

Monstrous Extravagance of De Lesseps

A correspondent of the Boston Bulletin writes from Panama that the half has not been told of the condition of af-

About half a mile from the roadstead at Colon is a point of artificial land on which stands the ruins of houses erected at a cost of one hundred thousand dollars for the temporary accommodation of De Lesseps and his son. The foundations for the houses and most of the point were made by dumping into the mud machinery purchased for the canal and covering the whole with earth and sod. De Lesseps is credited with hav-

On the tops of the hills may be seen the houses built for the engineers and their servants, all elaborate, all dismantled, all decaying. At Colon are some forty or fifty tugs going to decay. On the sidings and special tracks stand lines of abandoned dump cars and locomotives. The common report there is that there are enough abandoned dump cars and locomotives to reach twice across the isthmus (forty-five miles). Vines grow over these rotting vehicles, and the locomotive boilers are so eaten with rust that they may be broken

Acres and acres are covered with parts of cars that have never been set up and large sheds are filled with locomotives. both cars and locomotives being of a special gauge and useless elsewhere.

The fields are full of abandoned machinery and supplies and cars with

Considerable work has been done on the canal in patches, but, as apparently the cuts were not even made on a level. the soil is fast filling in. Dredges are still standing, abandoned in the middle of the canal. No blasting or difficult work has apparently been done whatever. All along the route from Colon are graveyards and hospitals, and at Panama lie a hundred tugboats rotting. one on the stocks that had never been

The natives report that the life of the French was one continued debauch, and the thickly strewn champagne bottles





Scientific American

Agency for



tended as such, but it was found inconvenient to have the wood for the fireplace stored in the senate lobby, and ecessity demanded that the lower part of this beautiful ,case be used for that purpose. The custom has been to present the fender, with its accompanying tongs, shovel, poker and other fire utenits, to the retiring vice president, and there is also given him the inkstand which he used while he was holding the office.

The inkstand is usually a large and magnificent affair of silver. The present fender and inkstand have been in the room for some time, as Mr. Ingalls, vice president pro tempore before Mr. Morton came in, either forgot to ake them away or did not care to. Each vice president upon retiring presents the room with some ornament, and Mr. Morton's gift will be an easy chair of the most approved design. Altogether the room is a most delight ful retreat, with its large square form, stuecoed ceiling, tinted walls, ecra carpet, rosewood tables, mahogany chairs and massive desk. Besides the room is the custodian of the electoral votes, for here stands the little steel safe where the electoral packages of electoral votes are placed as fast as they arrive in Washington.

IN OLD ENGLAND.

ENGLAND is as large as Iowa. THE youngest man in the new British use of commons is twenty-two years old; the oldest, ninety.

As English company is being organed for the acclimatization of elephants

n South America. A RHINOCEROS has been in the London Zoo for twenty-eight years. This is stated to be the longest time an animal of this kind has lived in captivity in

