

HE RAISED A MILLION

WHAT THE REV. A. P. SIMPSON HAS DONE FOR MISSIONS.

The Astonishing Gift This Freeholder Has For Getting Money From All Classes—\$113,000 in Contributions on One Sunday—How the Money is Used.

"How much have I collected in the last 10 years in New York? Let me see. Well, I should say that I—that is, we—have received at least a million dollars."

Such was the statement made by Rev. A. P. Simpson, the evangelist, who reaches the pockets of the rich and poor alike, and whose pleas on Sunday brought contributions amounting to \$113,000.

"But," Mr. Simpson continued, "people give all the time, and we do not like their gifts to be made sensational. We are not sensational. Our work is matter of fact, plain, simple, and men and women who help the work with money do so because they are convinced of its noble purpose. They reflect well before they give. Nothing that I say has any influence. It is the work and not the preacher that has collected \$1,000,000."



REV. A. P. SIMPSON.

Mr. Simpson was in the parlor of his home at South Nyack—the typical parlor of a provincial preacher. Behind him hung a portrait of himself done in oils—a portrait that any casual visitor would have mistaken for a likeness of Jay Gould.

"What becomes of all this money?" Mr. Simpson was asked.

"In our annual report you will find the account of the finances, properly audited," he replied, and handed the visitor a small brochure of a hundred pages.

"Do you belong to a denomination now?"

"We are not non-denominational. We are inter-denominational. I took up the work because I wanted to reach a large class of persons that the churches did not reach."

"How many missionaries have you?"

"More than 300. The money we collected last Sunday was for our missionaries, and the \$113,000 will cover more than 200 missionaries for a year. Yes, more than 200, for we allow \$300 to keep a missionary, and then there are \$200 to pay for traveling expenses and other things. We have two missionaries in Tibet, where a traveler cannot go. It has always been closed. Now we have a station there."

The Christian and Missionary Alliance has missionaries also in China, nearly 60 of them in all parts of the celestial kingdom, and it has stations in Africa, the Sudan and the Congo regions, in India, South America, Palestine, Arabia and the West Indies. The money that was collected Sunday will be used in great part to send missionaries to Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines.

The society holds securities and real estate valued at nearly \$100,000 and other securities "at present unavailable," which is explained as stocks and bonds which are held for a higher market, amounting to \$115,000. Those also were given to the society.

Hard to Swear on New Warships.
An old Jack tar had this to say recently about modern warships:

"Things are busted wide open. How can a fellow swear on one of these new-fangled boats? He'd sound like a fool a sayin' of 'Shiver me timbers!' when there ain't nary a piece of timber 'nawthin' but iron from bow to stern. A feller can't take a reef in anything, he can't belay, there's no belaying pins, 'n he can't use any o' them old words which he's made their navy. I suppose a feller will now hev ter yawp, 'Unrivet me plates!' 'Douse me searchlight!' 'Smash me lightning top!' or 'Foul me screw!' or somethin' o' that sort. I tell yer things he's gon', 'all'!"

A High Compliment.
There was a high compliment to Americans in the reply which the British Consul is said to have made to a Spanish woman of Manila who had come to him after Dewey's victory, and asked for protection. "Madam," he is reported to have replied, "honor and virtue are safer in Manila to-day than they have been for 800 years."

A Horse's Endurance.
A horse can live twenty-five days without food, merely drinking water; seventeen days without either eating or drinking, and only five days when eating solid food without drinking.

Weight of a Whale.
A whale's weight has been estimated by Wilson at 100 tons, equal to that of thirty-eight elephants.

British Possessions.
If you travel entirely around the world without leaving the British Empire, you will find that you have never been more than a mile from the British flag.

THE VALIANT MAHDISTS.

Fanatical Bravery of the Derivishes as Displayed at Omdurman.

The fanatical bravery of the Derivishes in the face of hopeless odds was a dramatic feature of the historic battle of Omdurman. Again and again the Derivish hordes hurled themselves against the British line. Following the Derivish custom, they would advance, take up a position, plant their standard and, rallying around it, shout defiantly. Where they planted the standard they stood ready to die.

