

GREAT EVENTS OF THE YEAR

Achievements that are Epochs in the World's Forward March.

MAN'S CONQUEST OF THE AIR

Utility of Wireless Telegraphy Proved and Ships of the Air a Certainty—Discovery of the North Pole, Etc.

During the year just closed a number of centennial celebrations were sharp reminders of the unique distinction of 1899 as the year of great battles—the birth-year of men and women who achieved surpassing eminence in the history of the world.

In the years to come, when the achievements of a century later are measured in all their bearings, the record of 1899 as a wonder year will deserve even greater distinction. It was a year of great developments and discoveries. It has demonstrated that aerial navigation is possible and practical; the utility of wireless telegraphy was convincingly proven, and the North pole reached after 600 years of struggle.

Who would have guessed, years ago, as he declaimed the words of Darius Green, that he would live to see an emperor greeting a gentleman who had just stepped down from his airship, after a trip of 400 miles, and introducing him to "a plain American," who had grown rich from the sale of aeroplanes? But thousands besides Wilhelm II and Count Zeppelin and Orville Wright can attest to the happening. The mere existence of such daring fellows as the Wrights and Bleriot, Paulhan and

Paravel, Latham and Lambert and Lehan, Curtiss and Cody, Eads and Sommer, Farman and Houglie and Delagrangé—the mere fact that twenty-one cash prizes for conquering the air, ranging from \$200 to \$50,000, and totaling at more than \$27,000,000, are awaiting claimants—the mere news of flying machines invented in Mexico and Russia, China and Norway—such straws show how blows this twentieth century wind of mechanical achievement.

Latham, the Englishman, failed to cross the British channel in his monoplane—missed it by a scant two miles—but the Frenchman, Bleriot, needed but thirty-seven minutes to soar above the twenty-one choppy miles which separate Calais from Dover. This was in July, and just before it the brothers Wright had returned to their native Ohio, after victories unnumbered and plaudits, and not long after the waters of "Le Paq de Calais" had been vanquished Wilbur Wright maneuvered above New York's North river with all the easy precision which was to have been expected of an aviator who, in the year, had covered a little matter of between 2,500 and 5,000 air miles.

With scarce a week of the fifty-two flying to produce its item of overhead news of value, it is difficult to give any three of four happenings as of especial importance, but possibly the accomplishments most nearly of record-breaking sort are these:

Orville Wright, near Potsdam, Germany, in October, rose to a height of 1,000 feet, thus surpassing by a good margin Lambert's spectacular flight, the selfsame month, in which he rose 1,200 feet, looking down on the 264-foot Eiffel tower.

Delagrangé, at Doncaster, England, in October, saw his machine at the rate of something over fifty-four miles an hour, slightly surpassing the achievement of Orville Wright at Ft. Myer in July.

Henry Farman, at Mourmelon, France, in November, covered 114 miles in 4 hours 6 minutes and 25 seconds.

To which must be added the two victories of Glenn Curtiss at Albion, in August, and at Brescia a month later. In one case he won the International cup by covering, on a circular course, twelve miles in sixteen minutes, and in the other carried off the grand prize, flying thirty-one miles in a trifle less than thirty minutes.

Dirigibles and Sphericals.

The dirigible has likewise sailed into the forefront of importance since January last came in. Goodaie has hovered along and above the North river (June), Germany's Grosse II, (August) very handsily made a 216-mile journey in fifteen hours and forty minutes, Italian army officers (October) have practically duplicated this, and the French bag Liberte has accomplished 161 miles in five and a half hours. The September which witnessed this last feat, however, saw also the horrible death of France's Republic, an air monster of the "rigid" type, involving four fatalities. Zeppelin would seem to have distanced all competitors of this sort. An airship, which can leave its home port, cover 270 miles in varying weather, against head winds, carrying nine men, break a propeller, descend safely, repair damages, rise and go eighty miles farther, land easily and at will, and then cut home again, will, in the language of the man in the street, "take a lot of beating." In 1900 the count managed to do seven miles above Lake Constance; in June of last year he covered 800 miles in eighty-seven hours, and in March he demonstrated that height as well as distance is in his grasp, ascending 9,000 feet near Friedrichshafen.

