

Novel Features of Chicago's Coming Centennial

SEPT. 22 to Oct. 1 will be given over by the people of Chicago to one grand round of gayety. At that time will be celebrated the centennial anniversary of the permanent settlement of the city, and from far and near hundreds of thousands of strangers are expected to assist the people of the Windy City in commemorating their natal day. Truly the Chicagoans have reason to feel elated over the rapid growth of their city from its humble beginnings in Fort Dearborn, built by Major Whistler in 1803. And that they will make of the centennial celebration an event long to be remembered by those who witness it is certain from the elaborate programme which, months in the making, is now well nigh completed. According to the plans of those in charge of the affair it will attain the high water mark of Chicago fete.

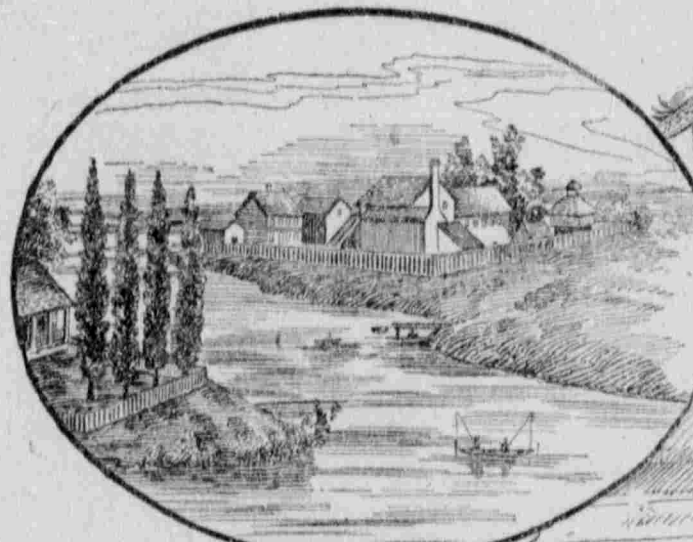
Undoubtedly the greatest interest will attach to the historic side of the celebration, more especially to all that relates to old Fort Dearborn. This ancient bulwark of the American advance had its beginnings in 1795, when the United States government bought from the Indians a six mile square piece of land whereon the fort, the first sign of the now sturdy city, was erected eight years later. The history of the ancient defense work is replete with romantic episodes, but none excels in interest and tragedy the massacre of the settlers and their gallant defenders in the war of 1812 by the Indians who had cast in their lot with the British. The massacre itself did not take place within the walls of the fort—which had been abandoned by its commander, Captain Heald, under orders to bring his people to the American headquarters—but at about the foot of Eighteenth street in modern Chicago. Twenty-six regulars, twelve militiamen, two women and twelve children perished in the fierce onslaught of the Pottawattamies, who then destroyed the fort. The massacre has been commemorated by a magnificent monument designed by Sculptor Carl Rohlf-Smith and presented to the city by George M. Pullman. In 1816 the fort was rebuilt by Captain Bradley, but was evacuated in 1837, as the migration of the Indians to the west of the Mississippi made its further maintenance unnecessary. About twenty years later the fort was demolished with the exception of an outbuilding that stood, a solitary sentinel, until the great fire of 1871, when it fell a victim to the devouring flames which destroyed 17,450 buildings, killed 200 people and rendered nearly 100,000 homeless.

Fort Dearborn as the birthplace of the city will of course be the center of the merry-making, and a novel and unique scheme has been devised to reproduce vividly the scenes in which the pioneers of Chicago figured so prominently. The old fort will be rebuilt in facsimile, inside and out, while about it will be encamped descendants

of the red men who made their homes in that territory in the years of long ago. These will include Iroquois, Ojibway, Algonquin, Ottawa, Menominee and last but not least Pottawattamie braves, all of whom will come to Chicago from the great lakes, paddling up the river in their canoes when the celebration begins. Then they will pitch their tents near the fort, upon which they will from time to time make a

will also be placed on the skyscrapers downtown. At a given moment this expanse of combustible powder is to be

Fort Dearborn Massacre Monument



Old Fort Dearborn, Chicago.



