



PLANET OF MARS.

THE MYSTERIES OF THE PLANET MARS.

Description of the Planet Which is Attracting Public Attention. What Prof. Swift Says.

Lewis Swift, the great comet discoverer, at the Rochester observatory, says: Mars through the telescope is not an object of popular interest, comparing in this respect unfavorably with the moon, Jupiter and his satellites and with Saturn and his rings, but to the astronomer who appreciates his mysteries this planet every fifteen to seventeen years presents great attraction. Unfortunately for northern observers his great southern declination at these oppositions is unfavorable for the delicate observation necessary for the settlement of the several disputed questions.

Thursday evening witnessed an astronomical event occurring two or three times in an average human life. The opposition of a planet, which must be one whose orbit is outside that of the earth, is when its rising is coincident with the sun's setting, at which time the earth will of course be between two bodies. If the orbits of both the earth and Mars were circular his opposition distance would forever be the same, but as both orbits are elliptical it follows that a favorable opposition can only take place when the earth is in aphelion, furthest from the sun, and Mars in perihelion nearest the sun, when he shines with a brilliancy rivaling that of both Venus and Jupiter and arrests public attention rising early in the evening and making many think it a reappearance of the star of Bethlehem.

Mars comes in opposition once in a little over two years, and not once in fifteen years as has been stated. It is only the favorable oppositions that recur somewhat irregularly at intervals about fifteen years. The last one of this sort occurred on Sept. 5, 1877, at which time two minute moons revolving rapidly around the planet were discovered by Professor Asa P. Hall. It was a discovery that caused intense excitement. The planet may have more than the two satellites, and during this favorable opportunity every great telescope in the world will be brought to bear on it for a further discovery, and for the settlement if possible of the problem of "the canals of Mars."

Happily we can now bring photography to our aid and impress upon the plates imperishable details of those phenomena termed by the Italian astronomer, Schiaparelli, canals, oceans, bays, etc., for comparison at future favorable oppositions. One astronomer, going beyond Schiaparelli's outcropping Herod, declared that he had observed the shade trees along the banks of the canals. But pleasantly aside, there is much that is mysterious in the topography of this planet as viewed from the earth. Some of its markings are changeable and appear as clouds, while others seem stable and are indicative of solidity. As however, Mars rotates on his axis so slowly, no belts like those envying Jupiter and Saturn are visible.

The distance of Mars from the earth on Aug. 5, will be about thirty-five million seven hundred thousand miles and but at the very favorable opposition of 1830, it was less by twenty million miles, while in conjunction and on the other sides of the sun his distance was 245,000,000 miles and the brightness of the planet was reduced to that of a faint star.

The two satellites of Mars are named Deimos and Phobos or Death and Terror the former being the nearer and larger of the two. They are respectively about twelve and eight miles in diameter. At the discovery of the outer one its distance from the earth was equal to 7,000,000 times its diameter. That was equivalent to seeing a ball two inches in diameter at the distance of New York from Boston.

So much more rapid is the revolution of Phobos than the rotation of Mars that it rises in the west and sets in the east, while the outer satellite, the sun and the stars rise in the east as they do on our earth. This is the single exception, Phobos being the only known body in the solar system rising in the west.

The distance of the inner satellite from the surface of Mars is less than 4,000 miles and a magnifying power of 4,000 would bring it within a mile, so that from the satellite it would be easy to see on the planet people if they are as large as the earth's inhabitants.

To astronomical writers the question of the planets being inhabited, especially Mars, has long been a most fascinating theme. That they were created to that end is doubtless true, but it does not follow that all are inhabited or inhabitable at the same time. It would require a wide stretch of fancy to imagine people existing on the

planet Mercury so near the sun that lead and sometimes zinc would be in a molten condition, or on that most distant planet Neptune, whose temperature is 600 degrees below zero. Though not denied that the Creator could adapt life, animal and vegetable, to even such places, yet that either of these planets is now inhabited is in the highest degree improbable.

On the evening of July 31, both satellites were seen at this observatory by the writer and by Professor Todd, director of Amherst college observatory, who observed them at the time of their discovery at the Naval observatory in 1877 and then declared that he saw them as clearly as with the 26-inch telescope with which they were discovered.

ANOTHER CLEVELAND CONVERT.

He is District-Attorney Green, of Fulton County.

