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NEW AND CURIOUS

It is said that Mr. Tripler, of the Tripler Air Power Company, has discovered a process by which liquid air can be safely and economically furnished for refrigerating purposes.

***

A large part of the tea which comes from China into Europe is brought across the steppes of Siberia by caravans of sledges, which have for their destination one of the eastern towns of Russia. The caravans require at least a year to cross the vast extent of Siberia.

***

The icebergs of the south differ from those of the north as the Antarctic summer differs from the Arctic in temperature. This is due to the fact that while the latter region is a polar basin surrounded by vast tracts of land which retain the summer heat, the former is a comparatively small tract of land in a tremendous expanse of water which parts from its heat very quickly.

***

Prof. Dr. Emanuel Herrmann has proposed the introduction of a telegram-card. They may be dropped in letter boxes or may be handed into post offices, provided they are duly stamped. They are picked out at once and the contents, which is no longer than that in the ordinary telegram, is handed over to the telegraph operator, who sends it to its destination. The idea is to cheapen rapid communication.

***

Niagara Falls is to be illuminated by electricity during the coming Buffalo Exposition. The idea is to erect a series of tall poles on both the American and Canadian sides of the river. On top of them will be placed search lights, and the colors of the lights which are thrown on the Falls will be constantly changed. Arc lights will also be placed in the Cave of the Winds, which will give to the water which falls in front of it a weird phosphorescent color. The current is to be obtained from the Falls itself.

***

A Paris barber shop has recently been equipped with a most elaborate electric plant. The water is heated electrically by means of a German silver tube in a soapstone case. The tubing is electrically heated, so that the water is nearly boiling when it passes out of the faucet. The curling irons, which often used to burn the hair, are no longer used for curling. The electric curling irons which take their place can be brought to any temperature, which they retain indefinitely. The hair is cut by clipping machines actuated by electricity; electrical devices are also used to singe the hair, which are much better than the time-honored taper.

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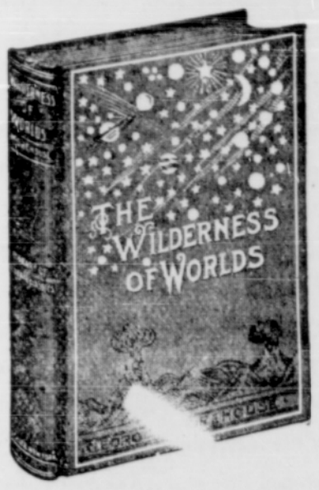

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