As for the sphericals, they, too, have been busy and prospering. The "University City" won the national balloon contest in June, starting from Indianapolis and achieving 380 miles. A few days later the "Victory" in a little matter of eleven hours, sailed over Mt. Blanc. The New York, to capture the Lalm cup, was aloft five minutes less than twenty hours, averaging thirty-nine miles an hour, and, possibly the most noteworthy accomplishment of all, the Albatross, with two Italian aviators in its basket, rose (August) near Turin to a height of 29,747 feet, generously bettering the previous height record of 27,100.

North Pole Discovery.

Probably the most dramatic event of the year, bringing to a triumphant conclusion more than three centuries of Arctic exploration, has been the announcement of the discovery of the North pole. Within a single week in September, 1909, such announcements and claims were made by Dr. Frederick A. Cook and by Commander Robert E. Peary of the United States navy. The first claimed to have reached the "boreal center" April 21, 1908, the other on April 6, 1909. Dr. Cook's claim to having reached the pole on the date named or any date was attacked by Commander Peary and started a controversy that raged fiercely among partisans of each, and did not cease until the University of Copenhagen pronounced worthless the proofs submitted by the Brooklyn doctor. Meanwhile the records of Commander Peary were submitted to the American Geographical society, examined by that body and pronounced convincing proof of his claim as the discoverer of the North pole. The climax of the controversy was the disappearance of Dr. Cook from New York on November 24.

Via Wireless.

The upper air has borne man's messages as well as his flying craft. Wireless telegraphy, with the Count von Arco's "sounding sparks" and the new devices of the Italians Bellini and Tosi to re-enforce earlier methods has set Paris and New York in communication and Hawaii and the Oregon coast, New York and Chicago have for the first time been talking this way (May), the Golden Gate, has kept continuously in touch with San Francisco over the hitherto unequalled distance of 4,730 miles (November).

The saving of fully 5,000 lives at the time of the wreck of the Republic (January) and the Count von Arco's mysterious, winged agent of man's brain, wrote new wonders for all the world. Jack Binns, staking to his post on a sinking ship and flashing his "C. Q. D." out through the fog veil, which surrounded what portended only direct tragedy, linked a stout heart to the marvelous industry of the inventor, and death was once more cheated.

Wireless clocks are telling time in present-day Vienna, regulated hour by hour by wireless waves thrown forth from a central mechanism. The Omaha exposition, in May, was lighted by electricity brought by wireless from a powerhouse six miles distant. Captain Hordland of Norway's navy has practically perfected a system for the automatic recording in print of wireless messages. Wireless communication is monthly growing more and more practicable between airships and the cities beneath, the Countess H. in August talking quite satisfactorily with Frankfurt and Carlsruhe. Wireless telegraphy from moving trains has been partially achieved on the limited running between Buffalo and Chicago. Underground wireless is the problem at which experts for the French government are hard at work.

And if telegraphy without wires, telephony without wires, and even "wireless" it has not yet been demonstrated that this is a commercially profitable investment, but five long steps in that direction have been taken this year. In April such communication was opened between Portland, Me., and the islands in Casco bay,

while, almost coincidentally, some successful experiments were worked out between Paris and Meaux, thirty miles distant. In June the French cruiser Conde, 100 miles at sea, talked freely with the shore. And July brought in tests across the Charles river near Boston, and between Chicago and Milwaukee, both of which "delivered the goods."

Wires are not yet a drug in the market, however, for all this marvelous story; man is working them harder than ever. By the newly tried "Polaris Viraq" method, 60,000 words an hour cannot merely be sent, but recorded at the receiving station; the "telegraphons" has come to utilize telegraph wires for phone purposes; and a Mexican, Alberto Sanchez, declares he can now transmit vision as well as voice over the taut metal "string at the top of a row of fish poles," he calls this the "Teletradiopoleon."

Two recent accomplishments, of interest and worth, though differing from these as from each other, came when telegraph messages were for the first time sent from London to Calcutta without retransmission (August), a distance of 6,900 miles; and when the non-magnetic survey yacht Carnegie sailed from a Brooklyn slip headed for Hudson bay. This is a six-months' trip for the all-wood vessel, which is expected to discover all sorts of new and valuable things about the earth's magnetic currents. Its next journey is to last fifteen years and cover all this old earth's seven seas.

Transportation on Land.

