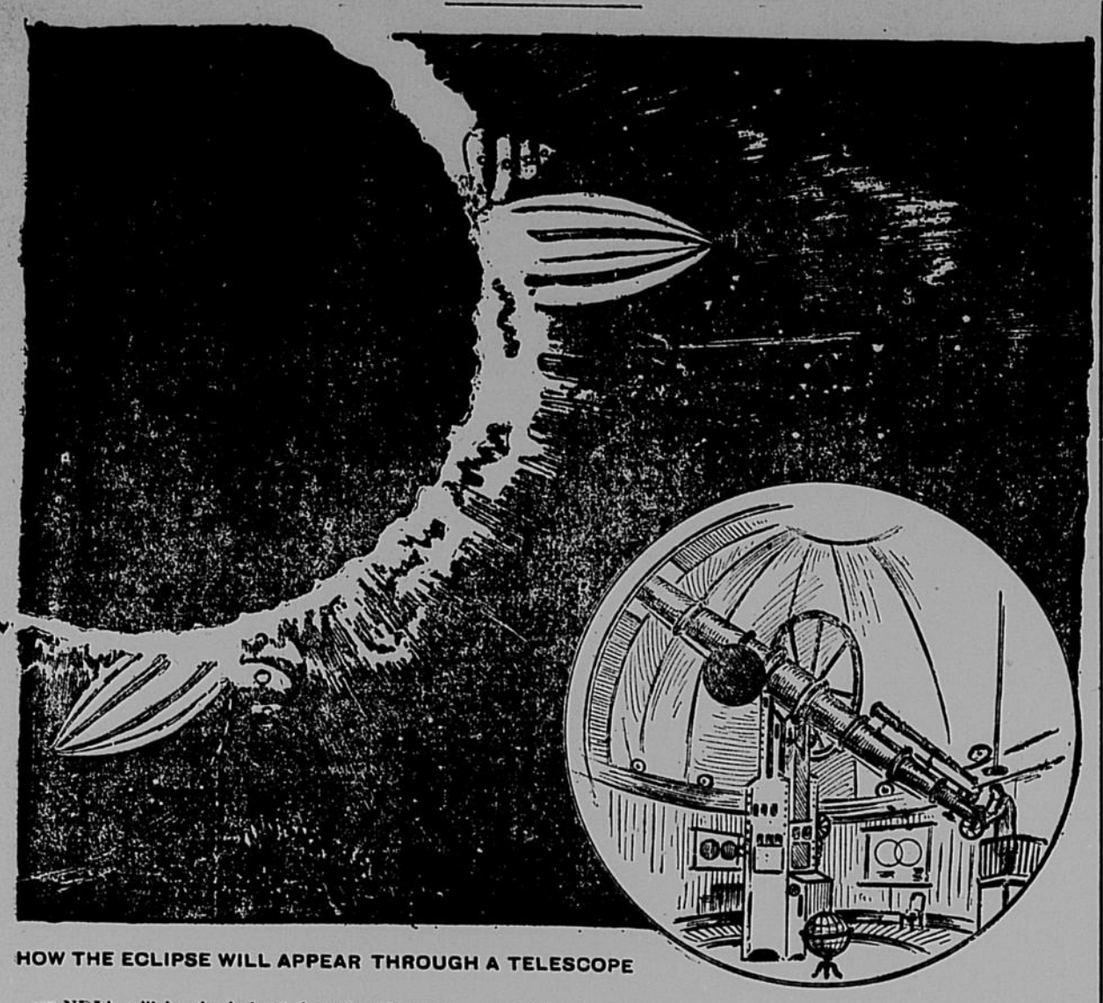
HEAVENS' GREATEST SPECTACLE OF THE CENTURY.



HOW THE ECLIPSE WILL APPEAR THROUGH A TELESCOPE

INDIA will be the hub of the scientific world on the 28th of this month. On that date will occur a total eclipse of the sun, and for over four hours during the day darkness will be spread upon the earth and the stars will shine bravely forth. But American star gazers will be seriously handicapped because totality will be confined to the eastern hemisphere. There will be little on this side of the Atlantic to indicate the obscuration of the sun. To view this eclipse the Indian Government and several astronomical societies have arranged to occupy all convenient spots along the whole line of totality, wherever the railway system intersects this line. They will witness a sight which few men have been privileged to see.

