walking of persons afflicted with locomotor ataxia. Reproduced a number of times, slowly, on the screen, doctors are enabled to study their symptoms more carefully in their laboratories. And the pictures taken in Vienna, showing operations being performed by famous surgeons become valuable instructors to medical students. It is also in hospital work that this invention with the microscope attachment, or micro-kinetoscope, is finding the greatest practical use. The movements of all kinds of microbes when thus photographed make striking animated pictures, which mean a good deal to the practitioner, and the actions of healthy and diseased corpuscles are easily distinguished when thrown upon the screen and magnified thousands of times. Such pictures of diseased blood, taken from time to time, show the improvement or decline in patients' conditions. Dr. Robert L. Watson was one of the first to discover many strange phenomena in the action of live blood corpuscles in this way.

It has just been found by one of the leading experimenters that X-ray photography, now so valuable in hospitals, may be wonderfully developed by the use of the biograph camera, as it is equally possible to take moving pictures with the penetrating light. He believes there is no function of the human body which may not be shown in action by such pictures, even to the beating

preserve in photographic effects, making it possible for those at home to observe the heavenly wonders that few now have the opportunity of seeing.

And as the microscope has been combined with the biograph, so also the astronomer's telescopic lenses are being combined, so that we may see distant movements invisible to the naked eye. Many of the moving pictures of naval actions, which naturally could not have been taken at close range, have resulted from the telescopic attachment.

Captain John Finley, the expert on tornadoes, now in the American meteorological service, has taken some remarkable moving pictures of lightning storms and expects to get some striking pictures of the approach of a Kansas tornado.

Another new and novel exhibit is a brilliant display of fireworks, taken at night. While it has hitherto been impossible to photograph fireworks, by the use of magnesium powder the biograph has faithfully recorded the shower and pinwheel effects of the most costly pieces made.

An adventurous operator in Europe devised the idea of taking pictures from the bottom of the car of a balloon in motion. As it ascended rapidly successive pictures were taken straight downward, showing the spectators, then the surrounding houses and trees, then the roofs and country, fading rapidly until all that could be seen were dark patches on the earth.

The biograph camera was made to perform another remarkable feat. Placed, as shown, on the top of a Brooklyn bridge tower one clear day, it was turned so as to take pictures in every direction of the compass, covering fifteen miles in every direction. In the few moments it takes to show these pictures on the screen the spectators are given

kinetoscope on the race track was recently shown, having proven evidence which settled a discussion over the places in a road race.

Exciting and amusing magical moving pictures are being exhibited by clever Parisian entertainers. By curious methods resorted to in taking the pictures almost any result may be produced on the screen as though it really happened. By the use of their wands magicians make hosts of living creatures appear and disappear, apparently behead and shoot one another in battle scenes on the screen and immediately restore them to life again or make them appear in two places at once. To get these natural effects dummy figures made up exactly like the persons they represent are used momentarily when the pictures are taken, the living persons suddenly taking their places again and apparently reviving from death. And by omitting several of the pictures in a series of



PIECE OF FIREWORKS IN ACTION.

films, strange disappearances and sudden reappearances are produced in elaborate dramas.

### New Possibilities of the Invention.

One expert, who is doing perhaps as much as any one man in improving and developing the biograph, is constantly finding remarkable new applications for the machine. He believes that it will furnish the best means of identifying criminals. Animated pictures for the rogues' gallery may be made of criminals while walking or talking, from an adjoining room, without their knowledge, showing their real characteristics. It is thought that a person's general actions are remembered better than simply one's features and the pictures so taken would be placed in the small mutoscopic cabinets, in which pictures are observed by turning a handle. In fact this will soon be the popular way to have pictures taken. A large public gallery will shortly open in one of the world's greatest hotels, where people can have moving pictures taken of themselves in characteristic actions, which will be placed into the small mutoscopic cabinets, such as are used for home amusement. When these cabinets have become household articles this expert sees a new field for them, in that they will enable people to witness the popular events of the day. Sets of pictures showing the exciting scenes—the yacht race, athletic game, court scene or other event—will be made in such quantities and so reasonably as to be distributed daily like newspapers for home use in the cabinets; thus we may see the day's notable occurrences as well as reading the reports.