PATENTS establishing a lasting peace with the London. stroys many birds' nests. But in severe red men. accumulations of the mass of the citi-Is England alone more than 10,000,winters they have a hard time in seekand friend, a good neighbor, and will DESIGN PATENTS 000 oil lamps are used nightly. They zens chiefly that the French governenable one so to live on, in the best ing food. An Ancient Gallie Oath. COPYRICHTS, etc. cause 200 deaths annually, and in Lonsense, to be successful and so truly ment derived the means to pay off the The famous oath of the Gallic chiefperiod. Carlyle's Generosity. don alone 156 fires in a single year have enormous German war indemnity and tian has been discovered, according to happy. CANN'S KIDNEY CURE A friend of Leigh Hunt tells this story of a time when both Thomas Carthat the great sums squandered on the been traced to them. M. Arbois de Tubainveille, in an Irish he by a notice given free of charge in the The Jumbo Game. Currs Bright - Hisense, Brepsy Straist, Network, Breat, Urinnys or Liver Disense Known by a fired, languid feeling: function the aidmone weasens and pulsions the block. a base heat Panama canal were taken. Although text of the second century of our era. Scientific American It will be remembered that when A Smart Yankee Skipper. lyle and Leigh Hunt were very poor, says the Jeweler's Weekly, received an the savings of the French are very At the last sitting of the Academy of A writer in the Nautical Magazine Jumbo was originally taken from the onler for a souvenir spoon to gratify the but not so poor but that there was an great, they do not compare in propor-Inscriptions and Belles letters the foltells a story of how, a Yankee skipper contrived to free his ship from rats. London Zoological gardens he diswhim of one of the natives of New Jeropportunity for each to show a geners cause removed you cannot have healt tion to the population with those of the lowing translation of the oath was sey. The emblem required was a mos-Cuted me over five years ago of Bright's Disease and Dropsy - Mrs 1, L. (*) Million, Methlehem Pa 1:00 ther other similar testimonials. Try U. Cute guaranteed. Caus's Kidney fore Co. played great unwillingness to leave his erous spirit. people of Massachusetts. France has arid. Sphendidly illustrated. No intelligent an about he without it. Weekly, \$3,00 a err; \$1.26 six months. Address MUNN & CO. UBLISHING, 361 Broadway, New York City. While he lay in port he discovered that given by M. de Tubainveille: "The One day a gentleman visiting Carcompanion, Alice. Tears figured in the quito. Considerable trouble, it was enjoyed a condition of peace and prosheavens over us, the land below us, the said, was experienced in finding a satone of the British ships then in the harlyle noticed two golden sovereigus exepisode, and great compassion was experity since the year 1871, yet the sums isfactory model, the text books on inocean around us,-everything in a circle bor had among her cargo a great posed in a little vase on the chimney cited by the evidence of the elephant's FEES BROS.' deposited in the savings banks, munici- about us. If the heavens do not fall, Sold by all reliable struggists. 4.21.56 affection. A Mr. Gaylord, who was quantity of cheese. He thereupon piece, and asked what they were for. sectology furnishing, it seems, very pal and national in 1891, amounted to casting from their high fortresses the meager illustrations of the famous and Shaving Parlor, found an excuse for hauling over to her Carlyle looked-for him-embarwith Barnum when Jumbo was bought, only \$720,000,000. In Massachusetts, in | stars like rain on the face of the earth, Ebensborg Fire Insurance Agency the greatly feared disturber of man's rassed, and gave no definite answer. and mooring his own packet alongside. says that it was all arranged; that 1892, the amount deposited in savings | if shocks from within do not shatter the The next step was to procure a plank, "Well, now, my dear fellow," said the visitor, "neither you nor I are in Scott, the keeper who came over with dreams. After a diligent search and banks was \$528,544,076, while there was | land itself, if the ocean from its blue smear it well with an odoriferous prepmuch inquiry it was discovered that an Jumbo, maneuvered the elephant in a T. W. DICK, \$14,620,275 additional held by coopera- solitude does not rise up over the brows Main Street, Near Post Office way to give the desired effect of feelaration of red herrings, and place it so adventurous apprentice of the company quite the position to waste sovereigns, tive banks. The population of France of all living things, I, by victory in war, as to lead through one of the ports on had captured a fine specimen of the ining. When it was time for him to leave General Insurance Agent what are they for?" is between 30,000,000 and 35,000,000, by combats and battles, will bring back and. The undersigned desires to inform the pubsect during the summer and had preboard the Englishman. The immedi-"Well, the fact is," said Carlyle; and his car was ready he got the order lie that they have opened a shaving par or on Main street, near the post office where barbering in all its branches will be carried on in the while that of Massachusetts is only to the stable and fold the cattle, and served the conquered freelance impaled EBENSBURG. PA. "Leigh Hunt likes better to find them ate result was a wholesale emigration to lie down, and down he went, and about 2,360,000. These figures present to the house and their dwellings the upon a pin. Thereupon there was great there than that I should give them to the populace wept at the thought of the in mit it. carried on in the of the rats from the American ship's BONANZA WAGEITS SAMPLES FREE Your patronage solicited. FEES BROS.' a very striking contrast to the prosper- women that have been stolen by the rejoicing in the factory and the Jersey hold to the cheese-laden vessel alongelephant's unhappiness. When he was him."-Good Words. ity of the two countries. customer was made happy. side. enemy." told to come away he came.

season. Mr. Vanderbilt was surprised, but not overwhelmed, by the jewcler's evident attempt at continental complaisance. He listened to his tale of the "greatest ruby on earth," which the dealer was willing to dispose of at a sacrifice, with a courteous air, and

then offered him one-tenth-of the price demanded. "I have five stones of exactly the

same dimensions and coloring," said he, "and am willing to complete the halfdozen at a fair figure. You may send me your answer within two hours. Good morning." The answer arrived eighteen minutes

before the prescribed time bad elapsed. It was in the affirmative.