In the forefront of the Khalifa's battle line was a body of his troops surrounding the Khalifa's standard. The valiant Mahdists, foot and horse, surged forward around this black banner of the Khalifa and gathered an impetus which, if it had not been for the opportune arrival of the Lincoln in support, would have carried them on to the bayonets of the British vanguard.

As it was, although decimated at every yard by the continuous stream of lead from front and flank, they faltered on till only a mere handful of dismounted men remained to plant the black banner in the sand and die around it. It may be said that round this banner Mahdism died.

Within a few moments the dead bodies of the Derivishes were heaped up around the now torn and battered flag. Finally not more than three of its intrepid defenders were left, and they linked arms that they might die together fighting. Two of the three were shot, whereupon the one survivor, flourishing his spear, advanced against a thousand rifles. It was an inspiring spectacle. To the credit of the British officers be it said they forbade any one to fire upon the solitary warrior.

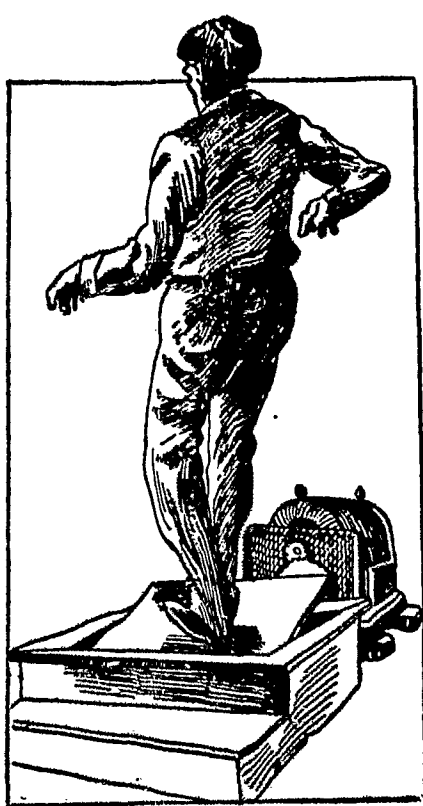
A great body of white clad footmen, screaming hoarsely the name of Allah and brandishing huge spears, ran at full speed across the open ground for no other purpose apparently than to die with their leader. Rifle and Maxim fire and shell from field guns swept through the mass and mowed them down, and not one man out of ten reached Yakub's standard. There they stood with the few surviving horsemen still shouting fierce defiance until not one man was left standing. So far from asking quarter they simply hugged death.

A Submerged Island.

A submerged island has been found 1,000 miles due west from Gibraltar which offers a curious problem for geographers. It was discovered by the Prince of Monaco, and will soon be placed on the charts issued by the hydrographic office at Washington. The sunken island was discovered quite by accident by the Prince, while making soundings from his yacht, Princess Alice, and the formation was accordingly named after the yacht. The island is supposed to have been at one time a huge volcano. Its shape, which has been determined by careful soundings, is much the same as that of a huge cocked hat. The island is in no danger of interfering in the least with navigation, since its highest point is fourteen fathoms below the level of the sea.

An Ingenious Health Shaker.

Nikola Tesla has invented a liver-shaking oscillator and so has a San Francisco man. The latter's machine is here illustrated. It consists of a platform, on which the subject stands, and



which is capable of rapid oscillation by means of an electric motor. The San Francisco man calls his machine a health-shaker and claims that ten minutes of it is better than a half-hour's work in a gymnasium.

King's Original Idea.

The King of Annam has an original idea in the way of a strong box. He has the trunks of trees hollowed out, filled with gold or silver and stung into his private lake, where a large staff of crocodiles wards off intruders. What will he do when he wants his treasures?

Care of the Shoes.

Don't neglect to turn the uppers of your shoes down and put them by an open window for an hour or two to air after they have been worn. It is hygienic, economical and pleasant.

High Tones.

A well-known musician has noticed that the voice of a woman is audible in a balloon at the height of about two miles, while that of a man has never been heard above that altitude.

A NOVEL AIRSHIP.

MADE OF ALUMINUM AND SAILS AGAINST THE WIND.

A Description of the Curious Craft—Great Possibilities May Result From the Trial of This Experiment—Under Perfect Control.