### A Keyless Lock

There is more than \$400,000 of the people's money locked up in postoffice keys, says the Washington Times, each and every keyholder being required to put up with the postmaster a deposit for his key, the amount deposited being returned when the box is given up and rent paid. Postmasters are required to keep a strict account of the key deposit fund, while the Postoffice department has a regular division set apart for keeping this account.

As a postoffice official puts it, there is a great deal of trouble and no money in the transactions, and the final outcome of the trial of the keyless locks which are to be tried in the principal offices of the country is eagerly looked for. The department has long wanted a keyless lock, but none of the lock inventors until the present was regarded as in any way calculated to prove acceptable. Contracts have been made for a supply of the new locks, which will first be tried in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago and St. Louis, as the largest and most important offices, and then in St. Paul, Minn.; Cleveland, O.; Hartford, Conn.; Madison, Wis., and Rockford, Ill. These offices will be fitted out as soon as the factory can complete the making of the boxes. If they prove in every way satisfactory to the department and to the patrons they will be placed in offices throughout the country, but not to the entire exclusion of lock boxes. It is the belief of the Postoffice department lock experts that the keyless box will prove a blessing.

### After-Dinner Chat

Indianapolis Journal: "Well," said Hungry Higgins, "here is the first good thing I ever read about them college dudes."  
"Wot is it?" asked Weary Watkins, with little interest.  
"Wy, it says a lot of 'em had a can rush—no, it ain't, either. It's cane rush. They was a bit of gravy coverin' up the e."

## Admiral Dewey's New Home

(Copyright, 1899, by Frank G. Carpenter.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 2.—(Special Correspondence of The Bee.)—Admiral Dewey has chosen well in selecting Washington for his home. There is no place in the United States where property is more stable or so likely to increase in value. Within the last few years the leading men of all parts of the country have been investing here and gilt-edged houses are steadily rising. When Mrs. General Grant sold her home in New York she asked George W. Childs, who was then living, where she had best put the hundred odd thousand dollars she had received for it. Mr. Childs advised her to invest it in Washington property. She did so, paying \$50,000 of the amount for her home on the corner of Q street and Massachusetts avenue. This house she bought of Senator Edmunds, and Edmunds must have made at least \$10,000 out of the deal. The lot cost him about \$14,000 and the house could be duplicated easily for \$25,000. The property is probably worth \$75,000 now.

The home of Mrs. General Sheridan, on the corner of Rhode Island avenue and Seventeenth street, is worth almost twice what it cost when it was presented to the great cavalry leader. It was a gift from twenty-four of General Sheridan's admirers, Chicago men, each of whom subscribed \$2,000. The house was bought for \$45,000. The money was raised quietly and General Sheridan knew nothing of it until the deed had been made out. He was completely taken aback when the papers showing that the property was his were handed over to him, and it was a long time before he was able to make suitable acknowledgment.

### Homes of Fighters.

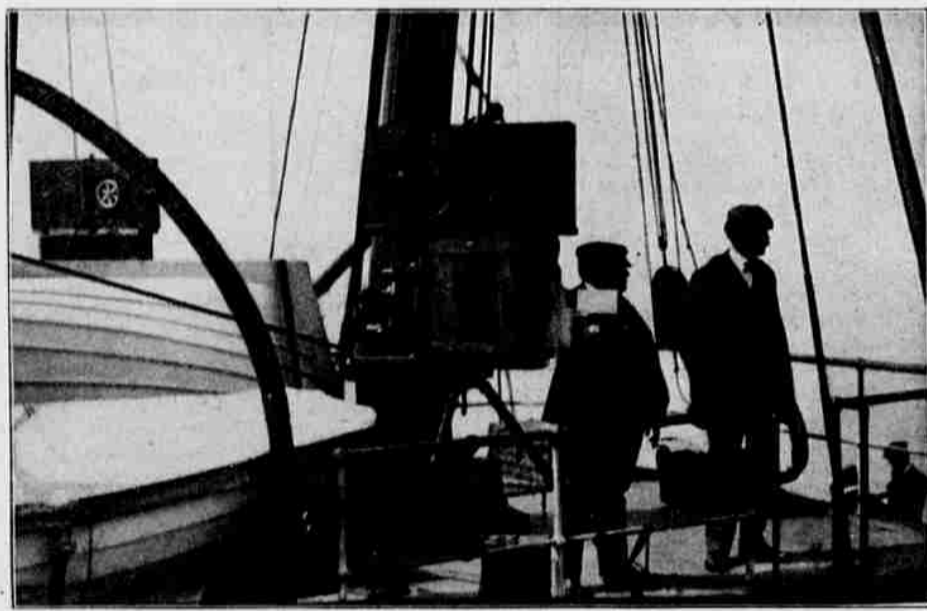
It is not commonly known that a home was recently purchased for General Miles. The money was gotten together by his friends and a magnificent double brick house on N street, between Seventeenth and Eighteenth streets, was bought. The price paid was in the neighborhood of \$36,000, but whether this included the furniture

