

# SKIBO CASTLE; ANDREW CARNEGIE'S PLAY PLACE

THE life of Andrew Carnegie, generally regarded as the wealthiest man in the world, is much like the life of any other millionaire—while he is in the United States. But when the ex-steel magnate sets sail for Europe he begins a period of vacation, or at any rate what he is pleased to regard as vacation, which is unique, as it has no exact counterpart in the world. When Mr. Carnegie arrives in Europe, everything is in a rush, so anxious is he to get

ing—may, anxious—to lend ear, and to the credit of these people he recorded that Mr. Carnegie has more often been compelled to urge their acceptance of aid than they have been willing to receive it. They are a clannish lot, these Carnegie peasants, but they are as independent as the Swiss and as proud as Lucifer, and it is these traits, with which the steel king so seldom comes in contact, that have endeared these humble people to him.

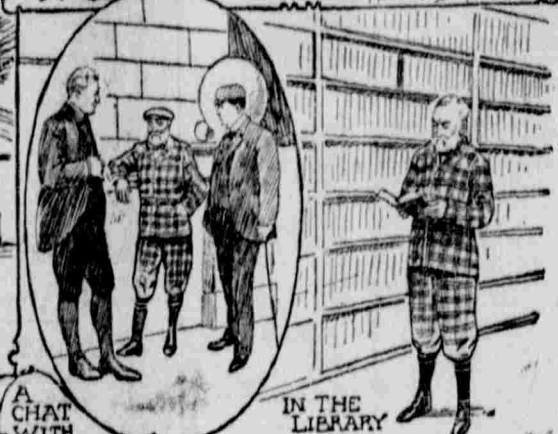
Those persons who have been privi-



MR. CARNEGIE DICTATING TO HIS SECRETARY

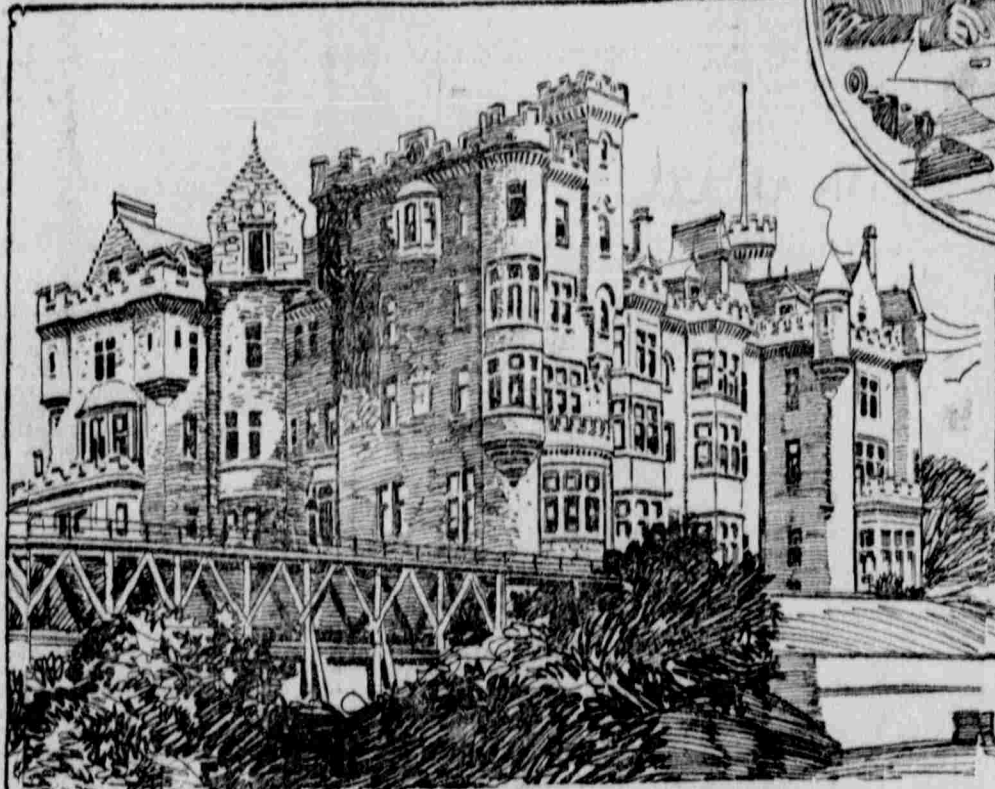


THE FLOWER GARDEN



A CHAT WITH TWO GUESTS

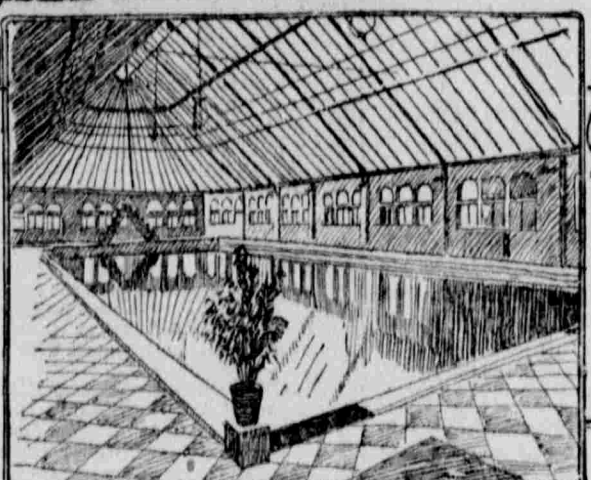
IN THE LIBRARY



SKIBO CASTLE

away from the crowded city and seek perfect rest at Skibo castle, Scotland. To the average mortal this rather gloomy pile would offer few attractions. To Andrew Carnegie, who has but to wish for anything which money can buy to become its possessor, the place is the closest approach to paradise to be found on this mundane sphere.

And yet after Mr. Carnegie reaches Skibo he does not get that rest for which he imagines he longs. Instead the routine of his life is much as it is in New York. There are the same begging letters to be answered, the same investigations of the worthiness of municipal applications for libraries to be ordered, the same refusals of requests for expressions of opinion upon a wide variety of subjects upon which he has no opinions to be sent off. But there is at Skibo what he cannot find elsewhere—the peasantry, the humble people whose cares and troubles Mr. Carnegie is pleased to make his own. To their recitals of the petty little happenings of the neighborhood he is always will-



THE SWIMMING POOL

leged to visit Skibo as guests of its owner declare that Mr. Carnegie is an ideal host. That his hospitality should be extended on a lavish scale is not surprising in view of his vast wealth, but it is surprising that a man with so many large things upon his mind should find pleasure in discussing with his guests the little matters which most