A notable acquisition to the Democratic ranks is District Attorney Green, of Fulton county, New York. He is just completing his second term, to which he was re-elected by the Republicans and was a recognized leader in the party until now. To a representative of THE WORLD he said to-day:

"I shall vote for Mr. Cleveland if I live until November. I have long been opposed to the tariff impositions placed upon the people by the McKinley bill, and now the Republican party, aided by the influence of Harrison, has sought to thrust the Force bill upon the country it is more than I can stand."

Mr. Green was a Union soldier, and his example will have great weight with Grand Army men, among whom he has been prominent.

Strike at Buffalo.

There is a serious strike at Buffalo, by the Erie and Lehigh Valley switchmen. Property belonging to the railroad company has been destroyed by incendiary fires, men engaged in the peaceful performance of their duties in the companies' service have been assaulted and sent to the hospitals, the movements of trains have been seriously interfered with, and the lives of innocent persons who were in no way connected with the strike and had not even heard of it, have been endangered by the derailment of a passenger train on one of the roads. Such is the indictment up to the hour of writing.

Eighteen or twenty freight cars filled with wool, cotton, hay and various other merchandise, two passenger coaches and two watchmen's houses were burned. The fires occurred at places where the firemen could not successfully stay the flames on account of an absence of water, besides the difficulty of access to the fires.

A Caution to Farmers.

A Delaware county miller remarked the other day to a newspaper man that those farmers having wheat stored in their bins had better examine their grain, as much is liable to be spoiled by heating at this time of the year, which ruins it for making good flour. While speaking on the subject he also added that in his opinion it would be better for every farmer to sell his wheat this season in the field for seventy-five cents a bushel than to store it, giving as a reason that he believed this cereal would not reach a high figure this year as there are millions of bushels of wheat stored to find a market; also that the shrinkage in the grain would amount to considerable—enough to make 75c. now equal at \$1 when sold after a year's storage.

A Gypsy Trick.

A Harrisburg paper tells of a gypsy who entered a house in that city and persuaded a young lady to have her fortune told. When the young lady consented, the fortune teller began by telling her she had a dress that would always bring her trouble and upon seeing her wardrobe picked out the best dress, of course. The young lady told the gypsy she could have it. About an hour later another gypsy came to the house begging old clothes and the young lady without thinking gave her the dress that had the "ban" put upon it.

Raising Money for the Church.

The ladies of the Presbyterian church of Bellefonte recently held a rainbow tea to raise money for the organ fund, which is now over \$1,200. When the ladies have raised \$1,500 some of the rich men of the church have promised to raise the balance.

110 Pairs of Shoes.

The Clearfield Raftsmen's Journal says: "A Phillipsburg dude has a special room in which he has stored 110 pairs of shoes all of which have been worn but one time."

With a Singer for district attorney we should have lots of music in the court house.

CAPITOL NEWS.

INSIDE INFORMATION FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITOL.

Hon. Adlai Stevenson to Take the Stump. A Move to Bring Platt to Time. An order to Consult in Foreign Countries.

Hon. Adlai Stevenson, will take a much more prominent part in the campaign than it has been customary for the Vice Presidential nominee to do. Beginning on the 1st of September, he has written friends in this city, he will take the field and remain on the stump until the end of the fight. He will do his first work in Indiana, and when the anniversary of the birth of that sterling old democrat of democrats, the late Thomas A. Hendricks, is celebrated at Indianapolis on September 7, he will be one of the principal speakers as he will also be at the monster gathering of democrats at French Lick Springs, just afterward. The last two weeks of September he will spend on the stump in North Carolina, and all of October, with the exception of several single speeches in New York State, he will devote to making "the grandest effort of his life" to put Illinois in the democratic column to stay.

Postmaster Dalton, of the House of Representatives who has just gone home to take part in the campaign, generally manages to keep pretty well posted on Indiana politics without neglecting other localities, and he does not believe there is the slightest foundation for the story that Judge Gresham had decided to take the stump for Weaver, although as a good democrat he sincerely wishes the report were true, as it would remove all doubt about the electoral votes of Indiana. Mr. Dalton's opinion about Gresham carries considerable weight here because of the prestige he gained some time ago, when every body else regarded the nomination of Gresham by the Omaha convention as certain, by stoutly maintaining that Gresham would not accept.