CROWS IN COLD WEATHER.

Hard Winters Make It Difficult for Them to Fi d Food.

Farmers are often annoyed throughout the south and west, especially in Kentucky, by vast numbers of crows collecting on their farms as if by a common instinct, and so great is this host of birds that they have the audacity to attack and devour large hogs and sheep. Even old ewes are killed, being too weak to resist the attack. The ground being covered with snow, the crows have no chance to get their accustomed food, and, driven desperate by starvation, immense flocks may be seen on the ice looking for fish or any scraps they can pick up along the shore.

The crow greatly resembles the raven in its habits, and delights to feed on carrion or to pick out the eyes of dead or dying animals. It often attacks various kinds of game, because with the help of great numbers it can kill the larger creature. Frequently rabbits are the prey of this bird, especially when yonng, for then they can easily be killed and carried off to be devoured. The crow also feeds on reptiles and de-

from a number of famous volcanoes. He sells the material in bottles at about thirty-five cents a bottle. Each sample contains one grain or more. Among these collections is volcanic dust from Cotopaxi which fell at Quito si June 26, 1877, after a journey through the air of thirty-four miles Then he has dust from Cotopaxi which was ejected to a height of forty thouand feet above the level of the sea in 1880 and fell on Chimborazo after a journey of sixty-four miles. The finest particles of this dust weigh less than one twenty-five-thousandth part of a grain. Then there is dust from the terminal slope of Cotopaxi such as is daily ejected by the volcano at the height of nineteen thousand five

hundred feet above the sea. There are many specimens of lapelli from Ambato, mostly pumice. The town of Ambato is built upon a deposit of this material. Fine volcanic dust has been secured from Machachi, where it exists a continuous stratum ten inches thick, the product of some unrecorded eruption of great intensity. It consists largely of feldspar and hornblend, and Mr. Whimper says it is "almost as soft to the touch as cotton wool." Fine pumice dust from the same volcano forms beds many feet in thickness. These volcanic dusts form many interesting and instructive objects of the microscope. The same dealer has fine

and coarse dusts from Mount Ætna and the typical lavas from Cotopaxi and Chimborazo. He also sells pieces of pumice from Krakatoa which were rashed ashore, thousands of miles away, on the coast of Madagascar, and coleanic dust from St. Lucia which fell on a ship off Barbadoes.

French Frugality.

The French people are noted for their frugality and their systematic saving of money. It was from the remarkable

in Africa and India.

INDIANS AT THE FAIR.

Gathering of Red Men from Which Important Results Are Expected.

The Sioux Indians of the Pine Ridge reservation have just adjourned a council at which steps were taken to arrange for an immense Indiam encampment at the world's fair. The plan will no doubt be successful and the encampment will continue from the beginning till the end of the fair.

The council was one of the most important ever held among the Indians of North America. The movement had its origin among the Metis, or French-Indians of the far north, and has for its ultimate purpose a union of action and labor among not only the Sioux and their related tribes, but of all the Indians of the continent. It will be proper to say in the beginning that the hostile Indians of the country have a far more wide-reaching means of communication in America than is generally suspected by the whites. To the Indian the whites are natural enemies, and every day is making the enmity not only more bitter, but more dangerous. In a crude and unformed way these Indians have decided on a general, concerted movement of their race, which shall have for its purpose the restoration of the Indian to his first estate of freedom and independence. That council will be held. It will be held within the present year. If held on the plains it cannot but mean a general uprising of Indians so wide that no military force now at the disposal of the government could for a moment stand before it. If held as the leaders of the movement now desire, it will be in or near Chicago, and will be a powerful agent in

never been heard of from that day to this.