In this translation the term "flying machine" signifies a self-sustaining, self-propelling machine; "air ship," a motor with a balloon attachment; "balloon," an inflated apparatus without any means of propulsion or control.

The more or less bird-like structure, that should be both self-elevating and self-propelling, has offered many alluring fascinations to modern inventors. All aeronautical engineers share in the belief of a brilliant future for the dynamic air ship.

Its development will, according to the judgment of experienced aeronauts, be on a line with and a continuation of the experiments with the balloon; the latter being still an absolute necessity, and, so to say, a "life preserver" for future aeronauts who wish to master the intricate problems of air navigation, so that they can the better overcome the obstacles it presents.

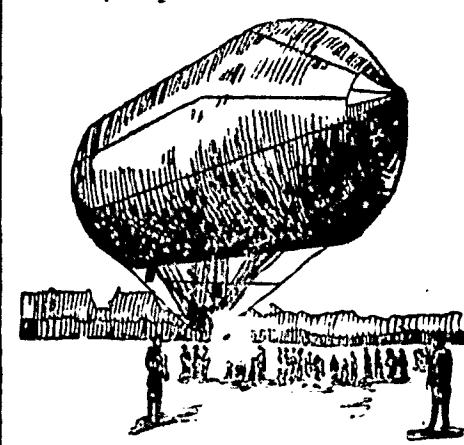
In order to obtain the most perfect construction of an air ship, and to study the practical results, an interesting experiment was made at Berlin with a balloon constructed of aluminum. This balloon was put to a trial on the "Tempelhufer feld."

The shape is that of an oblong cylinder, with conical head. The body of the balloon consists of a frame of trusses covered with sheet aluminum (about 100th part of an inch in thickness). The bottom of the gondola, or basket, was 45 m. distant from the balloon, and rigidly connected therewith by means of a trestle.

The body of the balloon was about 150 feet long, and had an oval section or head. It was the largest air ship built up to date.

It was equipped with a quadruple cylinder benzine motor of 16 indicated and 12 effective horsepower.

As much as possible the motor is constructed of aluminum, and the entire weight of the machine is only about 1,100 pounds.



ALUMINUM AIRSHIP.

The aluminum propellers of the air ship had, comparatively, a small diameter. The two on the sides of the balloon only measured two yards each; the one in the center, directly underneath the body of the balloon, was a little larger. This was the steering propeller, and was movable in different directions.

Under the bottom of the gondola a horizontal propelling screw had been attached, but was found unserviceable at the trial.

The total weight of the machine was about 8,000 pounds.

Many of the spectators certify that they actually saw the air ship fly directly into the face of the wind. In the beginning the ship was held fast with ropes, because some preliminary experiments were to have been made, but they gradually parted and the machine broke loose.

The experiment cannot be termed a complete success, but quite a number of positive results have been attained thereby which encourage further labor in this direction. The fact that it has been proven a possibility to construct a rigid balloon out of metal riveted together, and to steer such a machine against the wind, is in itself a success, even if, on account of untoward circumstances, it was impossible to remain aloft for a longer time.

Coldest Place in the World.

Verchojansk, in Siberia, is said to be the coldest spot on earth. A temperature of ninety degrees below zero (Fahrenheit) has been observed there. The average temperature in January is said to be forty-eight degrees below zero. In summer the thermometer rises to eighty-six in the shade during the day, dropping, however, to the freezing point at night.

In the fall there are frequent floods, caused by heavy rains. Vegetation in this district is said to be meagre and animal growth small. Nevertheless the district has some ten thousand inhabitants. It is said to be a cold day when they get left.

Definition of a Gentleman.

A witness in a London police court described the defendant as a gentleman. "What is your idea of a gentleman?" asked the judge. "He seems to be a gentleman," replied the witness, "because he walks about all day long doing nothing, going from public house to public house."

The Tramp's Paradise.

The Philippines are a paradise for the weary Wilkes of the land. All the exertion required of the native hobo is to kick the breadfruit tree and eat.

French Officers.

With only half as strong a fleet as the British, the French have 1,341 lieutenants and sub-lieutenants, while Great Britain has only 1,246.

Afghanistan Army.

Afghanistan has a regular army of about 60,000 men.

