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NEW AND CURIOUS.

The Holland submarine torpedo boat made another excellent run in Little Peconic Bay on October 6.

A long distance telephone line has been opened between Chicago and Dallas, Texas. The tests have been very satisfactory.

In the harbor at Honolulu telephone service between vessels and the shore may be obtained by connecting with the permanent telephone cable in the harbor.

An automobile party, to make a journey to the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky, is being organized. The party will be made up of eight persons, traveling in two automobiles, while a third will carry the baggage of the party.

On October 6, a statue of John Ericsson was unveiled in the presence of an enormous crowd at Gothenburg, Sweden. Nearly 40,000 school children with banners marched by the statue, which was modeled by the Swedish sculptor, Fahlstadt.

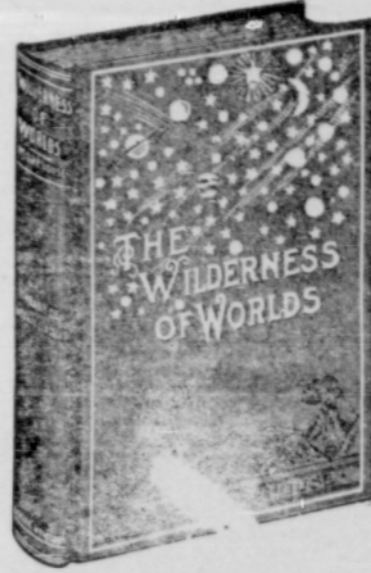
The method of making sheet lead for tea packing in Formosa is most interesting. The lead is brought from Australia in pigs, and, after being melted, is poured between two large tiles, the required degree of thickness for the sheet being obtained by pressure by the feet. The sheet is afterward trimmed to suitable sizes and shapes for soldering.

A double track drawbridge over the Chicago river was recently shifted bodily a distance of 83 feet. The method employed was to jack it up 26 inches from its central pier, thus allowing a cradle to be built underneath it. This cradle ran on ways, which were lubricated with tallow, and the weight of the bridge having been transferred to it, the whole was hauled bodily to its new position. The weight was over 600 tons.

A natural soap mine and a paint mine are two of the latest curiosities which have been discovered in British Columbia. Several soda lakes have been found in the foothills near Ashcroft, British Columbia. According to Feilden's Magazine, their bottoms and shores are encrusted with a natural washing compound containing borax and soda. It is quite equal to the washing powders in common use for cleansing purposes. About 275 tons of the compound have been cut and taken out of one lake. It is handled exactly the same as ice. One lake alone contains 20,000 tons.

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