The obscuration will begin generally over the territory where it can be observed at 4:46 in the morning of Jan. 22. It will be visible over all of Asia, Africa and Europe, with the exception of Spain, the west of France, Belgium and Holland. In other words, the western rim of the eastern continent will not be favored. The eclipse will begin in longitude 21 degrees 36 minutes east and latitude 28 minutes north at the hour named. It will end generally in longitude 110 degrees 7 minutes east and latitude 35 degrees 36 minutes north at 9:53 o'clock, thus affording observers something over four hours. The actual period of totality will be two minutes.

DURRANT PAYS THE PENALTY.

Legally Hanged for Diabolical Crimes Committed Three Years Ago.

Theodore Durrant, the San Francisco murderer and worse than murderer of Blanche Lamont and Minnie Williams,



THEODORE DURRANT.

has, after almost three years of dramatic history, at last paid the penalty of his horrible and revolting crimes. Durrant was hanged Friday in San Quentin prison, and when the hangman sprung the trap he rung down the curtain on what has been one of the longest, most exciting, sensational and sharply contested murder trials in the history of American criminal law. While Durrant was convicted of but one murder under the law, he was held responsible by public opinion for the murder of both Blanche Lamont and Minnie Williams, and it is felt that his death expiates one crime as much as the other. He kept up his remarkable nerve until the last and died protesting his innocence.

On April 3, 1895, Blanche Lamont, a member of the Sunday school attached to the Emanuel Baptist Church, suddenly disappeared from the residence of her aunt, with whom she lived. Nine days later Minnie Williams left her home in Almeda to attend a meeting of young people, and, like Blanche Lamont, she failed to return. The following day, April 13, the body of Minnie Williams was found in the library of Emanuel Baptist Church. It was terribly disfigured, and gave evidences of the girl having given her slayer a fearful battle before she yielded up her life.

The machinery of the law was put in motion. Detectives, with hardly any clew to work upon, set out upon their task. In some way the finding of Miss Williams' body was linked with the disappearance of Blanche Lamont. A diligent search was instituted. Every nook and corner of the church was searched, and on the following day the police discovered Miss Lamont's body in the dusty belfry of the church. The method and manner of her death was identical with that of Miss Williams. San Francisco was horrified. The police were astounded at the enormity of the crime, but kept to their work assiduously.

They learned that Theodore Durrant was friendly with the two girls, and that Blanche Lamont was last seen alive in his company. He was promptly arretsed.

COLONEL ARANGUREN.

Daring Young Cuban Commander Who Ordered Ruiz's Execution.

Col. Nestor Aranguren, about whose personality so much interest centers because he met Col. Ruiz's offer of peace by ordering his execution, is one of the younger and most daring of the Cuban leaders. He is in command of a detachment on the outskirts of Havana, and much has he worried the Spaniards. Aranguren's most daring piece of work was a raid into the town of Guanabacoa, a suburb of Havana, across the bay. He held possession of the place for several hours, despite the fact that it contained a strong Spanish garrison. He laid a plot



COLONEL ARANGUREN.

to capture Gen. Weyler on one of his trips into the country, and would probably have succeeded had not the premature explosion of a dynamite cartridge given warning of the presence of the insurgents.

LONDON, ONT., CITY HALL.

Scene Where Scores of People Were Precipitated Into a Death Pit.

It now appears that there were but twenty deaths from the collapse of the floor in the London, Ont., city hall, al-



LONDON, ONT., CITY HALL.

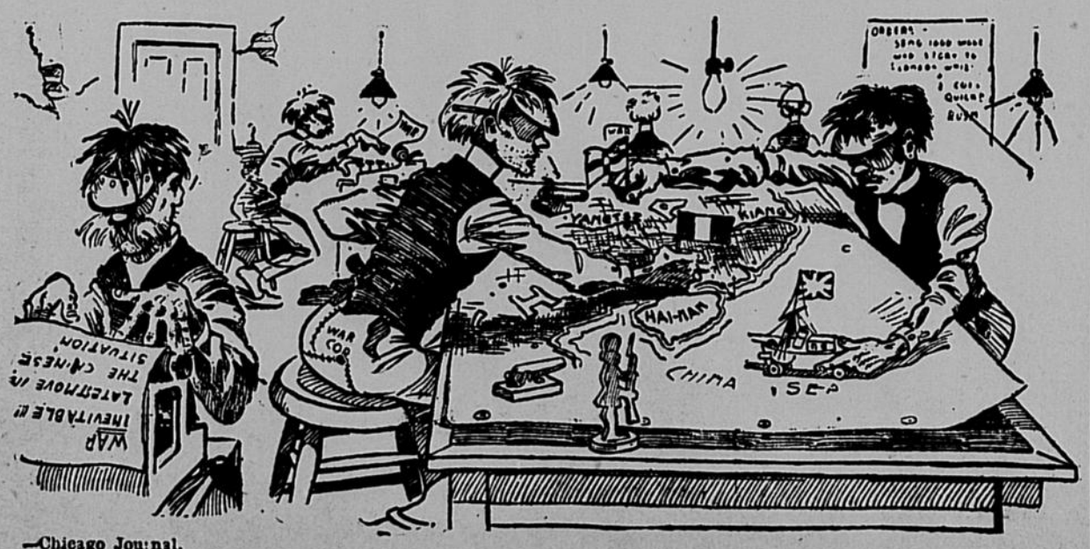
though first reports gave as many as thirty killed.

