

Balloon Races

Aerial Carnival in St. Louis to Be Given by the Aero Club of America—Captain Chandler and the Army Balloon—Foreign Entries.

It is natural that the international balloon races at St. Louis should enlist more than passing interest. Navigation of the air is no longer a subject which excites the attention of adventurers and theorists alone. In this country the action of the federal government in organizing an aeronautic training school, so to speak, for members of the United States signal corps shows what the authorities at Washington, who have a reputation for conservatism in such matters, think of aeronautics as a practical science.

The airship contests at St. Louis during the week of Oct. 21 have caused balloonists from all over the world to head in that direction, not, however, in their airships, for the aeronauts still stick to the old fashioned railroad when they want particularly to get to a certain place at a certain time. The Aero Club of America is the host of the numerous foreigners at St. Louis or en route thither for the events of what the club calls "an aerial carnival." There are five of these events—the international balloon race, the airship and dirigible balloon race, the gasless flying machine race, the contest for the Scientific American gasless flying machine cup and the race for the Lahm cup for covering a greater distance than 402 miles. Cortland Field Bishop, president of the Aero Club of America, is chairman of the reception committee, and the fact that other members of the committee are Colonel John Jacob Astor, Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, O. H. P. Belmont, James L. Breese, Charles G. Gates, Peter Cooper Hewitt, Colgate Hoyt, Joseph Leiter, Pierre Lorillard, Jr., Frank A. Munsey, Professor W. H. Pickering, William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., and Captain Charles de F. Chandler shows how what some call the "balloon craze" has gripped the circles of society, science, army and high finance.

Captain Chandler, who is one of the promoters of the contests at St. Louis,



CAPTAIN CHARLES DE F. CHANDLER STEP- PING INTO THE CAR OF HIS BALLOON.

is a member of the signal corps of the United States army, and this branch of the federal service, under General James Allen, has been testing the various kinds of war balloons with a view to adopting some system of military aeronautics for the army. Captain Chandler has been active in the work of experiment and in instructing members of the corps in air navigation. The United States recently established an aeronautic experiment station at Fort Omaha, and only a few weeks ago army officials decided upon the construction of Uncle Sam's first dirigible balloon, which will equal if it does not surpass anything the French or Germans have yet produced. It will cost \$200,000, will be nearly 200 feet in length and will have a capacity of 50,000 cubic feet. Its construction will bring into service not only all the inventions originating in this country and abroad, but also several improvements the nature of which is yet a secret.

Another army officer who figures at St. Louis is Major Henry B. Hersey, chief inspector of the government meteorological service, who went with Walter Wellman to Spitzbergen. A third army aeronaut is Lieutenant Frank S. Lahm, Jr., who won the James Gordon Bennett cup and the world's balloon racing championship in the international contest last year at Paris. Lieutenant Lahm expected to participate in this year's contest at St. Louis, but sickness prevented. His father, Frank S. Lahm, Sr., is one of the promoters of the affair.

It was the capture of the cup by Lieutenant Lahm last year and its temporary possession by the Aero Club of America which brought the races to this country, where other nations which challenge or it are required to come, the rules stipulating that the competition must be held in the country which holds the trophy.

FRANCIS JOSEPH'S HEIR.

Career and Character of the Archduke Francis Ferdinand. The Archduke Francis Ferdinand, the next emperor of Austria, is not the son of Emperor Francis Joseph, but the latter's nephew. He became the heir apparent to the throne of Austria-Hungary on the death of the emperor's son, Crown Prince Rudolf, whose untimely and tragic end was a source of great grief to the aged sovereign. The Archduke Francis Ferdinand was born at Gratz, Austria, in 1863. He was a visitor to the United States thirty years later in the Columbian year of 1893 and wrote a book describing his travels in this country and other parts of the world. The Austrian princes have



THE ARCHDUKE FRANCIS FERDINAND.

given the sovereign a great amount of anxiety because of their preferences in matrimonial matters. The archduke made a good choice except from the point of view of the interests of the state. He fell in love with the Countess Sophie Chotek, whom he persisted in marrying in spite of all the obstacles placed in the way of the match. She was a lady in waiting to the Crown Princess Stephanie and not of high enough rank to wed a possible monarch, according to Austrian court traditions. But she proved a good wife to the archduke and has won her way to the affections of the people, and she even won the good opinion of the Emperor Francis Joseph, who some years ago conferred upon her the title of Princess Hohenburg. As she is only amorganatic consort she is not eligible to become an empress, but it is said she may become queen of Hungary.

Besides the book about his travels which the archduke wrote after his visit to America in the Chicago World's fair year, he is the author of two volumes of poetry and of several historical and biographical essays. From this it may be seen that he is by no means an unlettered and uncultured man, as has sometimes been said. He is very fond of music and is something of a composer himself. He is an engineer by profession and is the only prince of the blood who has secured his diploma as such, it is said. At any rate, he is an expert at machinery and of an inventive turn of mind. Many tales have been told of him that did him injustice, some of which described wild pranks committed, not by him, but by others of the emperor's nephews.

Not What She Expected.

A widow had been courted and won by a physician. She had children. The wedding day was approaching, and it was time the children should know they were to have a new father. Calling one of them to her she said, "Georgie, I am going to do something before long that I would like to talk about with you."

"What is it, ma?"

"I am intending to marry Dr. Jones in a few days, and—"

"Bully for you, ma! Does Dr. Jones know it?"

