

Wonderful Palace That Was Built by

Caarina Anne of Russia. The use of ice for architectural purposes is an art that has been carried to a high state of perfection in northern countries, and some almost incredible feats have been accomplished in this curious branch of industry.

Probably the most remarkable building constructed wholly of ice was the palace built on the Neva by Caarina Anne of Russia in 1730. The first attempt to construct this building was unsuccessful, as the slabs of ice were too thin and the building collapsed in the first thaw. Subsequently large blocks of ice were cut and squared with great care and on one another by skillful masons who cemented the joints with water, which immediately froze. The building when completed was fifty-six feet long, seventeen and a half broad and twenty-one high. It was of but one story. The facade contained a door surmounted by an ornamental pediment and six windows, the frames and panes of which were all of ice.

A tent of ice contained a hot bath, in which persons actually bathed. There were also several cannons and mortars of ice, which were loaded with bullets of ice and iron and discharged. The interior of the building was completely furnished with tables, chairs, stoves, looking glasses, a clock, a complete tea service, etc., all made of ice and painted to imitate the real objects. A bedchamber contained a state bed with curtains, a dressing table with a mirror, pillows, bedclothes, slippers and nightcaps, all made of ice. There were ice candles, burning naphtha and most wonderful of all, an ice fireplace containing burning ice logs—i. e., blocks of ice smeared with naphtha and then kindled.—Scientific American.

The Doctor's Fee.

There came a letup in the rush of patients, and the doctor opened two small envelopes lying on his desk. "It's all right," he said. "I wasn't sure. Without offending I couldn't open the envelopes in the presence of the persons who gave them to me. They contain the fees left by two Englishmen who called close on each other's heels. English etiquette is rather embarrassing for a physician who is used to patients who hand over their money with the denomination right on top. American fashion in England it would be considered an insult to give a physician his fee unwrapped. You can't insult an American physician that way, but newcomers credit him with an excess of sensibility and give him a good many uneasy moments wondering if he hasn't been underpaid."—New York Sun.

Penn Very Much a Londoner.

William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, was born on Tower Hill on Oct. 14, 1644, was christened in All Hallows church, became a student of Lincoln's Inn, and then, joining the Quakers, he abandoned the law and preached along with George Fox in a meeting house off Lombard street. He once occupied a house in Norfolk street, Strand, chosen on account of its closeness to the river, which facilitated escape from duty, and he was imprisoned both at Newgate and in the Fleet. So Penn was, after all, very much a Londoner.—London Standard.

A Cruet Stand.

Several villagers were discussing a departed sister, who had been given to good deeds, but was rather too fond of dispensing sharp spoken advice.

"She was an excellent woman," said the deceased lady's pastor. "She was constantly in the homes of the poor and afflicted. In fact, she was the salt of the earth."

"She was more than that," remarked a villager. "She was the vinegar, the pepper and the mustard as well. She was a perfect cruet stand of virtues."—London Tit-Bits.

Street Through a Church.

One of the best known instances of churches with streets through them is that of St. John the Baptist's church in Bristol, England. The church is situated right over the ancient gateway into the city on the Avon, and the towering spire, standing high above the neighboring houses and streets, is a remarkable sight as one surveys it from the roadway below.

Mommsen's Peculiarity.

On his eightieth birthday Theodor Mommsen, the historian, received a visit from a great delegation of students, who marched out to his home, but he could not be induced to leave his work to greet them. "They see me every day at the university," he said. "Why do they want to disturb me now?"

Inquisitive.

"That fellow is a positive joke." "Relative of your wife's or holding a better job than you?"—Detroit Free Press.

MOVING PICTURES

Ingenious Methods of Producing Startling Effects.

TRICKS OF THE CAMERA MEN.

Expedients by Which Puzzling Situations and Incidents That Seem to Contradict the Laws of Nature Are Recorded on the Finished Film.

The ingenuity of man is exercised to a wonderful degree in the creation of novel and seemingly impossible situations and episodes for production in the moving picture shows, and audiences are often bewildered in trying to decide how the curious effects, which at times seem to contradict the laws of nature, are secured. Yet, like the conjurer's tricks, it is all very simple when the veil is lifted.