A Voice from the Sea.

A message from the sea with a world of pathos was brought in by the tide on the Yorkshire coast the other day. It was written in pencil on a deal batten and was in these words: "Whoever picks this up shall know that Caller Ou was run down by unknown steamer. No more time. Sinking. May the Lord comfort my mother." The handwriting was identified as that of a lad who had sailed in the Caller Ou as an apprentice to the trade of the sea. Further investigation brought to light the facts that fourteen months ago the bark set sail loaded with coal. She was driven back by rough weather, and after a few days resumed her voyage, but never reached port. A bucket bearing her name was picked up on the coast of Holland nearly, year ago; but until this rude missive came to hand nothing was known as to her fate. The sea brought it to the

very coast from which she sailed. All hands must have perished, with the little apprentice boy. What a picture! The boy scribbling his message, the ship going down and the unknown steamer disappearing. If the master of the destroying craft knows what was done he must feel the torments of the

A Good Beart.

murderer.

There was a wise man among the Jews, says an old fable, who bade his scholars tell him what was the best thing for a man to have and keep. One said, a liberal and contented disposition; another, a good companion and friend; a third, a kind and good neighbor; and a fourth, the wisdom to foresee the future and so shape the life as to be successful and happy. But the fifth said that a good heart was better than them all, for that, he added, will be both contented, a good companion

thousand dollars per month is still paid out to guard this gigantic graveyard of a great nation's enterprise dug by the inworthy sons to whom she intrust-

OUR DEBT TO RUSSIA.

What the United States Owes to the

"That we are under tremendous obligations to the house of Romanoff is recognized by every American who knows the history of his country." says the New York Sun. "Whatever may have been the motive which led Catherine II. to join the so-called League of Neutrals, the result of the act was to complete the discouragement of the British ministers, to break the stubborn will of George III., and to compel the acknowledgement of American independence. Whatever, again, may have been the purpose controlling the mind of Alexander I. when, braving the anger of Napoleon, he refused to enforce the Berlin decrees against the American vessels thronging the Baltic ports, there is no doubt that he rescued from ruin our commerce. We accepted redemption at his hands: we profited by his protection, and it behooves us to remem-

"The services of the house of Romanoff to the American republic colminated in the stand taken on our behalf by Alexander 11. at a crisis when our national existence was at stake, the French emperor having put forth all his influence at Westminster to persuade the British government to join him in intervening on the side of the southern confederacy. Then it was that the czar, who freed the Russian serfs caused his ambassadors at Paris and London to announce that, if France and England undertook to assure the destruction of the American union and to perpetuate the regime of slavery in the western hemisphere, they would find Russia arrayed against them. Nor was that friendly interposition of Alexander II. confined to words. Simultaneously with the utterance of diplomatic warnings a Russian fleet was directed to proceed under sealed orders to the harbor of New York, and a Russian fleet was dispatched to the bay of San Francisco. For us, for the American republic, for the consolidation of our union, the czar made known his willingness to fight, and there is not the shadow of a doubt that his willingness averted a catastrophe."

An Ancient British Village.

An interesting discovery was recently made at Glastonbury, Somersetshire, of the remains of an ancient lake village. From sixty to seventy low mounds, rising from one to two feet above the surrounding soil, and from twenty to thirty feet across were found on the level moor which stretches to the British channel A section of the mounds revealed morticed oak beams, resembling those of the well-known palisades of the crannogs of Scotland, and well-defined strata of clay, charcoal and ashes. The total thickness of these beds was three feet six inches, and within them were detected three separate hearths, superimposed one above the other. Bronze objects, four fibulæ of the La Tene type. and massive spiral finger rings were discovered among the relics, with a few objects of iron too much corroded to determine what they were intended for. Numerous objects of bone, an abundance of pottery, much broken, and organic remains, including beans, wheat, rye, nutshells and a large number of bones, presumably of domestic animals, were also discovered. The remains have been assigned to the "Late Celtic"

A Mosquito Spoon. A New York firm a few days ago,