DO CROWS CONVERSE?

Cunning Birds That Seem to Have Means of Communication.

There is some reason for calling an owl the bird of wisdom; and yet, there is cause for wondering if the crow is not mentally his superior. Crows are not disheartened by the gloom of late autumn. If the fog is too dense to fly through it, they rise above it or trot about the ground, discussing the situation with their fellows. Is this speaking too positively? I have long been familiar with an observing man who has lived all his days within sight and hearing of crows. He claims to understand their language, and can repeat the "words" that make up their vocabulary. Certainly crows seem to talk; but do they? Does a certain sound made by them have always the one significance? Year after year, I have listened and watched, and listened and wondered if my friend was right. He believed it. I believed it almost. Are there limitations to ornithological interpretations? And is this an instance where truth is unattainable? We know that crows are cunning and by their mother wit have withstood the persecutions of mankind; we know that they have a wide range of utterances, and not one is put forth merely to gratify the ear, as in the case of a thrush's song; yet we hesitate to say plainly that crow talketh unto crow and that they take counsel together. There is no physical or metaphysical reason why this should not be the case; there is abundant evidence pointing in that direction, but no actual demonstration satisfying every one, has taken place. Were we less theory-ridden and more observant, the question would have been settled before this. In such a case, the opinion of the farmer is worth more than that of the professional ornithologist.

Railroad Cars.
An ordinary passenger car on a steam railroad costs from \$4,000 to \$5,000 and weighs 38,000 pounds, or 19 tons. A mail car, which costs from \$2,000 to \$2,500 and is shorter by about one-quarter than the ordinary coach, weighs 32,000 pounds, or 16 tons. A baggage car, without the baggage in it, weighs 28,000 pounds, or 14 tons, and costs about as much as a mail car. A sleeping car, with observatory attachment, literary annex and culinary department, costs anywhere from \$10,000 to \$12,000. The average weight of a sleeping car is from 20 to 22 tons.

A full train in motion, as a little figuring will show, is no light affair. The ordinary weight of the railroad locomotive for passenger service, inclusive of tender, but not of fuel in the tender, is 40 tons. One baggage car weighs 14 tons, and one mail car 16 tons, bringing up the weights of the locomotive and the baggage and mail cars to 70 tons. Six passenger cars at an average of 19 tons, weight of baggage, of fuel carried, weight of a train made up of a locomotive and eight cars would be 181 tons, or 368,000 pounds, exclusive of the passengers and mail matter.

Weeds as Food.
What is even regarded as a vile weed can be turned into an ornamental plant or delicious vegetable. This is especially the case with the common burdock, Lappa major. It appears that the burdock leaf is largely used in China for food. But it is stated that if the stalks be cut down before the flowers expand and then be boiled the taste is relished equally with asparagus. The leaves when young are boiled and eaten as we eat spinach. In Japan the burdock is in universal use. Thousands of acres are devoted to its culture. But in this case the root is the object. It requires deep soil to get the roots to the best advantage.

His Protest.
The editor of the Clarion was a very patient man. A startling crash from the direction of the composing room caused him to push his spectacles up on his brow and cease writing. When he found that the boy had let the first page form fall on the floor, where it lay in an incoherent mass, he shook his head reproachfully and exclaimed: "Lemuel, I do wish that you could manage to break the news more gently."

Speed of Electricity.
The speed of electricity is so great that its passage from point to point along a conducting wire may be regarded as practically instantaneous. Various attempts have been made to measure the rate at which it travels, and observers, with delicate instruments, have affirmed that it was not less than 114,000 miles per second, and in one or two places its speed was as high as 240,000.

Altogether Too Common.

A Kansas boy writes home from Manila: "There are many queer customs to be seen here. The native women do not hold up their skirts when crossing the streets. They have no skirts to hold up. But that isn't the strange custom. The men do not do it."

To Stop Bleeding.

To stop bleeding from the lungs, take a teaspoonful of table salt and swallow it dry. Keep perfectly quiet, in a recumbent position, until a physician arrives.

Japanese Economy.

Japanese economy is one of the causes of Japanese prosperity. Even the charcoal dust is saved and molded into balls, with chaff or straw, for fuel.

