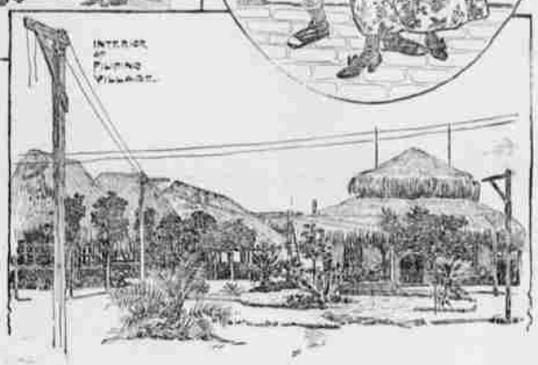
Colonial Scenes at the Omaha Exposition.



WHEN the city of Omaha decided to have a Greater American exposition, there were many doubting Thomases who said that such an event, coming so soon after the Transmississippi exposition of last year, would be doomed to certain failure.

That such is not the case is being proved by the crowds who are daily flocking to Omaha's fair grounds to see in the state now to be seen at that enterprising city. This Greater American exposition plan was born of the supposition that the American people would appreciate such a timely exposition of the characteristics of the islands and countries which have fallen under the protection of Uncle Sam during the last year or two. In view of this fact, the exposition has been made distinctly colonial and tropical in character, a feature being made of those Cuban, Hawaiian and Filipino matters in which our countrymen are daily manifesting a more active interest.

The promoters of the exposition, through the friendly aid and co-operation of the heads of the several dependencies of the national government, have secured very comprehensive and interesting exhibits from our insular selections, notably from Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines. These different exhibits show the types of nations, their methods of life and characteristics, together with the distinctive natural products of the different countries of the globe from which they come. Villages of characteristic native habitations were constructed, and the amusements and the social and domestic routine of Cuban and Filipino life have been graphically portrayed. Besides these, there are, of course, exhibits calculated to demonstrate the commercial, industrial and agricultural possibilities of these new American colonies, with representatives animal and plant life also shown.

This end was not obtained before commissioners of the exposition visited the different American colonies and secured the numerous exhibits required. The result of their labors can now be seen at Omaha, and it is generally acknowledged that the best ever made in most satisfactory. Thousands of spectators each day are visiting this unique exhibition, taking advantage of such a pleasurable manner of learning natural history.

The accompanying illustrations are from photographs showing a number of representative scenes now at the exposition.

Double Decked Cars.

The United States is made up of 70,000,000 people, mostly inventors. The inventive faculty of the ordinary American citizen is boundless, and for this reason America must be recognized the greatest mechanical nation in the world. The latest invention of one of

our countrymen is the "double decked" street car, as shown in the accompanying illustration. This car is two stories high and has the double row of seats on the upper deck just over the lower side, thus giving ample room and seating capacity. The new car will be nearly so very little higher than the ordinary street car.

King Lobengula's Seal.

Here is the official seal of his majesty King Lobengula. As will be seen from the illustration, this official seal is surmounted by a very native looking elephant modeled in metal. Lobengula was most jealously proud of this emblem of officialdom and always attached it to every royal decree issued by himself. There are, by the way, several reprints of this seal in documents in the English colonial office.

Four Dukes In Direct Succession.

The social picture from which the accompanying illustration was made shows the aged Duke of Richmond, his son, the Earl of March, his grandson, Lord Stormont, and his great-grandson, who is an infant in arms. Good humorous was with those the ceremonies of the English aristocracy and in a little celebration at such a showing would not shed. But the fact of the matter is that the English aged classes, from queen Victoria down, are now believers in other families, and notably those around is numerous. Each of these four dukes is direct ancestors bears the name of Charles Henry Gordon-Lennox, every one of the six dukes of Richmond, by the way, having been called so Charles. The friendship of the present old duke for his majesty the queen of England is a fact well known in court circles.

A Wanderer on the Dark Continent.

Edouard Foa, the young French explorer who has spent the last six years of his busy life in traversing about the interior of the dark continent, might well be called the Livingstone of France. Although only six years of age, M. Foa is one of the most experienced of contemporaneous African explorers. His latest journey associated to assaying the wilds of Africa from the Zambesi to the mouth of the Congo, and about five trip to Sao just within a book of adventure which he is expected to appear in both French and English before very long. M. Foa has also been recently decorated by the French ethnographical society with its grande medaille d'or for the valuable contributions which he has made to the scientific knowledge of Africa, one being the fact that the sources of the Kouge are the rivers Tchiai and Tchiapoula.

Praying Monk of Hulne Abbey.

In an old graveyard near the ruins of Hulne abbey, in Alnwick, is the gravestone to stone of a medieval Carmelite monk, which tradition claims, was carved by one of the old Carmelite fitters who were once associated with the abbey. The stone represents the monk in the act of praying, and some idea of its antiquity may be obtained from the accompanying illustration.

Izaak Walton's Initials.

Izaak Walton was very humble in his living. Like a great many other men, he had the humble passion to carve his name or initials on a tree, surface, or stone he came across one. This is shown by the finding of his initials engraved on the walls of Ely Cathedral, built in Westminster abbey, with the date, 1661, attached. It has been clearly established that those initials are those of the genial author of "The Compleat Angler."