Secretary Charles Foster is away up in "g" in Ohio politics, which means that there are few tricks with which he is not familiar. Mr. Harrison having failed in all his efforts to "placate,"

Boss Tom Platt, called on Secretary Foster for help, and he quickly evolved a scheme to bring Boss Platt to time. He knew that the most vulnerable point of the New York boss was his pocket, and it was through his pocket that the Secretary put his first shot by refusing to pay the \$60,000 charged by the express companies for transporting \$20,000,000 in gold from San Francisco to New York, and by transporting it as registered mail matter, at the risk of the Treasury department, and at a cost of about \$2,500. A goodly percentage of the \$60,000 would have gone to Mr. Platt's express company which would have brought gold from the Missouri River to New York, if Mr. Foster had not interfered. It is not a great while since Mr. Platt's express company received \$3,500 for carrying \$7,000,000 in gold from Philadelphia to New York, but it will be quite a while before it is given a similar job, unless Mr. Platt "comes off his perch." Secretary Foster cannot break the contract which Mr. Platt's company has with the Treasury department for the transportation of cash, but he can, and will, if it becomes necessary to bend Mr. Platt, send all large amounts at Government risk which would make the contract a comparatively worthless one. It is predicted that Mr. Platt will do as Davy Crockett's coon did.

Every U. S. Consul abroad was months ago instructed as to the part they are to play in the Presidential campaign; they are to include in their official reports, all of which are to reach the State department in time to be used as campaign documents, statements charging that business depression exists in the country where they are stationed and that it was caused by the McKinley tariff law. The reports are already beginning to come in, and to be circulated, although it is not plain how it is expected to influence any votes with such palpably made-to-order reports. The average American has a thinking apparatus of his own, which he has not forgotten how to use.

Representative Mitchell, of Wisconsin, chairman of the democratic Congressional campaign committee, will not be able to come to Washington until about the 1st of September, but when he comes he will stick to his desk until the close of the campaign. In his absence Mr. Lawrence Gardner, Secretary of the committee, and also Secretary of the National association of democratic clubs, is in charge of the headquarters, which is a very busy place. Many thousands of documents are being daily sent out by the committee, which is about keeping up with the orders it is getting from all sections. Senator Carlisle's recent tariff

speech has already reached a circulation of 250,000, and orders for it are still coming in; Henry George's "Protection or Free Trade" is having a phenomenal run. Representative White's (of Iowa) tariff speech has been widely circulated in English, and now a half million copies of it are being printed in German. There is a great demand from the South for the speech delivered by Representative Henderson, republican, of Iowa, showing up the public record of Weaver. The campaign text book will be ready in about two weeks.

Mr. Gardner, was asked what he thought of the out-look, and he replied: "On the whole good. There are some puzzles that may worry us a little before we get through, but there is no question as to which party will control the next House. I have no figures to give out, now, but it is our House just the same." WASHINGTON, Aug 15, 1892.

Gold From San Francisco.

It is admitted at the Treasury Department, there is now en route from San Francisco to the Sub-Treasury at New York a shipment of \$20,000,000 of gold. Some two weeks ago Secretary Foster signed a transfer check for the \$20,000,000. It was the desire of the Treasury officials that nothing should be said about the transfer until the gold arrived in New York, and Secretary Foster exhibited great surprise and gave utterance to vigorous and impolite expressions when the despatch was shown to him. He said he could say nothing on the subject, and declared with emphasis that nothing ought to be said about it.

This transfer is made at this time because the Sub-Treasury at San Francisco has a plethora of gold, and it is constantly accumulating, while there is a dearth of gold in the Sub-Treasury at New York, especially of small denominations. Negotiations for the transportation of the gold were carried on in the most confidential manner. Everybody connected with the transaction was pledged to profound secrecy. To avoid accident in transportation the shipment was made by registered mail, in a train of cars heavily guarded by armed officers of the Treasury.

THE TREASURE TRAIN SPEEDING EASTWARD.

The treasure train which left San Francisco on Friday evening for Washington carries more gold than has ever been shipped in one lot before. The train is now speeding across the sagebrush plains of Nevada. It was heard from late Saturday afternoon at Winnemucca. It is running on a regular passenger time, but has the right of way. The train will go over the Central Pacific to Ogden, then over the Union Pacific to Omaha, and then by the Burlington to Chicago. Beyond Chicago the route is kept secret. The treasure train consists of five cars.