interest them. What is more, he makes them feel that the subjects under discussion are those which, above all others, he cares most to hear of. And there is a lesson in this. It is a portion of the key to the secret of the success of this Scotch-American; whatever he does he does well, even listening. When you arrive at Skibo, you are made

to feel that it is the most natural thing in the world to tax the resources of the place to gratify your slightest wish, and if you manifest a disinclination to do this the host himself takes you in hand and soon puts you in a frame of mind where it comes perfectly natural for you to pose for the moment as proprietor by proxy.

Andrew Carnegie's first visit as master to Skibo was an event of importance to the tenant farmers in the neighborhood. Each has his own little story of the event to tell, but in one particular the yarns are identical. They all agree as to what the new owner said when he took a long survey of the place from a window of one of the upper floors: "I cannot realize that this is legal papers which say that I have bought it, yet it does not seem, after all, that I really own it." His manner as he uttered these words impressed his

dependents standing near by, and the man who up to that moment was to them a sort of bugaboo about to come among them to take away their holdings and upset the associations of generations at once won a place in their hearts.

Despite its rather forbidding exterior, Skibo, as will be suspected, is as magnificently equipped inside as though built within the last decade. The library naturally is the owner's favorite lounging spot, but the money spent upon it has gone into the volumes on its shelves rather than upon ordinary decorations, for Mr. Carnegie, despite his enormous wealth, cannot bear over-elaboration. His constant admonition to architects and decorators is, "More simple; no elaborate." In the portion of the castle devoted to the swimming pool Mr. Carnegie also spends some time every morning. The pool is a large one, and the water may be raised to any temperature by means of a system of electrical heating, the current for which is supplied by a power house a few hundred feet away.

Mr. Carnegie, while he does not go in for high priced pictures simply because they are high priced, is a good judge of art and has at Skibo some notable examples of the old masters as well as of the present generation of painters. It is worth noting, too, that he has no sympathy with the current lament to the effect that we no longer produce really great artists.