Great as is the horror, it seems almost miraculous that more were not killed. Writing of the disaster a newspaper man who went down into the pit says: "The writer was hurled backward into the pit and underneath the falling timbers. When the air cleared of the dust and the bright chandelier immediately overhead shone into the death pit, a ghastly sight met the eyes. Faces gashed and covered with blood were everywhere to be seen. The drawn countenances of those who suffered internally and were in the throes of death were also among the number. Old men, with gray hair and beards matted with blood, lay pinned in the heap, along with small boys, distorted with pain. The clothes and faces of all were ashy with the dust of plaster and added to the horror of the scene. From above me, blood from those killed and injured began to trickle, and that, with the cries of the dying for deliverance from their pains made an impression on me which I shall never forget."

England exultingly declares that she holds "the key to the East," but whether she will use it to lock herself in or Germany out remains to be seen. The key trick may not work in the present case.—New York Mail and Express.

Edward Clifford was sentenced in Jersey City to be hanged for the murder of William Watson, a division superintendent of the West Shore road.

HOW WARS IN THE EAST ARE BEING FOUGHT AT PRESENT.



—Chicago Journal.

ETHICS OF BOOK BORROWING.

How to Take Care of a Volume Lent You.

In spite of Polonius' fatherly injunction to Laertes, "neither a borrower nor a lender be," most of us borrow a new book now or then or receive it from the generous owner who insists upon lending it. Some people take the book carelessly, others do not rest until it is read and returned to the keeping of its proprietor.

The first thing to do with a borrowed book is to cover it with thick paper to protect the covers from accidental splashes or from fingering. Do not wait a day or so but cover it at once as soon as you receive it. Write the name of the book plainly on the paper cover, also the owner's name. If you are one of a large family and the borrowed book is likely to be laid on a table where any one can pick it up, write on cover, "This book is not to be left on the library table," for in spite of dainty davenport arrangements the library table often means close association with an inkstand, a vinaigrette, or flower vase containing water, or some receptacle of fluid which may be accidentally overturned and spot the borrowed book.

Do not read a little in the borrowed book and put it aside while you read three or four other more interesting books. Begin it and get through with it, reading as steadily as you can until it is finished, and then return it promptly. Do not wait until Thursday or Sunday "because you will surely see the owner then;" return it at once and then it will be safely off your hands.

It is provoking to have a book borrowed and kept for an indefinite time; it prevents others who may be awaiting the book from the opportunity of enjoying it. If the borrower finds herself not likely to find time to read it, she should return it at once and ask for the privilege of borrowing it another time.

Never, never, lend to another a book that you have borrowed. Let not that piece of superficial dishonesty be laid to your charge. Never permit your pencil to make any mark or annotation in a borrowed book. If you think a date is mis-stated or any piece of information likely to be of use in collateral reading recurs to you, you are at liberty to write it on a slip of paper and to leave it in the book at the page where it belongs. No one should ever correct a passage or a word in a borrowed book. This is inexcusable.

Few of us could subscribe to Charles Lamb's suggestion, advising possessors of books to be shy of showing them, but if you do lend them let it be to one who will return them "with usury enriched with annotations tripling their value."

Return a borrowed book in the condition in which it was lent, and as soon as possible.—Philadelphia Record.

Untamable.

Taming of the shrew is a task for which some men are not fitted. I'm one of them." Then the honest-spoken man had to be urged before he entered upon a personal explanation.