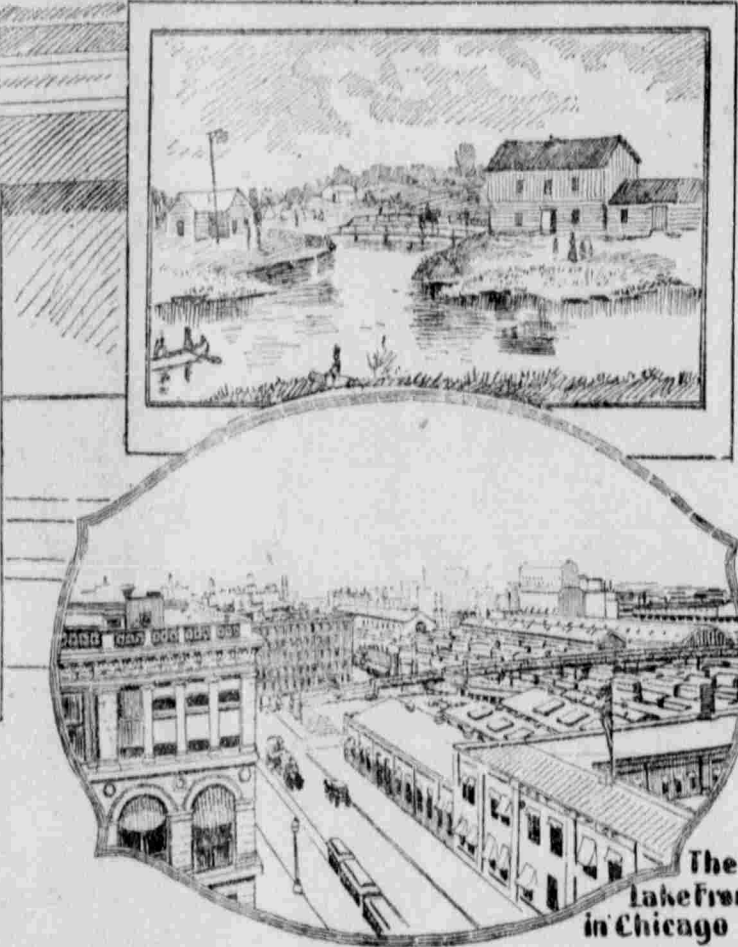
Junction of Branches of Chicago River today.

sham attack simulating as closely as possible the methods of warfare employed by their ancestors. In addition to this they will give dances and entertainments of various kinds, and the visitors to the centennial will have every opportunity to visit their camp and watch their primitive manner of cooking, eating and powwowing.

Another noteworthy feature of the celebration will be a mimic portrayal of the great fire. The roofs of all the larger buildings in the immense territory that was devastated by the flames will be covered with roman fire, which



Junction of Branches of Chicago River in 1832



The Lakefront in Chicago

stricken city a greater Chicago has arisen. Lovers of outdoor sports will have a surfeit of amusement. The yachtsmen of the city have arranged a series of

Young will be in charge of this feature of the celebration. Another parade that should prove very popular will be a night affair, a procession of automobiles belonging to residents of Chi-

centennial week regatta, and it seems likely that nearly all the best yachts of the great lakes will take part in the regatta events, for which costly cups are to be offered as prizes. There will also be a number of international aquatic contests participated in by famous swimmers from England, Germany and Sweden as well as members of the leading universities and athletic clubs of our own land. The programme, which is to include swimming, rowing and water polo contests, will be carried out on the waters of the beautiful Lincoln park lagoon, an ideal spot for both contestants and spectators, surrounded as it is by a wide stretch of lawn.

That there will be parades galore goes without saying. One of the most noteworthy will be a military parade, which it is hoped will be reviewed by President Roosevelt. In its ranks will march the government troops stationed at Fort Sheridan and other nearby posts, the national guardmen of Illinois and neighboring states and local uniformed organizations. Colonel E. C.

camp, New York, St. Louis, Cleveland, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and other centers of progress and industry. It is hoped that more than 2,000 automobiles, illuminated and brilliantly decorated, will be in line. Prizes are to be awarded for the best color and light schemes of decoration.

An automobile racing meet will also be held two afternoons of the week at which crack chauffeurs from all over the country tooling wonderful racing machines will endeavor to smash world's records. It is reported that one of the competitors intends to appear in a vehicle that will dwarf all present makes and will be of ninety horse power at least. Many valuable prizes will be distributed in the course of the meet, the most important being a "centennial" silver cup.

Yet another street display of absorbing interest will be an industrial parade wherein the story of the birth and growth of Chicago will be told by floats emblematical of its Indian origin, its early settlement, the great massacre, the part it played in the civil war, the fire and, finally, the world's fair of 1893.