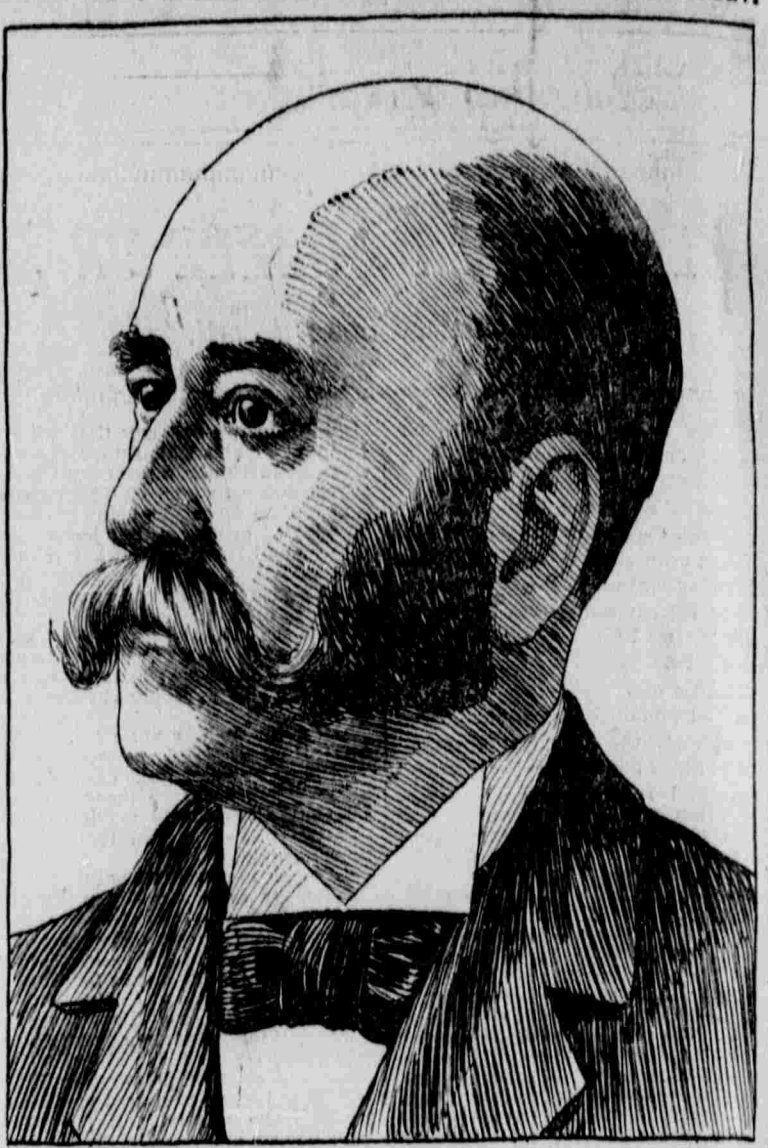
The gardens at Skibo, however, are Mr. Carnegie's especial pride, and of all the things raised therein he takes the greatest interest, in the gooseberries, which, by the way, are said to be the finest grown in Scotland. Gooseberries are the one subject with which Mr. Carnegie is apt to bore his visitor, and he will talk by the hour of the various methods of hybridizing, fertilizing and pruning for best results. In short, despite the fact that the gardens of Skibo are as beautiful and as picturesque as any in England, the little corner devoted to the gooseberries possesses the strongest fascination for his multimillionaire owner.

The estate surrounding Skibo castle extends over an extreme length of about twenty miles, with a width at some points of nearly eight miles. It comprises about 35,000 acres and contains no diseased trees or waste places evidencing the neglect or indifference of the "master." The income of the one time bobbin boy is estimated to be nearly \$37,500 a day, and some suggestion of the rules of life which made the accumulation of this vast fortune possible may be found in the mottoes inscribed upon the frieze of the library of Mr. Carnegie's former New York city residence. One of the maxims was, "The present moment is our aim, the next we never see." Another was, "He that dare not reason is a slave, he that cannot is a fool, he that will not is a bigot," while a third contained these lines of Polonius' advice to his son:

This above all: To thine own self be true, And it must follow, as the night the day, Thou canst not then be false to any man.