Of Course She Does.

When a girl tells a young man that he may have a kiss if he can catch her, she always manages to get caught.

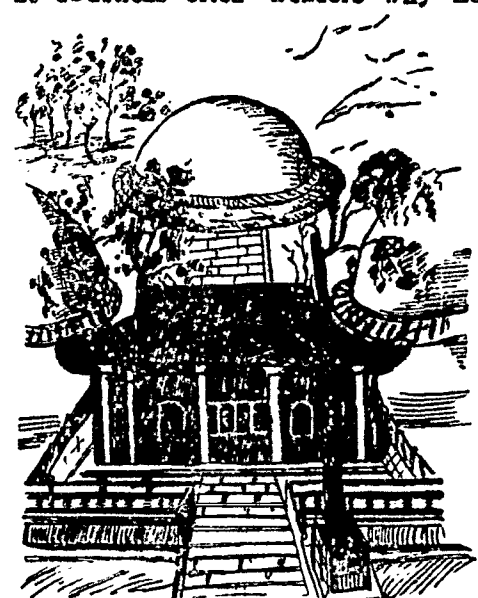
THE SACRED PLACE.

THE CHINESE EMPEROR'S PALACE AND ITS ENVIRONS.

It is Surrounded by High, Thick Walls and is Many Respects Peculiar—10,000 Persons to Wait on Him in Various Capacities.

The old kings of Europe could "do no wrong." They were heaven's own divinely appointed agents to rule and oppress benighted humanity. In law their entire kingdoms belonged to them in fee simple, and often they had the arbitrary right of life and death over their subjects. The Chinese emperor to this day is "Son of heaven," the almighty's lieutenant set apart to rule the earth. And yet, in actual practice, he is so hemmed about by unyielding precedent and customs that the veriest serf in his dominions is more free than he.

His chief duties are to offer sacrifices to his ancestors, to visit the empress-dowager at least once in five days, to pray in the temple of heaven and earth and give audience to the supreme council daily. His life even to the minutiae is so hedged about that he doubtless often wonders why he



TOUR OF THE PALACE.

(From a Chinese Drawing.)

was born. There are 10,000 persons designated to wait on him in various capacities. His harem is cared for by 5,000 eunuchs. But into his palace only the highest officials are allowed to enter.

The imperial palace is in the center of the "prohibited town" of Peking. Facing the south, it is surrounded by a double line of walls in the form of a square. The first is high and thick, covered with red cement, surmounted by glazed yellow tiles. It is eight 1/2 miles long, four wide and 24 in circumference. A 1/2 equals one-third of a mile. It has four gates, one at each side, each one having three portals, the center one remaining closed to all except the emperor.

The inner wall immediately surrounding the palace is high and thick, built of large, regular bricks and ornamented with handsome battlements. It is called Hoang-tching and is six 1/2 miles long, one and a half wide and 15 in circumference. It has four gateways, with high arches and arcades. The north and south gates are triple.

At each end and corner is a large glazed hall, red with a sprinkling of flowers on the outside, covered with yellow glazed tiles. Between the two walls are several palaces. On the east flows a beautiful river, crossed by handsome marble bridges, with wooden draws in the center. On the west side is a lake, five 1/2 miles long, bordered by a bridge with three arcades, bordered by pleasure houses. The rest of the space east and west is occupied by houses in which the officers of the palace live.

Granite Can Be Cast?

A Canadian genius claims to have discovered a method of casting granite in a mold. The only secret about it he says is in the construction of a furnace for melting the stone. The molds are prepared in damp sand in the same manner as for iron or steel molding, and the liquid granite is poured in from ladles. The inventor claims that he can produce columns and fancy cornice pieces cheaper than rough blocks of stone cost delivered at an operation. This is possible because he utilizes the clippings and waste stone about the quarry.

Some Ancient Type.

A font of type supposed to be the oldest in the United States has been discovered at Ephrata, Pa. Among the first settlers in Pennsylvania were a sect of Seventh Day Baptists, who settled at Ephrata and opened a printing house. They printed Bibles in German, but there is nobody alive now who remembers when the quaint old press was used. The font just discovered was found stored in the cellar of one of the old buildings. The pieces are of wood and hand carved.