too large and he had it remodeled into two dwellings, one of which he occupied, and the other of which he rented. Later on he moved further up toward the White House and lived in a three-story brick structure on Fifteenth street, just below John Chamberlin's club house. Sherman had a house also given him in St. Louis, and General Grant, it will be remembered, was presented with a cottage at Long Branch.

### Increasing Property Values.

Speaking of Washington property increasing in value, the house of Mrs. John A. Logan, on Columbia Heights, near Fourteenth street, has steadily risen since it was purchased. This house was the old Stone mansion. It was bought by General Logan shortly before his death for \$20,000, only a portion of the sum being paid in cash. When the general died the popular subscription enabled Mrs. Logan to pay off the debt, so that the house is to a large extent a gift house. At the time the house was bought property in that vicinity was worth about 10 cents a square foot. It is now worth from \$2 to \$3 a square foot, and the Logan house and the land about it would probably approximate \$100,000 in value. The house has been remodeled. It is beautifully furnished, and Mrs. Logan finding it now too large for her use has been renting it from time to time to one millionaire or another at such prices that she gets more annually out of it than the salary of the chief justice of the United States.

Just opposite Mrs. Logan's property, and between her and the city, is a large tract of land belonging to Mrs. Senator John Sherman. It is worth at least \$2 per square foot—that is, a block of it as large as a lady's pocket handkerchief is worth \$2, for that is the way we sell land here. When Senator Sherman bought it, it probably did not cost more than 5 cents per square foot. Mr. Sherman was one of the syndicate who bought the Stone estate at the head of Fourteenth street and platted it out in lots. I have heard it said he made about a million



TAKING THE OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACE ABOARD THE N. Y. YACHT CLUB'S REGATTA COMMITTEE BOAT.

of the heart and blood circulation, affording a panorama covering something like 500 great possibilities for new researches in square miles.

Many of the animated pictures that are exhibited now for their beauty alone will likely be useful in school instruction and lecture work, but the difficulty, so far, as was the case with the early development of the phonograph, is that these machines are reserved for exclusive prices, and will only be brought within the reach of public instructors as their possibilities and improvements bring great demand for them.

### Recording the Growth of Flowers.

One of the novel subjects that will soon be put on exhibition will show minutely the growth and flowering of plants from the time of planting until in full bloom. To obtain such results as these a special room is being set aside in the new botanical gardens at Bronx Park, N. Y. In order to show the entire growth of a lily on the screen in one series the biograph cameras and the growing bulb will be arranged in position in this room and a picture will be taken every half hour continually for about thirty days and nights. In order to get a uniform light for every view artificial illumination will be employed. Something like 1,000 will therefore be made of one subject, the final pictures showing the opening of the lily, and then its fading away. Though such results have previously been obtained, they were not taken with the necessary uniformity of light. This work will be under the direction of T. S. McGregor, curator of the gardens. Experiments of this kind, too, are being made to show rapidly the changes in scenery from winter to summer, etc.

The experiments of F. Flammarion, the celebrated French astronomer, show the possibilities of the biograph for recording astronomical wonders. He has taken moving pictures which show moonrise, the milky way, lightning, shooting stars, sunrise and sunset. Professors of astronomy in Columbia college also realize the possibilities of the invention in their work and experimenters are improving extremely sensitive films necessary to take impressions of the weak astronomical rays of light. It is particularly the phenomena of the heavens seen at intervals of many years—a strange eclipse, transit or meteoric shower—which men travel far to observe, which astronomers hope to



HATCHING CHICKENS—FIRST AND LAST OF SERIES OF MOVING PICTURES TAKEN BY THE BIOGRAPH.