HENRY FERRIS YOUNG.

## JOHN SINGER SARGENT, WHO IS TO PAINT THE PORTRAIT OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

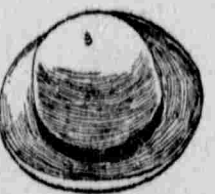


John Singer Sargent, the famous artist who is coming over from England soon to paint President Roosevelt's portrait, is an American, though born in Florence, Italy. His laurels have been mainly won abroad. Like another eminent American artist, E. A. Abbey, he has resided during most of his professional life in England, his studio being in London. He is four years younger than Abbey, having been born in 1856, and as a portrait painter is considered without a peer. Lady Colin Campbell once alluded to him as the "American Velasquez" and said his insight into character was as extraordinary as his mastery of color and technique. As a student of Carolus Duran, he won the master's encomiums and has since painted the portraits of many famous people, including Duran, Joseph Chamberlain and Ellen Terry. He works like a steam engine, his friends say, and has little time for society, though devoted to outdoor exercise. In person he is tall and athletic, with a handsome face lighted by deep, dark eyes. His portraits and genre pictures have been exhibited repeatedly in the foreign salons, and he has been a member of the Royal academy for years.

### A HAT AS A LIFE PRESERVER.

A hat which can be used as a life preserver has been invented by Count Ravelli, who was moved to supply himself with an outfit of "pneumatic garments" on account of numerous deaths in his family by drowning, he having lost two uncles, a sister, two brothers

and his father in this manner. In appearance the article in the illustration is an ordinary felt hat, but by means of a tiny valve generally out of sight it can be quickly inflated and when in the water floats like a cork. Not only the hat, but everything worn by the count—his coat, vest, even his shoes and his umbrella—is inflatable.



### A BAGANDA SOLDIER.

The newly opened African region known as the Uganda is inhabited by a great number of negro races or families, among the best of which are the Baganda, described by a recent explorer as the Japanese of Central Af-



rica. They are tall and muscular, many of the men over six feet in height, courteous, honest, artistic and musically inclined. John Bull in Africa has already found out that the Uganda warriors furnish the best sort of raw material for soldiers and has utilized them accordingly, as shown in the accompanying illustration.

When Persian ladies pay calls, they throw roses at one another.

### THE "TRAMP NOVELIST."

Here is a portrait of Mr. Bart Kennedy, the "tramp novelist," whose adventures as a tramp and laborer in various parts of the world have furnished him with a vast fund of information,



which he is utilizing in his books. Not long ago he started out to tramp across the Iberian peninsula and was attacked and captured by Spanish brigands, the latest news reporting him as still in their custody. He has lived with Indians on our plains, has dredged for oysters in the Chesapeake, shoveled snow on railways in the Rocky mountains and in various ways provided himself with food and money while tramping over two hemispheres.

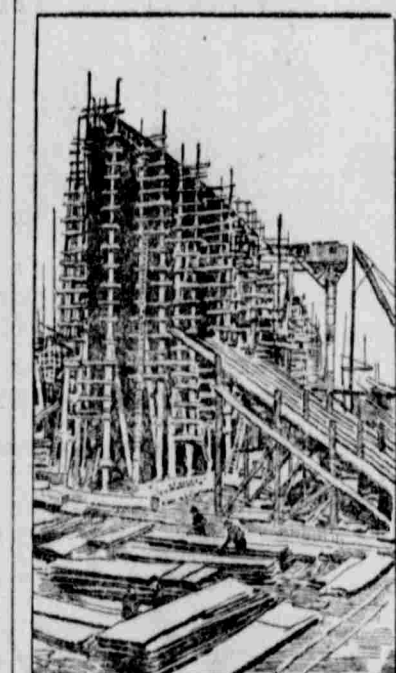
### A BRIGHT AMERICAN NEWSPAPER WOMAN NOW LIVING IN LONDON.



Miss Elizabeth L. Banks, whose recently published book, "The Autobiography of a Newspaper Girl," has made a decided hit, is not new to notoriety, having been engaged in journalism for a dozen years. She is an American woman, her early life having been passed in Wisconsin and her journalistic career opening as a society reporter in St. Paul. After serving as private secretary to the American minister in Peru she went to London, where her investigations of life in the "underworld" as housemaid, laundress, flower girl, etc., and also her adventures as a pseudo heiress in society made a tremendous sensation when published as "Campaigns of Curiosity" and "In Cap and Apron." Needless to say, Miss Banks is smart and pretty and a great favorite with her English cousins.