BERKMAN'S LIFE IN JAIL.

He Reads Much and Stays Away From the Religious Services.

Alexander Berkman, the Anarchist assailant of H. C. Frick, is passing his time very quietly in jail. He did not attend the religious services in the jail last Sunday and put in a great many hours reading the newspapers. Since he has been in jail about 300 persons have called to try to see him. Most of them were merely idle curiosity seekers. Nobody claimed to know him and none saw him. He has received three letters, all of which were given him without being examined.

Canada Thistles.

The law requires that Canada thistles be cut in time to prevent them from going to seed, and thereby spreading to a greater extent. It is the duty of the constable of the township or borough to see that the thistles are cut and must give notice by printed circulars posted in prominent places. The constable upon cutting down any thistles is allowed \$5 per day and a fine is also imposed upon the property for neglect.

The Colby Murder.

Six years ago on Saturday last, 6th inst., the murder of Isaiah and Nora Colby was committed at Cherry Run. The incidents connected with the crime are still fresh in the minds of the people of Clinton county, but the home of the murdered couple has disappeared. The great flood of 1889, when it swept down the ravine where they lived; completely changed the appearance of the place.

Helped the Corn.

The recent rains have assured a good corn crop. The greater part of the oats was taken in in good condition—last year's crop was bleached by rains.

Need Looking After.

The thistles along the walks at the lower end of town need looking after, and need to be cut down before going to seed.

FLAMES BAD WORK

A \$50,000 BLAZE AT THE HUNTINGDON REFORMATORY.

The Brush Factory and Carpenter Shop Consumed By Fire. Work of Incendiaries.

Two months ago an unsuccessful attempt was made by an inmate of the Huntingdon reformatory to destroy the new three story building used as a brush factory. Sunday night a more successful attempt was made and now the brush factory and the three-story building used as a carpenter shop are in ruins. At 6 o'clock flames were discovered issuing from the southern end on the third floor. So quickly did the flames spread that before the alarm could be given the entire structure was enveloped in flames. The brush factory contained highly inflammable material.

The steamers were placed on the river-bank, and after a long delay in laying the hose through the main buildings, several streams of water began to pour on the already ruined industrial buildings. The western and southern walls were badly damaged and the frame stables barely escaped destruction. Once the cornice and roof of the hospital and school building attached to the main buildings, were in flames.

The outlook at this phase was dreadful to contemplate. The seething furnace of flames lighted up the whole town, a mile distant. Every moment the fire threatened to communicate with the main building in which 450 inmates were locked in cells. The reformatory was for a time at the mercy of the flames. The main reservoir was almost entirely empty of water and the only hope of succor lay in the assistance of the Huntingdon fire department. Before the firemen arrived, however, the three-story building adjoining the brush factory, which was used as the carpenter shop, took fire and with its valuable contents was totally destroyed.

During the fire a perfect pandemonium prevailed among the 450 inmates. The inside guards could do little to suppress the frantic cries and yells of a portion of the frightened prisoners, while others of less personal fear shouted and whistled in demoniacal glee.

The brush factory was operated by the Consolidated manufacturing company of Philadelphia and employed 120 of the inmates. They had recently placed twenty seven new machines in the works. This company's loss on stock and machinery will reach \$20,000 on which there is an insurance of \$7000. The company's loss is total, even including their books. The loss on the two buildings, which were 200x50 feet, will aggregate \$20,000. They were insured for \$10,000.

After the firemen arrived Deputy Superintendent Patton assumed complete control and to him is due the credit of saving much of the state's property. There is not a shadow of doubt that the fire was the malicious work of one of the inmates. It is believed that a lighted match was thrown among the inflammable material on the second floor. This is the most serious blaze that the reformatory has ever sustained.

Quick Work in Bridge Building.

The new iron bridge No. 33 which is 120 feet long, and crosses Bald Eagle creek at Milesburg, was placed in position, on Saturday, says the Gazette. The work was accomplished in the short space of eight minutes. Within one hour it was ready for use. This is one of the greatest feats on record in the history of bridge building and is creditable to the industry and push of the Pennsylvania railroad.

Another Inspection Ordered.

According to a recent order of the postmaster general, the postmasters of the county seat throughout the United States are again required to inspect the post offices in their respective counties, between the 1st of August and the 15th of December of this year. The questions required to be answered are nearly one hundred.