The week preceding the centennial proper will also furnish both entertainment and instruction to the Chicagoans and their friends. An educational committee, with Professor Sparks of the University of Chicago at its head, has gathered photographs of early scenes in and about the city, and these will be shown in the stereopticon, together with views of the same localities as they appear today. Lectures detailing the history of Chicago will be delivered in connection with the stereopticon exhibitions every afternoon and evening, for children in the afternoon and for adults in the evenings. In addition to the labor involved in securing the old photographs and taking the new ones the committee has designed a number of tablets which will be placed in historic spots during the centennial exercises. The exercises themselves will include patriotic services in the churches on the Sunday of the week of celebration as well as a reunion of old settlers in the reconstructed Fort Dearborn.

STATUE OF SHAKESPEARE IN WEIMAR, GERMANY.

The town of Weimar in Germany is not a great place so far as wealth and population are concerned, but it is famed as the home of Goethe and Schiller. That the literary tastes of



the people of Weimar are liberal and catholic is shown by the fact that they are erecting in their pretty city a statue of Shakespeare executed by Otto Lessing, the famous German sculptor. As will be seen by the illustration, the statue is a worthy monument to the immortal English poet.

HOW TO DRY WET BOOTS.

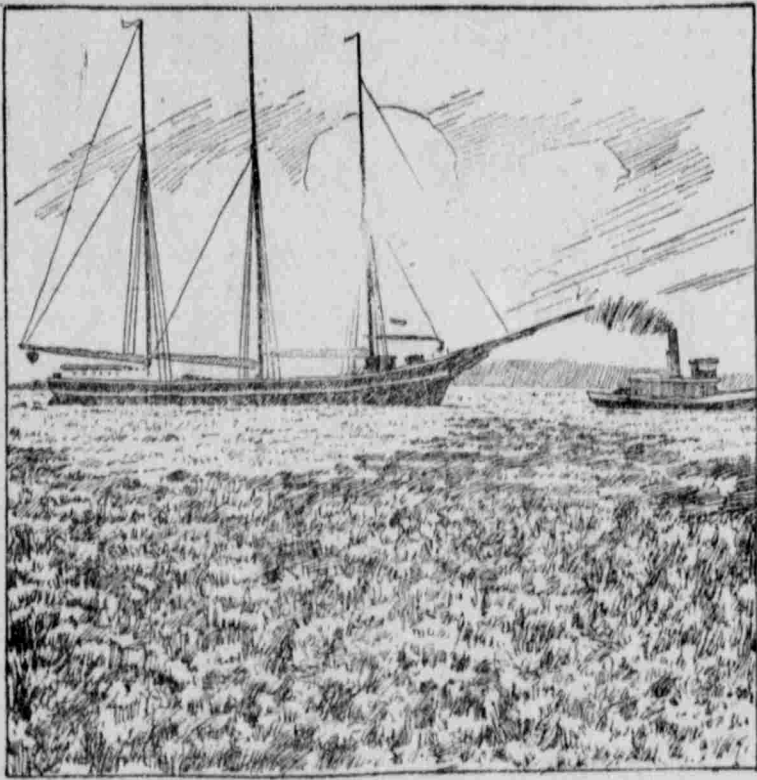
In wet weather the following hint of a little known way of drying wet boots may be useful. When the boots are taken off fill them quite full with dry oats. This grain has a great fondness for damp and will rapidly absorb the least vestige of it from the wet leather. As it takes up the moisture it swells and fills the boot with a tightly fitting last, keeping its form good and drying the leather without hardening it. In the morning shake out the oats and hang them in a bag near the fire to dry, ready for the next wet night.

PEOPLE WHO EAT SNAKES.

John Chinaman is known to be more curious than nice in his diet. A great delicacy with him is the flesh of a boa constrictor. One of these reptiles—a fine specimen, eighteen feet long—was recently caught at Galyang, Malacca, by some Celestials, who offered to sell it whole for \$10. Falling to obtain their price, they cut up the creature, and the meat found a ready sale.

INTERESTING PICTURES GATHERED FROM FAR AND NEAR

SAILING THROUGH ACRES OF FLOWERS.



The illustration depicts a scene which is of everyday occurrence in Florida. For some years the rivers and waterways of the Peninsular State have been plagued by a remarkable growth of water hyacinths, flowers which are goodly to look upon, but which grow in Florida to such an extent as seriously to impede navigation. Millions of the plants spring into existence every summer and grow so rapidly that it is difficult to exterminate them. Year after year the authorities draw tons of the plants from the river and burn them, but this remedy has proved inadequate and it is feared that unless some powerful agent of destruction is discovered the rivers may be closed to navigation.

A FAMOUS BRITISH LANDMARK.

The accompanying illustration shows how humble a dwelling may become the temporary home of a monarch. It was in this house in Shrewsbury that



Henry VII. stayed in 1485 on his way to Bosworth Field, where he fought and defeated Richard III., the last of the Plantagenet rulers of England.