"In some respects matrimony may be a lottery, but I made my own choice and lots of the boys envied my 'prize.' She was pretty, smart and full of push, and had as much ambition as the first Napoleon. But what a temper! Whew! She literally made my hair stand on end just as though it were cut pompadour, and without touching it, too. Fifteen years ago I left her. As is often the case, our quarrel was over a trivial thing. I had carried some mud on to the hall carpet, when going in after a rain. She took me to task about it, I talked back and pretty soon she was doing that hair raising act in a way that made it impossible for me to get in one word to her hundred. I stood it for a little while in hope she would run out of steam or material, but she gathered force as she went. In the midst of the tornado I took my hat and walked out.

"Ten years later I went back and sat down before the sitting-room grate as though I had only been out for part of the day. There had been no noticeable change, and everything indicated prosperity. When my wife came in upon me she neither started, screamed, looked surprised nor turned pale. And what do you think were her first words?"

"Give it up."

"'Well, did you wipe your feet this time?' Yes, sir, that was her exact language. I left without a word. When the second ten years are up, I'll go again and I'll bet odds she'll ask the same question."—Detroit Free Press.

Germany's Hoard of Gold.

A dispatch from Berlin to the Chicago Tribune, says that the thrice-locked vaults of the Spandau fortress were opened a few days ago for the annual examination by the Secretary of the Treasury to see that the $90,000,000 in gold, which the Reichstag voted in 1871 as a fund for first expenses in the next great war, was all right. Baron von Thielmann selected a few bags at random, counted the gold in them, counted the number of bags and weighed the whole amount. Some dozens of workmen were occupied for several hours in the grotesque mediaeval function. The sum eats up $3,000,000 interest yearly.

Was a Desirable Clerk.

Merchant—Have you had any experience in chinaware?

Applicant—Years of it, sir.

Merchant—What do you do when you break a valuable piece?

Applicant—Well—er—I usually set it together again and put it where some customer will knock it over.

Merchant—You'll do.—Tid-Bits.

She Had Refused Him.

Jack—I hear that Miss Jiltson is going on the stage.

Tom—Well, she'll certainly make a hit as a slight-of-hand artist.

TWO MILLIONAIRE GIRLS.

Fair Young Debutantes Who Are Each Worth $5,000,000.

Two girls worth $5,000,000 each in their own right make their debut in New York this season. They are Miss Mildred Stokes, daughter of Anson Phelps Stokes, and Miss Josephine Drexel, daughter of the late Joseph Drexel. Miss Mildred inherited her money from her maternal grandfather, and Miss Drexel got hers from her father.

Both girls are pretty. Miss Stokes' hair is light brown, with golden glints here and there among its waves. Her eyes are big and blue, fringed with dark lashes, and she has a manner that is simple, frank and winning. She has traveled widely and spent the greater part of last year in England and



TWO DEBUTANTES WHO ARE WORTH $10,000,000.

France. Her education has been entirely in the hands of governesses, and it is most complete and thorough. She has never been to school. Sports are her greatest delight, and she is noted among her friends as an all-around athlete.

Miss Drexel is a member of the famous Drexel family of Philadelphia and New York. Her father was the head of the banking firm of Drexel, Morgan & Co., and his daughter inherits much of her father's intellectuality. She is only 17 years old, but is a strong, athletic looking girl, with merry brown eyes and an abundance of dark-brown hair. She is more fond of horses than of Paris gowns, but her costumes are admirable in their simplicity.

NOVEL TIME SIGNAL.

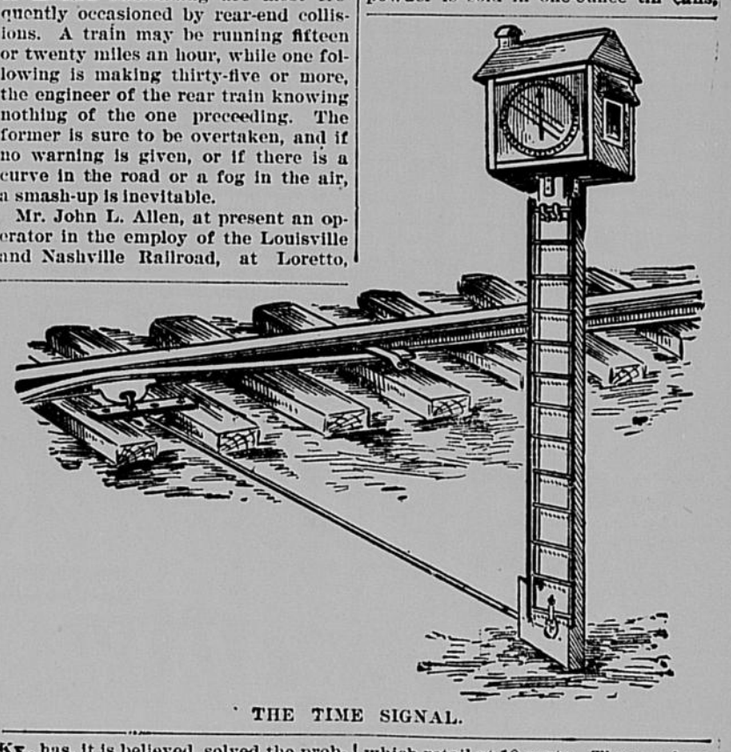
Intended to Replace and Improve Upon the Block System.