There are some scenes depicted which, while amazing enough in their way, do not puzzle the critical beholder in solving the ways and means of their making. There are the railroad accident, obtained by means of children's toys; the warships and the aeroplanes, which are also photographs of playthings; the burglar in his unheard of performance of climbing the front of a house, and—last, but not least—the man clinging to the ceiling of a room. The pictures explain themselves.

But when we see a man jumping out of a fourth story window, see him fall fifty feet to the ground and then get up and run away unharmed, we ask, How is this possible? The origin of the picture is very simple. The fugitive jumps out of a low window in the studio, which is fitted up in the style of the desired room. Then the photographing process is interrupted.

The next picture is taken in the street in front of a real house. A life sized puppet is dropped from one of the windows. When it has reached the ground the machine stops, the actor puts himself in the place of the figure, the reel is started again, the man gets up and runs away.

In like manner auto accidents and similar episodes are arranged.

Another impossibility—a man swims through a river and on the other side he climbs a ten foot wall without difficulty. Origin of the pictures: The man is photographed sliding from the wall into the water, but in taking the picture the reel is turned wrong way, so the motion is reversed when the picture is reeled off in the right direction.

The last obstacle in representing the seemingly impossible was cleared away when some clever mind conceived the idea of stopping the photographing process, not after a series of pictures, but after each single picture or after each two or three of them. The work involved was enormous, as eighteen pictures are taken every second—that is to say, about 50,000 pictures are required for a reel, which is to amuse the public only ten minutes! But human perseverance has accomplished the task, and the results obtained are extraordinary. The following examples will prove it:

A pile of small stones is put on a black table, and the apparatus is fastened vertically above the stones. Then a short turn of the crank, and a few identical pictures of the stone pile are taken. One of the stones is then removed from the pile; another short turn, which gives two or three pictures showing the first stone separate from the pile. The process is repeated until the stones laid aside by hand show the writing, "Good Night!" The finished film does not show the hand that removed one stone after another, but creates the impression that the stones arrange themselves in the form of magic writing.

Instead of the stones, a lump of clay may be placed on the table and some kind of a figure is gradually modeled from it by hand; but, this hand being invisible, it seems as if the figure formed itself.

In the same way a herring can gradually be sent back into the tin can from which it was taken.—Gartenlaube, Leipzig.

A Trifle Withered.

In his native tongue no one could have made more graceful speeches than M. Blanc, but when he essayed compliments in English he was not quite so successful.

"Have I changed in the five years since we met in Paris?" asked an elderly woman who desired above all things to be thought younger, much younger, than she was.

"Madame," said the courtier, his hand on his heart, "you look like a rose of twenty years!"—Youth's Companion.

A Drain on the Company.

On his way home from the theater, where he had seen a performance of "Othello," Bobby was unusually quiet. "Didn't you enjoy the play?" grandfather asked, at last.

"Oh, yes, very much," replied Bobby. "But, grandpa, there's one thing I don't quite understand. Does the black man kill a lady every night?"—Youth's Companion.

Two of a Kind.

"You fondle that pug puppy," complained the lover, "until I am actually jealous of him."

"You're all alike," answered the girl. "This puppy is jealous of you."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

He who conceals a useful truth is equally guilty with the propagator of an injurious falsehood.—Augustine.

Health and Activity.

Health is always active. The healthy woman must have an outlet for the vigor she feels, and she will find it in work or play, in dancing or in darning, in the chase or at the churn. Even work does not satisfy her, so, as she works, she sings, her busy fingers keeping time to the tune she carols. Directly the duties of the house become a burden, when the song dies on the lips, and the limbs move sluggishly, when amusements have no more attraction and sports fail to interest, the health is declining, vitality is being lowered, and it is time for the woman to look around for the cause of her weakness. She will find it usually in disease of the delicate organs; in debilitating drains, nerve racking inflammation and ulceration, or female weakness. For this condition a perfect and permanent cure is contained in Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It makes weak women strong, sick women well. It is a temperance

Medical.

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Something new is an experiment. Must be proved to be as represented. The statement of a manufacturer is not convincing proof of merit.

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Saddlery.

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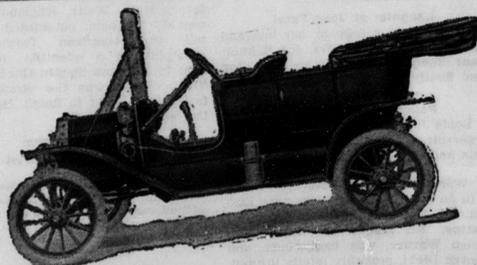
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Constitutional Amendments.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION, BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AND PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH PURSUANCE OF ARTICLE XVII OF THE CONSTITUTION. Number One.