A Little Sermon.

What you learn from bad habits and in bad society you will never forget, and it will be a lasting pang to you. I will tell you in all sincerity, not in the excitement of speech, that I would give my right hand if I could forget that which I learned in bad society. —John B. Gough.

New Way to Catch Fish.

A new apparatus for catching fish is a pair of spring jaws, attached to the end of a pole, which is slowly dropped down over the fish until within striking distance, when a spring trigger in the hand caused the jaws to shut, holding the fish firmly.

Left Side is Most Beautiful.

The left side of the face is considered by artists and photographers more beautiful than the right.

COST OF ELEPHANTS

Means Used in the Siamese Malay States as Means of Burden.

It is somewhat interesting to compare the weights carried by elephants in the tin-producing districts of the Malay peninsula with those used in the long journeys and mountainous country of the Lao states. In the peninsula the distances are seldom more than at most three or four days' march, and the elephant is expected to carry as much as 900 to 1,000 pounds, besides his mahout and howda. The latter is often a mere brace of panniers, slung together so as to rest one on each side of the backbone, and covered sometimes with a light barrel roof of bark. A good tuskler which will carry 950 pounds will fetch about \$50, and the female which can bear 800 pounds is worth about \$25. In the Lao states, where journeys of ten days or three weeks are frequent, the average weight hardly exceeds 300 pounds, or one-third of what is usual in the peninsula. The prices in various parts of the country vary considerably. When we were on the Me Kawng and in the Muang Nan in 1893, a good tuskler could be had for \$32 and a female for \$24; at Chient Mal, where good teak-hauling elephants are in great demand, a tuskler may fetch \$150, and a female anything from \$50 to \$100, according to her strength and ability.

In the Siamese Malay states there are probably about 1,000 domesticated elephants, all told, and in the Lao country probably over 2,500 animals are working at the present moment. That these animals breed in captivity in Siam is due to the fact that a large number of them spend the greater part of their time holiday making in the jungle. When there is no work for the beast, the mahout takes him out to a nice, cool, green bit of forest and leaves him there to enjoy himself. There is no expense connected with his upkeep, for he looks after himself. He has shobles of rattan round his feet to dissuade him from wandering too far, and a wooden bell round his neck, by the tone of which the mahout or his little boy can always find him, when they go out once a month to look him up and give him some bananas.

Horses Have Humor.

Horses may have no souls, but they have humor, which for the practical purposes of the world is sometimes quite good, and let no one doubt they enjoy it. Some time ago a fine horse that had been sold to a second-hand furniture man was coming down the street with a load when the signal gong rang in the engine-house it just happened to pass. The old horse had been going at the pace of a nag that works by the day. But there was a change. The driver picked himself up to see his steed disappearing around the corner at a breakneck speed, with bureau drawers and chairs flying out behind and littering the street. Away it went, like a meteor, ahead of the flying fire brigade, to the fire, picked out a hydrant and backed what was left of the wagon up against it. Only then did it stop. But if any doubter could have seen the grin on the horse's face as it eyed the driver who came panting up to claim it, he would have doubted no longer.

Every Citizen Postmaster.

The people of St. Kilda never have any trouble with their post office department. Every man is his own postmaster and letter carrier.

He makes his own mail boat, which is a sheep's bladder fastened to a tiny, roughly hewn boat, with a cavity for the can containing the letter and a



DISPATCHING THE MAIL.

small coin. The document is thrown into the sea, and, according to the wind, comes up near the coast of the Hebride or Norway. Here the rudely carved "Please open" is obeyed and the letter properly mailed. Four out of six letters reach their destinations in this curious manner.

Rarest Bird.

To find the rarest bird in existence you must go to the mountains between the Red Sea and Loas, where there is a certain kind of pheasant. For many years its existence was known only by the fact that its longest and most splendid plume was in much request by mandarins for their headdress. A single skin is worth \$400, and the bird living would be priceless, for it soon dies in captivity.

No Ignorance Wanted.

Western Australia has an act in force prohibiting the landing of any one who cannot write out a given passage in English.

Were Once Civilised.

The Hottentots, now one of the lowest species of mankind, were ages ago one of the most highly civilised.