

It is reported that the Chinese Court is considering the appointment of six eminent foreigners, expert specialists, as authorities, respectively, on international law and finance, and on military, naval, parliamentary, domestic, and governmental affairs.

An Austrian has secured a patent for a substitute for gutta-serena, which, he claims, has all the properties of rubber, costs one fourth as much, and is especially suitable for electrical insulation. Carpano and Koutoul are investigating his claims. Alfred Nobel, before his death, tried to make good artificial rubber.

In the harbor of St. Petersburg, Russia, sunken vessels have been raised by means of air bags of a new pattern. The latest experiment reported was made in the presence of a number of naval experts, when a hull weighing ten thousand pounds was raised from a depth of twenty-seven feet, by the aid of air bags, in thirty-two minutes.

E. E. Hines an Indianapolis electrician, has invented an incandescent bulb by which the degree of electric illumination may be varied. He has taken an ordinary electric-socket-power globe, and has arranged it so that it may be turned on to one watt, one fourth, or one eighth of its power. Mr. Hines has been working for years on his invention, which is especially designed for hotels, dwellings, and hospitals.

A huge air cushion eighty-three feet high and made of steel is a new safety device being installed for the elevator in the tower of Philadelphia's city hall. It is intended to sustain enormous pressure, and, instead of resting on a foundation, is hung from the tower walls. Next to that in the Washington Monument, this elevator is the highest in the world. When the test of the new air cushion is made, the elevator will at first be dropped fifty feet, then one hundred, and finally from the top of the tower.

It is announced that the British admiralty has ordered a submarine boat of a

new type, to be built by the Holland Torpedo Boat Company of New York. The latest Holland type of boat, as represented in the boats now being built for Great Britain and the United States, is sixty-three feet, four inches long, whereas the new boat to be built for the British admiralty is to be one hundred feet long. Besides being heavier, it is designed to be much faster than the present style of boat, and it is believed that it will be the finest submarine vessel in the world.—(Pittsburg.)

The Tender Cecil Rhodes.

The Man of Empire Wept at the Sight of a Dying Soldier.

From the New York Times.

A glimpse of the late Cecil Rhodes is to be had in a letter written from Kimberley soon after the British occupation of the city.

Ever a dreamer, his mind filled with visions of empire, Rhodes one day in Kimberley was picturing the grandeur of British South Africa when the rich lands should be developed under the British flag and by developed under the British flag and the great railway should be built—linked by lines of fast express steamers and by a railroad to Cairo.

Just then a letter was borne by Rhodes's face was illumined by enthusiasm. He had just said: "The cost of the struggle is as nothing to the fruits that are to be reaped." The letter bearers paused to change their hold. The fair face of an English soldier had been turned toward Rhodes, and the wounded boy's pain drawn lips moved.

Sympathy changed the expression of Rhodes's face as he stepped down to the dying soldier.

"I am not afraid to die," gasped the boy, bravely, "but there is no one to take care of mother."

"I will provide for her," said Rhodes, simply, as he made note of the mother's name and address, and he strode quickly into the house, with tears in his eyes, muttering:

"Oh, the cost of it; the cost of it all!"