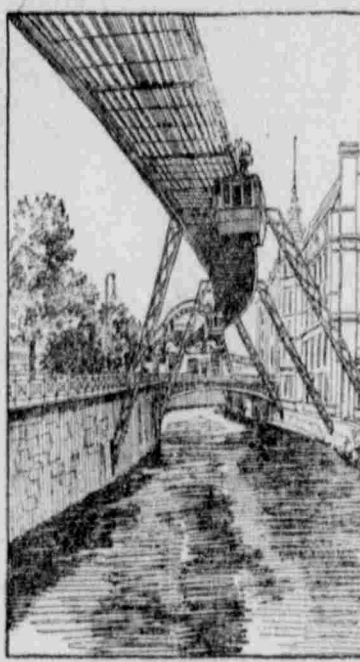
RYLAND'S PAINTING OF "THE ANNUNCIATION."



With the notable exception of the late James Tissot, modern artists have not shown any great tendency to utilize religious subjects, but if the pictures exhibited at the new art gallery in London may be taken as a criterion we shall soon witness a notable revival in the application of art to religion. The accompanying illustration is a reproduction of one of the most talked of paintings at the gallery, a work by Henry Ryland entitled "The Annunciation."

UNIQUE ELEVATED RAILWAY.

The elevated railway is by no means a modern institution, but that shown in the accompanying illustration possesses some very unique features. It runs between Bannern and Ebberfeld, in Germany, and was built in the air because it was found impossible to lay



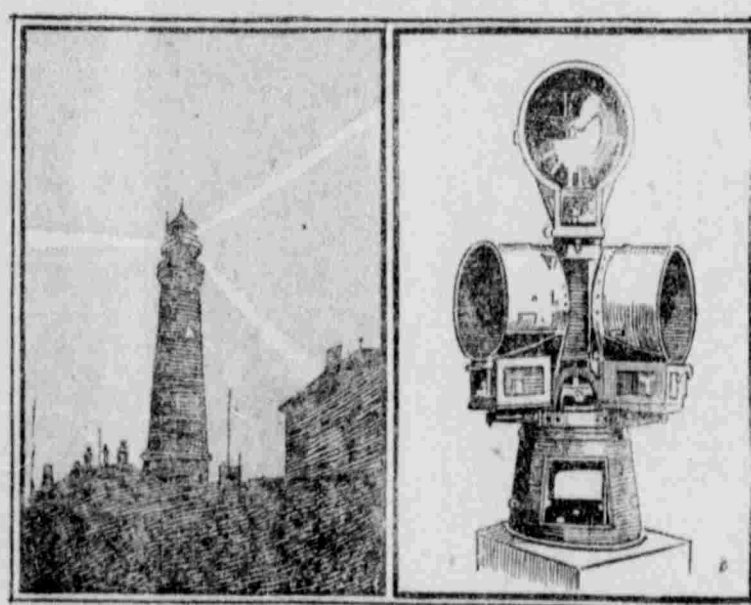
tracks on the ground. The road stretches above a canal, and the trains run underneath it. The tracks, the wheels being fixed to the roofs of the coaches. Those who have taken the trip from Bannern to Ebberfeld say that the journey is very enjoyable.

LATEST PORTRAIT OF KAISER AND KAISERIN.



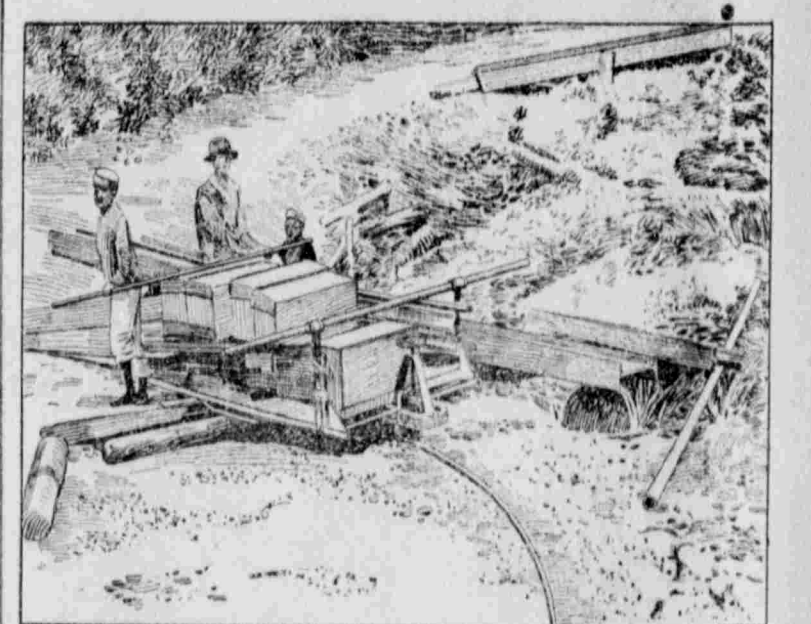
The accompanying illustration was made from the latest photograph of the emperor and empress of Germany. It is considered a striking likeness of the royal couple.