As to transportation by land, June brought onto the rails between St. Paul and White Bear, Minn., a "torpedo motor" of 20-horse-power, gasoline propelled, and capable of reeling off seventy-five miles an hour. October saw highly successful tests of the first turbine locomotive made for English use, and November witnessed the marvelous performance, in England again, of the gyroscope car patented by Louis Brennan. Think of it! A carriage forty feet long and thirteen high, weighing twenty-two tons, mounted on a single rail and running freely about all sorts of curves and angles, it carries forty passengers with safety as complete and unobscured far less than can the ordinary coach, and its present speed of fifty miles an hour, it is said, may be increased threefold.

The completion of Austria's Tauern railway crowns a genuine work of brain-plus-skill. Here was a line less than forty miles long hatching up Gasten and Spittal across and through the Alps, yet it has taken some \$42,000,000 to build it and eleven years' labor; the tunneling alone demanded ninety months. Now it is proposed to pierce the barrier, conquered by Hannibal 2,100 years ago, and by Mr. Bonaparte of Corsica only a century back, not only at the Jungfraujoch, but through Mount Blanc himself. The much-talked-of line through the Andes will be in running order before another spring has come and gone.

It is the American engineer, however, who, in his tunneling business, has made his mark highest and clearest. All world's records in this sort have been better by the workers in the bowels of the Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound road, under the Bitter Root hills in Idaho and Montana, the drills began in November, 1906, and the 3,751 feet, just completed, showed a variant of only one three-hundredths of an inch off the true floor alignment. The Simpson tunnel is only 651 feet in length and the St. Gotthard but 66.

And what of the McAdoo "tubes" burrowing under the river between New York and Jersey City? The first Pennsylvania railroad train, ran through in November and the trolleys had been buzzing there five months before that. The steel pipes that bind the two states in amity give the train-sick traveler a cool plunge down a long, dark, subterranean air-station.

Then, almost breathless, he is discharged into an underground city of green, full of miniature stores, twinkling with electric bulbs.

In the Laboratories.

The world's physicists, too, have been at work and profitably. Sir William Ramsay announced in March that he had succeeded in transmitting four different substances into carbon-dioxide, fluorium, hydrofluosilicic acid and bismuth. In E. Bailey of New Orleans, a month earlier than this, perfected a substitute for radium, "Radio-thor," as he calls it, is made of pitchblende and is not merely cheaper and better than the rare element it replaces, but is wholly lacking all of radium's baneful effects. On February 19 Cleveland scientists watched the operation of an oxygen-acetylene torch, which radiated a heat of some 6,300 degrees, sufficient to cut through a two-inch solid steel plate in fifty seconds or to weld aluminum, heretofore regarded as impossible.

In contrast to these forward steps in chemistry and physics, begotten of patience and long research, stands the important discovery of a Denver Jeweler, David Lamon—of the long-lost secret of hardening copper. He found the open sesame through mistaking another compound for borax, which, instead of softening the metal, as borax does, instantly gave to it such a degree of hardness as to make manufacturing a simple question. At once he made analysis of his chance compound, determined its ingredients and has now guarded his discovery through patent.

MENTAL INFLUENCE ON BODY

Noted Physicians Who Point Out How Thought is Manifested On the Body.

The different organs of our bodies are especially susceptible to certain kinds of mental influence. Intense hatred, outbursts of hot temper, violent fits of anger, and some other forms of worry have a very irritating influence upon the kidneys and materially aggravate certain forms of kidney disease.

Excessive selfishness and envy seriously affect the liver, while liver and spleen are strongly influenced by jealousy, especially chronic jealousy.

It is well known that a violent, long-continued jealousy affects the heart's action most injuriously, as do all sorts of mental disorder, such as worry, anxiety, fear, anger, especially where they become chronic. Multitudes of people have died from heart trouble induced by the explosive passions.

Jaundice often follows great mental shocks and violent mental influences. People are frequently made ill by long-continued despondency, fear and worry.

A physician says: "I have been surprised to find how often the cause of cancer of the liver has been traced to protracted grief or anxiety." Dr. Snow, an eminent English authority, says that the vast majority of the cases of cancer, especially cancer of the breast and uterine cancer, are due to anxiety and worry.

