

# EAGER FOR AIRSHIPS.

Orders Flood Wright Brothers, Who Cannot Supply Demand.

## AN INQUIRY FROM ICELAND.

Shah of Persia Also Wants an Aeroplane—Eighty Airships Ordered in America—Chinese Mandarin Wants One—Many Applying For Instruction in Flying.

More than eighty orders for airships to be used in the United States are now in the hands of the Wright brothers, Orville and Wilbur. Since their demonstration of their ability to handle their aeroplanes with safety and to teach others how to do so they have been flooded with letters asking for terms for the building of the machines and instruction in flying. The branch of the International Aero club which was organized at Dayton, O., recently for the purpose of exercising some supervision over prospective users of heavier than air devices has received many applications for membership, some of which have come from well known men of wealth throughout the United States. For the present their names are kept secret by the Wrights.

The American orders, however, are only a part of those that are coming in from the heavy mail of the inventors. News of their achievements has penetrated to far parts of the world. From Iceland in the last few days has come an inquiry as to the cost of delivering an aeroplane and sending an instructor to that far northern island. The Shah of Persia, perhaps remembering one occasion when he had to escape from his palace by stealth and desiring to have a new device to defeat the revolutionaries, has asked that a machine be constructed for him as soon as possible. A Chinese mandarin who is one of the leaders in the awakening of that empire to western civilization has also sent an order.

The Wrights will be unable to fill all their orders because their factory is too small for the work. They will enlarge its capacity greatly this summer and hope to be able to meet all demands made upon them. Another trouble they are having is in obtaining a sufficient quantity of steel of the exact grade to keep the present factory working up to capacity. They are endeavoring to make arrangements with steel mills to make them a supply in future, but are having some difficulty in doing so.

That the operations of the Wrights need not be restricted for want of capital is shown by the fact that they have refused an offer since their return for the investment of a large sum in their enterprise. This offer came from well known New York capitalists, who believed that the operations of the Wrights should be greatly enlarged. They declared, however, that they had sufficient money of their own to carry on their work.

## FASHION VERSUS BEAUTY.

Boston Sculptor Tells How Female Form Is Being Ruined.

That woman's figure has been ruined by slavery to fashion is the declaration of Hugh Calus, the Boston sculptor. He says:

"Woman's figure is getting poorer and poorer every year. The women of today are getting farther and farther away from the Greek figure of 2,000 years ago.

"As one instance of this, those who determine what is fashionable are trying to bring the waist line farther down all the time. At present an effort is being made to get it down as low as the hips. This is all wrong, of course, for nature long ago determined that it should be just below the breast, allowing a soft, graceful line from hip to armpit. So long as fashion dictates that the waist shall be close to the hips, so long will we have women with bulging, lumpy hips and other deformities.

"If women would have just such a waist as they seek—the beautiful that we see in classic paintings and sculpture, the waist that characterized the ancient Greek woman—let them avoid fashions."

## To Dinner Via Balloon.

Going to dinner forty-two miles away in a balloon was the experience of N. H. Arnold, A. D. Converse and W. H. Richardson, who recently ascended at North Adams, Mass., in the North Adams No. 1. The balloon was sailing near the ground over the farm of George W. Hodges at Greenfield Center, N. Y., when two of the farmer's daughters invited the party to come down and have dinner, and they did.

## Tribute to George Meredith.

Die! May 13, 1908.  
He listened to the mighty lyre and  
And learned the love of soul compelling  
He pondered on the rime of right and  
And saw the hearts of men, their woe,  
In him our vision had a second birth.  
For by his words we saw as through  
Enchanted lens the conscience of the  
The font of ill, the hidden source of  
Shall death claim him, on deathless  
Knowledge rears?  
Shall dreams o'ertake the master of the  
Nay; his the perfect love that never  
His words send through our grief a radi-  
ant gleam—  
"With Life and Death I walked, and Love  
And made them on each side a shadow  
seem."  
—Joyce Kilmer in New York Sun.

## FOR A JEWISH MESOPOTAMIA.

Jacob H. Schiff Said to Be Interested in Latest Colony Plan.

Dispatches were recently received in New York from London of a movement among the Jews of Europe to amalgamate all the societies concerned with the improvement of the condition of the Hebrew race in a scheme for the colonization of Mesopotamia. Israel Zangwill, the head of the Jewish territorial organization, is endeavoring to induce the Jewish Colonization association to join forces with his society to bring this result about.