Given by England's Queen.

The accompanying illustration is a picture of the gold bracelet which Queen Victoria not long ago presented to Tofunga, the Matabele chief. The uninitiated would be surprised if they were told of the sum of money annually expended by Victoria's government for little honorariums to the different foreign princes and chiefs who have proved themselves the friends of the English. Great Britain has learned that it pays to be polite, and even a little trinket has been the means of preserving friendly relations with so obstreperous Africans or Indian chief.

A Portable Barrel.

Here is a barrel that can be toted on the chest and carried round under each arm. This newly invented vessel has its staves connected by metal

clamps, which can be tightened with screwdrivers, so that the barrel may contain liquid. Staves and head are then ready for carrying a very small amount of water as compared with the ordinary barrel.

A Self Acting Distributer of Death.

The new Colt automatic gun is described to military enthusiasts as a delightfully simple instrument, working easily and with a minimum of noise, but it is terrible to behold. Its shots, however, are purely in the service, for it can rain death and destruction on a foe that is large proportion. This new instrument of modern warfare is a machine gun, and self operating also are that has been fired by hand, continuing the action so long as ammunition is required. The force required to perform the several motions of firing, extracting and loading is derived from the explosive force, a portion of these gases being allowed through a small vent in the bore near the muzzle and actuating the mechanism of the gun through the medium of a lever or piston. A foot bell, accordingly, being placed in position, the gun fired and the first shot fired by hand, the energy derived from the explosion acts in motion the mechanism which extracts and ejects the empty case, moves the cock into the necessary distance, withdraws a cartridge from the belt, carry it into the gun and fires.

Remenyi Secured Attention.

Remenyi, the violinist, was playing one night in concert in Buffalo and was extremely annoyed by two persons in the audience who were cracking and crunching peanuts. He not patience at last, and playing on left the stage. He was loudly recalled, reappeared and stepping to the front of the stage, said, with mock impressiveness: "You are gentlemen but cracked few peanut now. I will go on." The speech was hearty applauded. The noisy eating ceased.

A Tree With Many Trunks.

In one of the districts of the central provinces of India is a banyan tree that has no less than 3,236 stems. The accompanying picture shows but a comparatively small number of these stems, but it will at least give some idea of the extent of this marvelous tree, more which a whole regiment of soldiers can easily camp. The banyan is of the fig genus, and is remarkable for its vast rooting branches. Some of these trees are so lost in circumference and look not like one but often enough like an entire grove of trees. They are held sacred in India, their wood being valueless as timber, though the Hindoos use the bark for medicinal purposes and obtain a gum like from the banyan juice.

Miss Braddon's Home.

That novel writing is a profitable profession has never once been doubted by the fair Mary Braddon, who has already realized some thousands pounds for the delectation of the sentimentally inclined. Few novel writers of the century have achieved a more steady and continuous share of popularity as she, and for years before a large extent of business attitude. The result has been that the author of "Lady Audley's Secret" is now the proud possessor of two handsome mansions in England, but Mere Court Home, which is shown in the accompanying illustration, being a very handsome country mansion, with an area of enclosed wooded, is planned a bright one, and it is here that Miss Braddon does most of her writing. In Lindfield House, at Richmond, this popular novelist has a residence of considerable size and beauty in the style of architecture being the early Georgian.

MEN OF MARK.

Chief Inspector Heatley, head of the board of Calcutta police, has completed 31 years' service. He has no intention of retiring for peace, as has been recently stated.

Colonel F. D. Lugard, the new governor of Nigeria, is a tall, stiff, dark complexioned man, full of nervous energy. His career has been one of remarkable distinction, dating the service at the age of 20, to served in the Afghan war of 1879-80, the Sudan campaign of 1885 and with the Burma field force in 1889-7. Since that time he has been little service, with his regiment, being been almost continuously employed in various parts of Africa.

Many anecdotes are told of Professor Pizzetscher, who is treating Queen Victoria for her eyes. He is most careful to admit his fees to the means of his patients, and, though his normal charges for operations range from $100 to $500, he has been known to ask as little as $5 from people of small means. He commands the best practice in Budapest.

Professor George W. Jones of Cornell university is in Tacoma, having just returned from a trip to Alaska. He says the skeletons of thousands of ill fated horses are still to be seen along the White pass.

Captain E. Rose Smith of the One Hundred and Fifty-ninth Indiana volunteers, who, it is said, had the distinction of being the youngest captain in the United States service during the Spanish-American war, has again been honored with a commission in the United States service. He was only 19 years old when he took his company to the field. He is the only son of Captain B. M. Smith, a veteran of the civil war, and his home is in Washington, Ind.

Ephraim Draper had never visited Mount Vernon until ten days before he sailed for Italy to assume his duties there. It was like all nearly Draper's place to be soon at any time and always on call. In the last few hours before he sailed General Draper felt he could not go to his mission abroad in a strength as the birthplace of the Father of His Country, so he snatched half a day from pressing duties and "did" Mount Vernon thoroughly and satisfactorily.