The most disastrous wrecks known to modern railroading are most frequently occasioned by rear-end collisions. A train may be running fifteen or twenty miles an hour, while one following is making thirty-five or more, the engineer of the rear train knowing nothing of the one preceeding. The former is sure to be overtaken, and if no warning is given, or if there is a curve in the road or a fog in the air, a smash-up is inevitable.

Mr. John L. Allen, at present an operator in the employ of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, at Loretto, Ky., has, it is believed, solved the problem of the prevention of rear-end collisions.

By means of an ingenius device on which he has been granted letters patent, an engineer can always know when he is dangerously near a train preceding him, and trains may follow each other only a few minutes apart, without fear of a collision. This railway time signal flashes a warning signal in the face of the engineer, enabling him to determine the location of the train preceding him, and he can thus keep his engine under necessary control or run to the full limit, as the never-failing clock hands of the signals may instruct him. A train passes over the track bar, releasing the hands of the signal, and they drop to starting point, commencing at once to register the minutes elapsing since the passage of the train. Three minutes later, perhaps, another train thunders up the track. A glance at the signal tells the engineer that he is dangerously near to the train ahead and he slows down accordingly, ready to stop should the other train be sighted. A few miles further another signal informs the engineer as to how the train ahead is progressing, and he can correspondingly increase his speed or still further check it, as may be required, thus enabling trains to be run only a few minutes apart without danger.

Mr. Allen told the story of his invention as follows: "The clock has only five wheels and very little of anything else. The track connection is very simple in construction. These signals will replace many block systems less reliable and more expensive. One winding up of the clock will run it for 800 trains. There is no jar to the clock from a train passing over the track bar. The bar is moved only half an inch by the trend of wheels. When the wheels pass over this bar the clock hands are released and they drop back to the starting point. When the last wheel passes over the clock moves and carries the hands to fifteen minutes and stops, unless another train passes before. The dials are lettered in a three-fourths circle, so as to obviate confusion in locating the hands. The dials are two feet square and the hands fourteen inches long. As an engineer remarked, all a man would want is a glance and he is shown exactly the time since a train passed that point if less than fifteen minutes. In many places the signals can be used without being lighted, the dials being large enough to be plainly seen some distance by the light from the headlight. A lamp is provided inside and can be used."



THE TIME SIGNAL.

Snuff Dippers.

Passing through Lowell the other day with a companion well informed generally I remarked: "Here is the center of the snuff-dipping habit in the United States." He was astonished. "Do you mean to say snuff is used in Massachusetts?" he asked. "I thought it a habit confined to the Georgia crackers and the poor whites of North Carolina." I then explained that in the State of Massachusetts every year the mill hands—mostly women and young girls—use sixty-five tons of snuff for dipping, scouring, chewing and pinching. The powder is sold in one-ounce tin cans, which retail at 10 cents. Thus we have 130,000 pounds, making 2,080,000 packages, which at 10 cents cost the operatives $208,000.

While we have always associated the use of snuff in this country with the very dregs of humanity in the South, let us glance at the city of Lawrence, Mass., where are located such mills as the Pacific, Atlanta, Cotton, Washington, Everett, Pemberton, etc.; population about 46,000. The mill girls are French Canadians and Armenians, with a sprinkling of Americans, Irish and English. In summer, groups of them, from 16 to 20 years of age, go across the river and sit for hours along the banks indulging themselves with the snuff and rag. They consume over twenty tons of snuff annually. Lawrence is only twenty miles from moral, pure, holy Boston.—New York Press.

Iconoclasm in Bavaria.

Bavaria iconoclasts have torn down the old Hofbrauhaus beer room in Munich and put up in its place a large hall, adorned with historical paintings, where the beer is served as in other places.

There is a good deal to admire in a man who would rather pound dynamite for a living than live "off" any of his relatives.

The man who invests in watered stock is apt to get soaked.