Picnic Season.

The picnic season is at its height now and we hear of them in all quarters. They are enjoyable affairs and build up sociability.

Building an Addition.

John Krumbine, of this town, is building an addition to his residence, that will show well in that end of town.

Tax Rate Reduced.

The taxes in Bellefonte borough for this year has been reduced 13 mills over that of last year.

If the Republicans could have postponed the Homestead picnic until after the election they would have given millions. It knocked a big hole into their calculations.

TO VOTERS.

Some Important points on the New Ballot Reform Act.

The following points on the new Baker ballot reform act are printed for the information of voters. Cut them out and preserve them for future reference:

Tuesday, Nov. 8, 1892.—Election day. Tuesday, Sept. 13, 1892.—Last day for filing certificates of nomination with the secretary of the commonwealth.

Thursday, Oct. 13, 1892.—Last day for filing objections to certificates of nomination filed with the secretary of commonwealth.

Tuesday, Sept. 20, 1892.—Last day for filing nomination papers with the secretary of the commonwealth.

Thursday, Oct. 20, 1892.—Last day for filing objections to nomination papers filed with the secretary of the commonwealth.

Tuesday, Sept. 26, 1892.—Last day for filing certificates of nomination with county commissioners.

Monday, Oct. 17, 1892.—Last day for filing objections to certificates of nomination filed with county commissioners.

Tuesday, Oct. 4, 1892.—Last day for filing nomination papers with county commissioners.

Monday, Oct. 24, 1892.—Last day for filing objections to nomination papers filed with county commissioners.

Saturday, Oct. 29, 1892.—Last day for filing certificates of nomination with township or borough auditors.

Tuesday Nov. 1, 1892.—Last day for filing objections to certificates of nomination filed with township or borough auditors.

Tuesday, Nov. 1, 1892.—Last day for filing nomination papers with township or borough auditors.

Friday, Nov. 4, 1892.—Last day for filing objections to nomination papers filed with township or borough auditors.

THE LAND OF SUNSHINE.

A Unique Country where the Skies are almost Never Clouded while the air is Cool and Bracing, like Perpetual Spring.

As an anomalous southern resort, by reason of the fact that there one may escape summer heat no less than winter cold, New Mexico is rapidly becoming famous. Averaging throughout the entire territory 5,600 feet in altitude above sea-level, and characterized by dry air which, unlike a humid atmosphere, is incapable of communicating heat, the temperature in midsummer remains at a delightfully comfortable degree through the day, and at night becomes invariably brisk and bracing. The sunshine is almost constant, yet the most violent out-of-door exertion may be undertaken without fear of distressful consequences. Sunstroke or prostration are absolutely unknown there. It is an ideal land for a summer outing. Its climate is prescribed by reputable physicians as a specific for pulmonary complaints, and the medicinal Hot Springs at Las Vegas are noted for their curative virtues. The most sumpuous hotel in the west, the Montezuma, is located at these springs. Write to Jno. J. Byrne, 723 Monadnock Block, Chicago, for "The Land of Sunshine," an entertaining and profusely illustrated book descriptive of this region, the most picturesque and romantic in the United States. 1

After a Hidden Treasure.

A Lock Haven dispatch says that two men came there from Altoona Tuesday and began to search for \$75,000, alleged to have been hidden on the mountain above that town. A gambler named Lufold, serving a fifteen year sentence in the Western penitentiary, claims that he buried the money there, fearing arrest. He sent the men to find it.

Reading in Possession of Snow Shoe.

The Reading railroad, through the Lehigh Valley Coal company, has for some time been quietly buying all the good coal land in the Snow Shoe district. The work has been thoroughly done and all the tracts except a few small operations have been purchased. The output will be shipped over the Beech Creek railroad.

Bugs Killing Fish.

The Juniata river is full of dead and dying suckers, and on examination for the cause it was discovered that on the top of their heads there was a bug, similar to a bed bug, that eats into the flesh and down through the bone, which causes them to sicken and die.

The Government bought 100,000 ounces of silver this week at 82.93 cents an ounce, the lowest price ever paid. At that rate the bullion requisite to make a silver dollar is worth a fraction over 64 cents.

—Take the REPORTER for the campaign, at 35 cents. Send in the names.