

gressive though silvery persuasiveness on his part. A collection of beautiful cashmere shawls is also a tempting exhibit, and one can hardly look upon the rich and delicately tinted folds without an insane yearning for their possession.

Aside from the artistic treasures contained in the buildings are also a number of objects gotten up to illustrate the native industries and life of the people of India and also to represent some of the ancient customs which are as much a part of India as the soil, air, or people themselves. Of the latter, a faithful picture is given of the Suttee funeral rites in a literal representation of the scene, which occurs with figures, funeral pyre and everything, in fact, connected with the ceremonies attending the decease or rather funeral of the chief of a tribe, shown in minute models, the whole executed with a remarkably natural and life-like effect. The scene, as represented with these objects and models, shows a funeral pyre of heaped branches with the body of the chief outstretched thereon and ready for the burning; the widow stands at the head of the pile with arms upraised in a gesture of wild grief and lamentation; near by stand other relatives or the deceased in exaggerated attitudes of sorrow, while outside the circle thus formed are a guard of soldiers, each provided with arms or quaint musical instruments, all of them having a remarkably unflinching and martial bearing. To make it more natural and life-like—from the house near by a line of men and boys carry branches and twigs for the pile reared in the center of the group, their attitudes being as natural as if live specimens of the native Suttee (somewhat dwarfed as regards stature, however) were performing the real work of the funeral before us.

Another interesting thing is a model of a lac factory showing natives at work stamping and moulding the clay, and an indigo factory showing the different stages in the process of preparing the indigo for the market, from the gathering and hauling of the branches to the factory, up to the final sifting and packing for commercial purposes. The model or exhibit of the factory comprises a number of scenes connected with the details of the work, the most curious and interesting of which are the miniature canals and rivers showing boats rowed by natives, filled with loads of indigo branches, and long roads with a scattering line of teams drawn by oxen, also heaped with the blue-juiced brush. The interior of the factory is also shown, and the work of the various departments illustrated by the literal representation of the labor carried on in each, by means of mimic figures placed in attitudes which clearly picture the process of each.

Other things in the collection of natural models are those of an oil mill in Bengal, done in clay, wood and iron, a Parsee temple with the sacrifice of an elephant and other animals in course of accomplishment; a Sarabhad house where ivory and sandalwood carving are done, showing natives at work inside, and using, by the way, both hands and feet in their difficult labor. The most interesting of all these many curious models is that of a kheddar in the Mysore state, a sort of

huge corral or trap for elephants and by whose means the great beasts are lured into the clutches of men, that their tusks, bones, hide, etc., may serve as commercial values to enhance the financial interest of the beings who in comparison of size and strength are but as pygmies to the huge creatures that serve as prey. The kheddar comprises a labyrinth of paths leading from the native forest haunts of the great beasts to the enclosure of a corral and the picture shows a literal representation of the method of capture; the elephant to be seen winding his clumsy way to the canal whose water serves as a snare for his unwary intelligence, on through the mazes of the many paths, each leading inevitably up to the bars of the fatal enclosure in which his jaunt will end; trees with "machaws" or rees for the gate watchers, who night and day keep guard at the entrances of the kheddar in unceasing vigilance for the approach of the clumsy prey; these with the scene where the elephant is at length lassoed and thrown helpless on his back at the mercy of his small but masterful tormentor, are shown with excellent literalness and comprise the general features of the whole, which makes one of the most curious and entertaining exhibits in the building. There are myriad other things contained within the walls of the India temple which, beside those mentioned, conduce to make it one of the most enchanting precincts on the grounds.

Another foreign structure whose delay in accomplishing the finishing touches inside has so far prevented the public from gaining anything but a brief glimpse of the interior is that of the French building on the lake shore, whose opening by the way is promised to take place this week. The completion of one wing of the building was accomplished a few days ago, and a hasty trip through the several rooms showed enough of the interesting material which is comprised in the exhibit to make the promise of the whole a truly thrilling one. Of the various departments represented in the several rooms the one which attracted more attention than the others was that showing the French prison system and especially the methods of identifying criminals and convicts. In cases and on the walls are ranged photographs of the most noted criminals of France, arranged with the object of reference as to types; and with them are pictures showing the methods of measurement, etc., by which a person is marked, both for identification and scientific purposes and the results are taken as a sort of statistics of physiognomy, phrenology and physiology combined by which one may make an interesting study of the class of subjects represented in this line. With the usual French characteristic of literalness and sensationalism, the exhibitors have placed in the room a scene representing a murder or rather the discovery of a murder in the streets of Paris, the scene showing a raised heap of earth with a wax figure representing a corpse lying outstretched upon it and with traces of the struggle in the footprints and torn earth around. The representation is made to give illustration of the exact methods employed in detective work, and shows the photographs, bio instrument posed above the

body with focus levelled underneath to take in the details of the entire scene.

Other rooms in this part of the building are devoted to a display of educational, charitable, and industrial statistics and furnish valuable information and reference for those interested in gaining a knowledge of the important facts contained in the display.

Among the state buildings that are rapidly progressing towards an early opening is California, and the proud showing so far made promises a display which when completed will do much towards emphasizing her claim to the title blazoned in one of the fine mottoes, which, joined together and circling the building, make a frieze for the inside walls. The motto in question reads: "California—the brightest gem in the shining circle of states which crown the brow of the nation;" and a glance at the display which will be presented when the building, or rather the interior of the building is completed, is such as to make the other states which are striving to distinguish themselves above all others in this greatest Exposition of the centuries look well to their laurels.

Washington is another state which will make a magnificent showing, and the building is crowded even now with enough interesting materials to make the place a rendezvous for all the visitors in the grounds. Delaware is the unluckiest of all the sisterhood—all work connected with the building having been brought to a standstill by the lack of funds. Whether this halt is permanent depends upon the public spirit of Delaware's people, since the last cent provided for the building has been expended, and it is rumored that an emphatic denial has been made to the demands, or rather entreaties, of the World's Fair commissioners who have charge of the work.

The event has furnished occasion for the display of a splendidly generous spirit upon the part of the other states, and one which though exemplary in itself should put to some kind of shame, nevertheless, the picaresque spirit of the people of the state whose narrowness has been the cause of its display. When the state of affairs began to be hinted at a number of the state houses commenced to send in their own articles and exhibits for furnishings for the Delaware building, and a number of people connected with the commission work of the various state buildings generously offered to make up the amount of money sufficient to carry on the work and provide a suitable display. The Delaware commissioners declined the favors, though eminently grateful for the kindness which prompted them, and though the attention was commendable and generous indeed, one cannot envy the Delaware people their feelings concerning the necessity which occasioned it.

With an example of that kind confronting her, Utah may rest well satisfied with the showing she has been or will be able to make; though a larger amount of money contributed to the work of placing Utah's resources and achievements properly before the world would have been productive of much more satisfactory results than are at present ensured. As it is, the