Jacob H. Schiff, who is now in Europe, is said also to be interesting himself in the matter and to be doing his best to effect the alliance between the organizations, which will be necessary if the plan is to be a success. He is said to be interviewing the leaders of the Jews in Europe in the interests of this movement.

The Rev. Dr. Schulman in discussing the plan said that he understood that one difficulty which would have to be overcome was the necessity of providing an extensive irrigation system, which would cost a large sum.

"There can be no doubt," he said, "of the advantage of diverting some of the crowded Jewish population of Europe, and there is certainly enough territory for them in Mesopotamia. While the country would not appeal to the Jew as would Palestine, it has traditions of value to the race. The Babylonian captivity began in 533, and the Jews enjoyed there for a time an honorable career. They were independent and had a prince of their own.

"They set up great schools of learning, and the Talmudic tradition grew up in these parts. They began to decline in the eighth century, and I do not know if there are any Jews left there now, but certainly there would be more to attract them to Mesopotamia now than to British East Africa, which was proposed as the site of a Jewish colony a few years ago. Of course there would be the Turkish government to deal with, but we hope that with the regime of the Young Turks much greater toleration would be shown."

## THE SENATE'S LITTLE PAGES.

Thomas H. Carter Tells a Story About the Vermont Senator.

Senator Thomas H. Carter of Montana, justly reckoned one of the humorists of congress, is spreading a story about Senator Page of Vermont which, although it is taken with a grain of salt, is nevertheless making the rounds of the capitol.

"I was in the senate chamber one afternoon after the senate had adjourned," says Senator Carter, "and Senator Page was in his seat reading. A constituent of mine was with me, and, desiring that he should shake hands with as many distinguished persons as possible during his stay in Washington, I escorted him to Senator Page's seat and introduced him. Later, as we were walking out of the chamber, we passed a number of the senate pages romping in a corner.

"Who are those lads?" my constituent asked.  
"They are little pages," I answered.  
"He looked back at Senator Page and said: 'Whew! He must have been on good terms with President Roosevelt.'"

## POEM TO MEREDITH.

Thomas Hardy, Novelist, Lays Tribute on Urn of the Dead.

On the day of the funeral of George Meredith, the eminent English novelist, the following lines by Thomas Hardy, the novelist, under the heading "G. M., 1823-1909," were published:

Forty years back, when much had passed  
That since has perished out of mind,  
I heard that voice and saw that face.  
He spoke as one afoot will wind  
A morning horn ere men awake.  
His note was trenchant, smart, but  
kind.  
He was of those whose words can shake  
And rattle to the very core  
The falsities that time will break.  
Of late when we two met once more  
The luminous countenance and dear  
Shone just as forty years before.  
So that when now all tongues declare  
He is unseen by his green hill  
I scarce believe he sits not there.  
No matter; further and further still  
Through the world's vaporous, vittate air  
His words wing on, as strong words will.  
—London Times.

## Romance of a Modern Admiral.

Lord Charles Beresford, who recently retired as the ranking officer in the British fleet, attributes much of his success to his wife. He had a true sailor's romance. Returning from a long cruise in 1878, he was a guest at a reception, and, standing at the top of the stairs watching the company ascend, he was attracted by a face and exclaimed: "There's a pretty girl!" She was Miss Mina Gardner. Lord Charles quickly obtained an introduction, was just as quick in his wooing and within a month had won the "pretty girl" as his bride. Lady Beresford is a lover of music and has a reputation among her friends as a composer. She sits by the hour at the piano weaving one tune into another, running from ballads to operas, and frequently composing as she goes along.

## Huge Railroad Map of United States.

A railroad map of the United States, said to be the largest ever sent abroad, has been shipped by the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway for exhibition at the Golden West and American Industries exhibition at London. It is forty-seven feet nine inches long and thirteen feet six inches high. It is painted in colors on transparent cloth and is illuminated by electricity. Twenty transparencies of scenes along the St. Paul are shown.

## HOME FOR HARVARD LAMPOON

Will Be the Only College Publication That Can Make Such a Boast.

Already distinguished as the oldest comic paper in the United States, the Harvard Lampoon is to have a handsome building, giving it the honor of possessing the only one owned and occupied by a college publication and of being one of the few comic papers to have homes of their own.

Work has already begun on the structure in Cambridge, Mass., so that the handsome quarters will be ready for "Lampy" by next fall. An entire block bounded by Bow, Mount Auburn and Plympton streets will be utilized.