### MAMMOTH OCEAN LINER ON THE STOCKS.

Few persons have ever seen an ocean liner on the stocks, and almost as few have the slightest conception of the great depth of one of the mammoths. The illustration shows a large steamship about half completed in one of the largest shipyards in the country. In



the construction of such a vessel hundreds of workmen are employed daily for months, while the bill for rivets alone runs up into large figures. The tall objects with crosspieces like telegraph poles are the scaffolding erected for the convenience of the workmen, principally the riveters. These poles are knocked away before the vessel is launched.

### A HINDOO FAKIR'S CAMP.

The Hindoo fakir is a "character," if this term may be applied to a man with no character at all. At any rate he is unique, as the illustration shows. During three-fourths of the year he exists in absolute poverty, but on the occasion of a country fair he comes out of his



seclusion and reaps a rich harvest telling fortunes. Having made a vow not to shave his head or face, his hair and beard are very long, the former being worn plaited in the place of a turban. He appears to be of a lighter complexion than his countrymen, owing to the fact that he besmears his face and hands with ashes and yellow ochre.

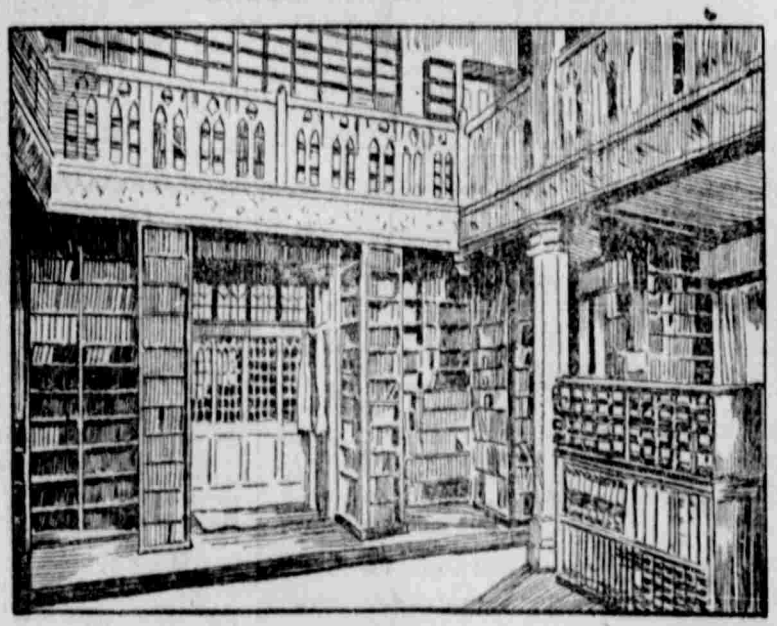
### KOREAN RAIN HATS.

These are not women holding reed baskets over their heads, as would appear at a cursory glance, but Korean farmers' wives wearing the rain hats which have been so frequently and so



humorously commented upon by travelers and yet so seldom illustrated. Korea is a country of strange head-dresses, ranging from the transparent hats of horsehair worn by the married men down to the umbrella hat used by everybody in wet weather; but, after all, the most curious headgear is the immense rain hats worn by the farmers' wives while working in the fields during the rainy season. These extraordinary coverings are often as much as seven feet long and five feet broad and protect the body effectively.

### THE GLADSTONE LIBRARY AT HAWARDEN.



One of the most valuable gifts ever presented by a statesman to the public is the library opened at Hawarden a few weeks ago. It was presented to his native village by the late William E. Gladstone. Thirty thousand volumes, the result of a lifetime of collecting, are within its walls, and as the famous statesman was a connoisseur on books some idea of the collection may be formed. It is a public library in every sense of the word, and its shrewd donor saw to it that no loopholes were left whereby shrewd persons who entertain a contempt for the "common people" might deprive them of their privileges.