Sir E. W. Richardson says that irritations on the skin will follow excessive mental strain. "It is remarkable," says this great physician, "how little the question of the origin of physical diseases from mental influence has been studied." These structural changes in the different organs are due to chemical changes in the development of poisonous substances in the tissues through mental influences. As the entire body for all practical purposes is one mass of cells, each bound together, every thought that enters the mind, every change in the mental attitude,

is almost instantly conveyed to every cell in the body, which is affected according to the nature of the thought. We are nothing but a mass of cells, brain, nerve and other tissue cells, and the whole mass is very sensitive to every mental process. In a sense, the body is an extended brain, and every thought, every mood, every emotion is transmitted instantly to the remotest cell. If the thought is discordant, if the emotion is vicious, it will carry its poison to the farthest cells.—Success Magazine.

IS A PITCHER A SLAVE?

Base Ball Manager, with Overdue Note, Ducks Under the Constitution.

Slavery in all its forms is abhorrent to American ideals. Slavery under the constitution is a crime against the great charter of human liberty. But in spite of all, the emancipation of the race proceeds slowly.

In the heart of Pennsylvania a new master has arisen. Even the name of the manager of the Wilkesbarre Base Ball club is unknown outside a limited circle. But he shows himself to be a man of principle and conscience. Last July he bought of the Allentown team Joseph Pelequin, a pitcher. Three hundred dollars was paid down and a note given for \$300. In ante-bellum days ordinary slaves sold for more, but perhaps Pelequin is not a very good pitcher. At any rate pitchers never shall be slaves again if the manager of the Wilkesbarre club can help it.

The thirteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States solemnly declares: Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction. On the issue of slavery this country fought the civil war, expended billions in treasure and sacrificed hundreds of thousands of lives. On this issue the Wilkesbarre base ball manager refuses to meet the \$300 note due in part payment for Joseph Pelequin, the pitcher. He has taken his stand on the constitution of the United States and the rights of man and has appealed from the justice's court to the county court, and will go on appealing if necessary.

Shall the institution of base ball exist in plain disregard of the constitution? Shall base ball pitchers, in the freest country under heaven, be sold on the block like chattels? We shall see. If the constitution means what it seems to mean to the Wilkesbarre manager, the most profound speeches of Joseph Weldon Bailey of Texas and Elihu Root of New York on that venerable instrument will attract less widespread attention than the judgment of the nine mighty magistrates sitting in the capitol at Washington when they come to decide whether Joseph Pelequin is a free man or a slave. The United States constitution promises again to become an object of popular interest when the fans take to discussing it.—New York World.

The Battery.

There had again been trouble in the Hogan household, and O'Hogan had the word of sympathy when he next met his neighbor.

"The most touch of a team you make, yer and yer wife," said O'Hogan. "An' that's where yer wrong," said O'Hogan. "The fine team was made entirely. Me wife pitches an 'Ol' catione." —Puck.

Memorial to John Howard Payne.

Dr. Charles A. Raymond, the new president of Union university, has started a movement that will probably interest English speaking people the world over. He proposes a national fund to erect at Union a suitable memorial to John Howard Payne, the author of "Home Sweet Home." His idea is to erect an imposing gateway to the campus at Union. The Albany Argus, editorially commending the idea,

JANUARY CLEARING SALE

In past years we have always held our clearing sales during the month of February. This year we have decided to run our sale during the month of January.

In order to demonstrate to our customers and friends the magnitude of this CLEARING SALE we are going to place on sale all our broken sets and all odd pieces of furniture, all dropped patterns in Carpets and Rugs, and all Odd Lace Curtains and Portieres, which have, and are bound to accumulate during the season, at prices which will be on a great many articles at HALF OUR REGULAR SELLING PRICES.

This sale will include our entire stock of Furniture, Carpets, Rugs and Draperies, with the exception of office furniture and office supplies.

Sale Begins Monday, Jan. 3, 1910 Very truly yours, Miller, Stewart & Beaton Co. 413-15-17 South Sixteenth Street

and the whole country be invited to contribute.—New York Tribune. Chamberlain's Liniment has an enviable reputation as a cure for rheumatism.

Stock Reducing Sale of Shoes

Chabot 203 North Sixteenth Street Hotel Loyal Block

15th Anniversary Sale INTRODUCING THE LASTIKOPS BANDLET IN A NEW Nemo SELF-REDUCING CORSET A New and Important Corset Invention Which Will Produce Far-Reaching Results A Comfort and Blessing to Every Woman