A JOINT RESOLUTION. Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, so as to consolidate the courts of Common Pleas of Allegheny County.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met. That the following amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania be, and the same is hereby, proposed, in accordance with the eighteenth article thereof.

That section six of article five be amended, by striking out the said section, and inserting in place thereof the following:

Section 6. In the county of Philadelphia all the jurisdiction and powers now vested in the district courts and courts of Common Pleas, subject to such changes as may be made by this Constitution or by law, shall be in Philadelphia vested in five distinct and separate courts of Common Pleas each. The said courts in Philadelphia shall be designated respectively as the court of Common Pleas number one, number two, number three, number four and number five, but the number of said courts may be by law increased, from time to time, and shall be in like manner designated by successive numbers. The number of judges in any of said courts, or in any county where the establishment of an additional court may be authorized by law, may be increased, from time to time, and whenever such increase shall amount in the whole to three, such three judges shall compose a distinct and separate court as aforesaid, which shall be numbered as aforesaid. In Philadelphia all suits shall be instituted in the said courts of Common Pleas without designating the number of the said court, and the several courts shall distribute and apportion the business among them in such manner as shall be provided by rules of court, and each court, to which any suit shall be thus assigned, shall have exclusive jurisdiction thereof, subject to change of venue, as shall be provided by law.

In the county of Allegheny all the jurisdiction and powers now vested in the several numbered courts of Common Pleas shall be vested in one court of Common Pleas, composed of all the judges in commission in said courts. Such jurisdiction and powers shall extend to all proceedings at law and in equity which shall have been instituted in the several numbered courts, and shall be subject to such changes as may be made by law, and subject to change of venue, as provided by law. The president judge of said court shall be selected as provided by law. The number of judges in said court may be by law increased from time to time. This amendment shall take effect on the first day of January succeeding its adoption.

A true copy of Resolution No. 1. ROBERT MCAFEE, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Two. A JOINT RESOLUTION. Proposing an amendment to section eight, article nine, of the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met. That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:

Amendment to Article Nine, Section Eight. Section 8. Amend section eight, article nine, of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, which reads as follows:

"Section 8. The debt of any county, city, borough, township, school district or other municipality or incorporated district, except as herein provided, shall never exceed seven per centum upon the assessed value of the taxable property therein, nor shall any such municipality or district incur any new debt, or increase its indebtedness to an amount exceeding two per centum upon such assessed valuation of property, without the assent of the electors thereof at a public election in such manner as shall be provided by law; but any city, the debt of which now exceeds seven per centum of such assessed valuation, may be authorized by law to increase the same three per centum, in the aggregate, at any one time, upon such valuation, so as to read as follows:—

Section 8. The debt of any county, city, borough, township, school district, or any municipality or incorporated district, except as herein provided, shall never exceed seven per centum upon the assessed value of the taxable property therein, nor shall any such municipality or district incur any new debt, or increase its indebtedness to an amount exceeding two per centum upon such assessed valuation of property, without the assent of the electors thereof at a public election in such manner as shall be provided by law; but any city, the debt of which now exceeds seven per centum of such assessed valuation, may be authorized by law to increase the same three per centum, in the aggregate, at any one time, upon such valuation, except that any debt or debts hereinafter incurred by the city and county of Philadelphia for the construction and development of subways for transit purposes, or for the construction of wharves and docks, or the reclamation of land to be used in the construction of a system of wharves and docks, as public improvements, owned or to be owned by said city and county of Philadelphia, and which shall be for the city and county of Philadelphia current net revenue in excess of the interest on said debt or debts and of the annual installments necessary for the cancellation of said debt or debts, may be excluded in ascertaining the power of the city and county of Philadelphia to become otherwise indebted. Provided, That a sinking fund for their cancellation shall be established and maintained.

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 2. ROBERT MCAFEE, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

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Our special Seal Coats we want to show you. One style 50 inch long, made with a roll shawl collar, lined all through with guaranteed satin; handsome metal buttons; regular price \$25, our special \$18.00.

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