### FROM MANY LANDS.

French aeronauts are planning to send a balloon across the desert of Sahara. Pigeons will be the only passengers. Forty-eight summons cases were disposed of by a New York magistrate the other day in thirty-five minutes, establishing a record for the court. The Southern Pacific railroad has

found that four barrels of Texas oil will do the work of a ton of coal. It pays 20 cents a barrel for the oil. An inmate of an insane asylum in Vienna has to be closely watched to prevent him from standing on his head, which he wants to do all the time. Improvements in the arrangements of two large factories in England reduced

the number of cases of lead poisoning in one year from 113 to 71. Berlin police have issued an order forbidding public houses to sell "cold drinks" below a certain temperature for the reason that such drinks are bad for the digestion. Official statistics show that during the year 1901 no less than 8,681 murders were committed in European Russia. This gives an average of more than

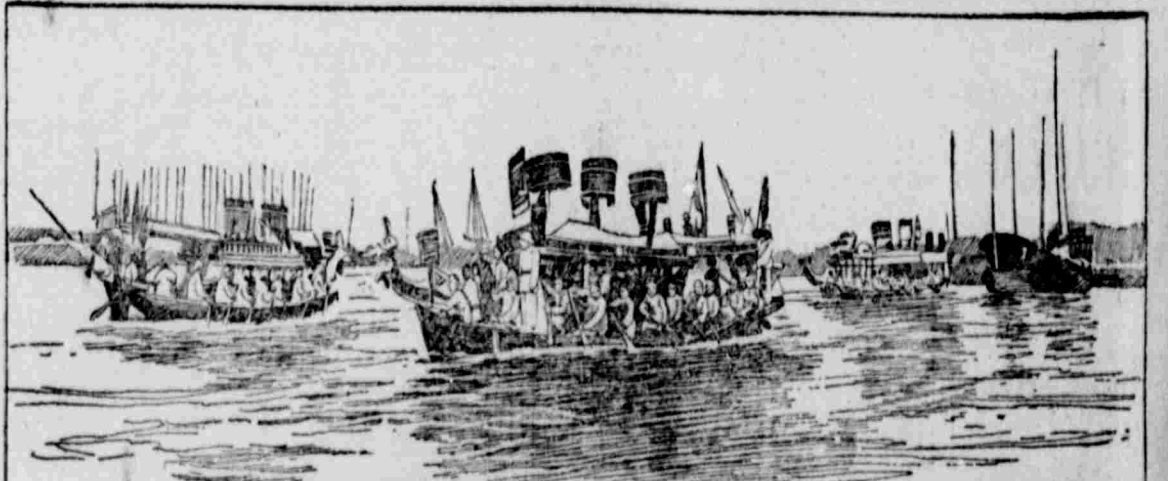
twenty murders a day, a figure that throws much light on the standard of civilization in Russia. According to a note in the Electrical Review, a gas engine when coupled to a dynamo produces three times as much light in incandescent lamps and about eleven times as much in arc lamps as the same amount of gas would produce if burned directly at gas jets. Hundreds of horses and thousands of

cattle in the mountains in the Hawaiian Islands never take a drink of water. A jointed grass known as manilla is food and drink to them. Recently a London merchant received from a crack regiment an order for a pack of seas. The officers wanted the "varmint" to put in the bed of an unpopular subaltern. Experiments in Dublin recently demonstrated to the satisfaction of the ex-

perimenters that bacteria could be carried a great distance by the wind despite a heavy rainfall. While digging fish bait in the western part of Macon county, Mo., recently James Perrin unearthed an old pot containing about 100 in gold coin. A native Chinese paper announces that "most of the people who seek after railway, mining or any other privileges will not apply to the board, but to the

ladies of certain ministers at Peking or to the lady missionaries, as the empress dowager is in favor of them and is glad to comply with any request." At a famous seaside hotel visitors have a book handed to them in which they are requested to record their opinions of the place, etc. One wrote: "The living here is good, plain and substantial." The one who followed added, "And so is the landlady."

### THE ANNUAL DRAGON BOAT REGATTA AT SHANGHAI, CHINA.



One of the strangest of Chinese festivals is that depicted in the accompanying illustration, the dragon boat regatta, which occurs annually at about this season. It originated in the year 450 B. C., according to Chinese tradition, and commemorates the pathetic ending of a Chinese minister who was degraded by his prince and who sought suicide by drowning. The dragon boats are sometimes 100 feet long, but very narrow, and the members of the crews sit side by side and propel the crafts by means of paddles.