HELGOLAND'S WONDERFUL LIGHTHOUSE.



A novel electric lighthouse, said to be the most powerful in the world, has just begun shedding its rays around the little German island of Helgoland. The illustration shows the lighthouse and also the novel light throwing apparatus in which parabolic glass mirrors are used instead of the glass dioptric lenses which have hitherto enjoyed undisputed supremacy. The new method places its light concentrating apparatus at the back of the light and not in front. A ray of very high candle power is thrown for the tenth of a second every five seconds by means of an electric current, which is brought to the lantern of the lighthouse from a power house some 250 yards distant.

MONO RAIL IN OPERATION IN ALGERIA.



An ingenious system of transportation in Algeria is that provided by the mono rail. As the illustration shows, mono rail cars have their wheels in the center and are propelled by two men, one on either side, pushing the long sweeps that extend from the car. In some cases the sweeps have small wheels at their extremities, so that should the car for any reason lose its balance it will continue to advance. The advantages of this scheme are obvious, as in addition to the ease with which heavy loads may be moved from place to place there is no necessity for laying ties and there is little track expense.

A PHILADELPHIA LANDMARK.

The announcement of the renovation of 422 Walnut street, Philadelphia, serves to bring to mind the fact that it was in the quaint old residence at



this address that Chief Justice John Marshall died in 1835. It was while the funeral of the famous jurist was proceeding from this house that the Liberty bell, tolling in honor of the dead, cracked and was silenced.

COLOMBIA'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE.

Although comparatively little known outside his country, J. M. Marroquin, acting president of Colombia, is undoubtedly one of the big men of that



J. M. MARROQUIN. Very unsettled republic. Marroquin has been managing the affairs of his country since 1901, when by a coup d'etat he succeeded in having himself installed as president over the regularly elected chief executive, Senor Sanclemente. Marroquin is described by a recent visitor to Colombia as a man of force and intelligence.

ITEMS FROM EVERYWHERE.

In Spain street performers on the guitar are licensed, while organ grinders are rigorously suppressed. Glass cannot be blown into vessels of more than twenty-six gallons capacity, except by the use of compressed air. The agents of the bureau of forestry will study forest fires as they occur to determine how they are caused, how

fast they burn and what conditions favor or hinder them, and just what damage they do to soil and to tree growth. The United Kingdom has now 22,000 miles of railway—just double the mileage of 1881. Postage is cheap in all countries in these times, but in none, perhaps, quite

as cheap as in Japan. A letter can be sent from one end to the other of the Land of the Rising Sun for the fee of two sen, equal to about one-eighth of a cent. There are about 2,120,000 cyclists in Germany, each of whom must pay a yearly tax of 30 cents. The Canadian railways are obliged, by the terms of the new railway company bill, to carry members of the

Canadian senate and house of commons free. Every tram car in Belfast has printed in large letters just over the step at each end of the car: "The lifeboat rule is women and children first." The United States has still 1,100,000 square miles of woodland, or about 35 per cent of her total territory. A strange punishment is endured by Armenian maidens when they have at-

tained their seventeenth year and are not engaged to be married. They are forced to fast three days; then for twenty-four hours their food is salt fish, and they are not permitted to quench their thirst. Fully 2,500 persons commit suicide in Russia every year. The sterilization of meat is much practiced in Belgium. It returns to the trade, under the form of a wholesome

product, meat which otherwise would be unfit for consumption. The first railroad convention ever held in Missouri assembled in the St. Louis courthouse April 26, 1852. A harvester is used in Canada, with a cutting bar no less than thirty-five feet in width. It takes a fifty horse power traction engine to pull it. One of the rarest and most valuable of Chinese goldfishes is the brushtail,

a pair of which sells for \$1,000. Probably there is no other living thing of its size and weight that is worth so much money. The range of hearing in adults under fifty-five years of age is approximately 16,000 to 43,000 vibrations a second. It is estimated that persons seeking divorce in South Dakota spend, while gaining residence for that purpose, \$900,000 a year.