Edmund March Wheelwright, '76, who was one of the founders of the paper, now a distinguished architect, has drawn the plans in the style of Dutch renaissance. Molded brick, mulioned windows and a tiled roof with two towers give the building a quaint distinction from other college structures. This striking clubhouse, which is to be flanked with Lombardy poplars, will, however, harmonize artistically with its surroundings.

One of the features will be the tower containing the ibis nest, an exclusive apartment for the president of the board of editors. The ibis is a wise bird which interjects remarks in the dialogue of the "By the Way" column, which is a perennial feature of the Lampoon humor. Professor Barrett Wendell, '77, when an editor of the Lampoon, originated the ibis as a feature of the paper, the sagacious bird being used as was the dog in the English Punch.

The nest is in the western tower and from a balcony overlooks the big banquet hall. Lampoon dinners will undoubtedly in the future be as famous as those of the past, because the new building will have special kitchens and halls for the purpose. There is also to be a large hall for Lampoon celebrations.

That Mr. Wheelwright should be the architect is especially fitting, since he was not only on the first board of editors, but also designed the cover piece for the original issue, which has become a trademark.

"Lampy" was born in the minds of Ralph Wormeley Curtis, '76, and his classmate, John T. Wheelwright, who while attending a course of lectures on the fine arts given by the late Charles Elliot Norton conceived the idea of producing a "college Punch." The first number was issued Feb. 10, 1876.

## PLAN TO USE PEAT.

Colonel Astor Invents Machine For Utilizing It For Fuel.

Colonel John Jacob Astor, who has appeared frequently on the patent office records as an inventor of practical devices, has applied for a patent for an invention which, it is expected, will utilize the vast deposits of peat found in the United States and other parts of the world. Peat has been used with fair success as a fuel, but because of the amount of water contained in it a long season of drying is necessary before it can be burned.

The vibrator disintegrator which has been invented by Colonel Astor will, it is believed, solve the problem of the commercial manufacture of gas from peat. The disintegrator utilizes the expansive force of the air and gases within the porous peat to disrupt and disintegrate the latter and to permit it to be thoroughly and uniformly heated. The disintegrator will be tested in a peat fuel producer gas plant which Colonel Astor is now erecting at his country place at Rhinecliff-on-the-Hudson, N. Y. The plant will run a stone crusher and is to be of 150 horsepower.

If the patent is allowed Colonel Astor intends to present it to the public in the hope that it may prove of general use.

In the peat invention the gas generated may be supplied to an ordinary internal combustion engine, the engine muffler being placed inside the gas producer. The inventor recommends a slow speed engine, so that the successive charges of exhaust gas will have time to produce the desired expansion in the muffler. The engine which he will use in his test will be air cooled.

## BIG SHIP'S UNKNOWN SPEED.

Mauretania's Skipper Says She Has Never Been Tuned Up to Top Notch.

Captain Pritchard of the Mauretania, which had lowered her western record by thirteen minutes, was in fine humor after the big ocean liner had docked the other day at New York.

"The Mauretania has kept up a speed of 25 knots and over for nine consecutive trips. I do not believe that any one knows the speed that she can develop. Going home on one occasion I gave the order to let her out. This was between Queens-town and Liverpool, and the great speed she made astonished me. I learned later that she was not exerting her full power even at that time." The steamship left quarantine a little after 6 o'clock, making another record by docking earlier than on any other trip.

## Miniature Boy City For Michigan.

Judge Brown of Salt Lake City announced the other day that the model "boy city" which has been organized in summer for two years at Winona Lake, Ind., will be established this year at Pine Lake, near Charlevoix, Mich., from July 22 to Aug. 14. It is expected that more than 1,000 boys from twenty states will occupy the tents of the miniature city. They will print a newspaper, conduct a bank and a grocery, organize a common council, political parties and courts and hold elections, the purpose being to instruct the boys in "fair play ethics."

## Valuable Fruit Lands.

Through the agency of W. J. Baker & Co., a young orchard of 10½ acres east of Hood River was sold this week to E. C. Brownlee, of Omaha, for \$12,000. The orchard formerly belonged to E. C. Long, a Portland man, and the trees are Newtowns and Spitzenbergs, ranging from one to eight years old. The same company also bought ten acres on the west side of the valley in young trees, for which it paid \$10,000. The latter property was bought as an investment.

## Sub-Committee For Coast.

The National Waterways Commission, which will take a western trip during the coming summer, has been invited to visit Coos Bay and other Oregon points. It is expected that the entire commission, which is composed of members of the Senate and House, will not visit the Pacific Coast, but that a sub-committee will go to places west of the Mississippi.

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