DOUBT.

IN love, if love be love, if love be ours, Faith and unfaith can never be equal powers.

Unfaith in sight is want of faith in all. It is the little rift within the lute That by and by will make the music mute

And ever widening slowly silence all. —Alfred Tennyson.

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At Yorktown

Interesting Celebration in Commemoration of the Surrender of Cornwallis One Hundred and Twenty-six Years Ago—Yorktown During the Civil War.

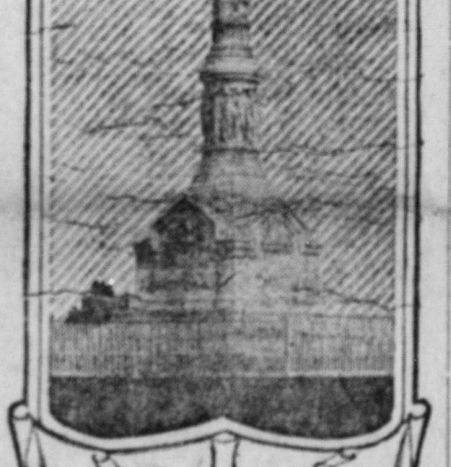
VIRGINIA has been the scene of many historic events, and the occurrence of the Jamestown exposition this year has called attention to the fact in many striking ways. The commemoration of such events has stimulated study of the annals of Virginia both as a colony and as one of the original thirteen states.

One of the most momentous days in the history of this famous commonwealth was that on which Lord Cornwallis surrendered to the combined American and French forces. The capitulation took place 120 years ago on Oct. 19. The hundredth anniversary of the event, which fell in the year 1881, was made the occasion for a notable celebration, and it was at this time that the cornerstone was laid of the lofty monument which the visitor may now see and which fitly commemorates the victory of the American forces and the virtual termination of the struggle for independence. It is surmounted by a figure of Liberty. The shaft contains the sculptural figures of thirteen maidens representing the thirteen colonies, and about the base are appropriate inscriptions reciting the circumstances of the surrender and the terms agreed upon by the generals of the opposing armies. The centenary exercises occasioned the attendance at the scene of the momentous events of President Chester A. Arthur and members of his cabinet, of Count de Rochambeau of France, a descendant of the count of the same name who commanded the French allies at

Yorktown; of Baron von Steuben of Germany, a descendant of the Baron von Steuben who fought in the Revolution; of Sherman and Hancock. There were two sieges of Yorktown, one in the Revolutionary war and one in the civil war. In the war of the Revolution Lord Cornwallis and the British army reached Virginia in May, 1781, and in the following August occupied Yorktown, which is on the York river. Washington and his army advanced on the enemy by land, and the French fleet of Count de Grasse, numbering twenty-eight ships of the line, with nearly 4,000 infantry on board, reached the Chesapeake and came to safe anchor in the mouth of the York river. Cornwallis was thus blockaded both by land and sea. The arrival of Count de Barras with more French ships strengthened the Americans. When the English Admiral Graves appeared in the bay with his squadron a naval battle ensued in which the British ships were so roughly handled that they were glad to withdraw. On Sept. 28 the allied armies encamped closely around Yorktown, and the siege was regularly begun. On the 13th of October the Americans made an assault on the outer works of the British and carried them by storm. On the 17th Cornwallis proposed surrender, and on the 19th the capitulation was formally made.

In the second siege of Yorktown General Magruder, with between 10,000 and 15,000 Confederates, took possession of the place in the spring of 1862, and a little later General McClellan, with a Federal force of about 58,000 men, advanced up the peninsula, reaching Magruder's defense line on April 5, and began preparations for a long siege. The Confederates were re-enforced, and the Union forces were also strengthened, so that finally McClellan had under him in front of Yorktown over 100,000 men. In view of the greater strength of their enemy the Confederates evacuated Yorktown and fell back on Williamsburg.

A small monument almost hidden in the overtopping trees shows where the surrender of the British general to Washington in 1781 actually occurred. A cave is pointed out as the place where Cornwallis met his officers in council, but doubt has been cast upon the story by some historians. The village is a quaint one and has changed but little since Revolutionary days.



MONUMENT TO HEROES OF YORKTOWN IN THE REVOLUTION.

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No Chance For Argument.

"George," said she to her liege lord, who was toasting his shins before the fire, "I suppose you get the credit for sweeping the snow off our front walk."

"I reckon I do, Cynthy," responded George.

"And you know you don't do a lick of it. I do it myself."

"There can't be any doubt about that."


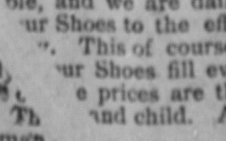
"Well, what sort of a man do you think you are?"

"I'm a blamed small specimen of a man, Cynthy," said George, still serenely toasting his shins. "I have no doubt I am meaner and more contemptible than you think. You can't get into any argument with me on that proposition. I'm the laziest, good for nothingest, ornariest man in the neighborhood. If it wasn't that I've got such a good wife, I'd go and blow my worthless brains out. Supper ready yet, dear?"

Got Even at Last.

Court had been waiting fifteen minutes for the stenographer to arrive. Then some one was sent to the tele-

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phone to find out why. "Do you mean to tell me," she demanded, "that I have kept forty-one men waiting fifteen minutes for me?" "That's it."

"Well, I'll be right along. That is a funny thing. I have been waiting all these years for just one man, and now forty-one of them are waiting for me."

What the Tree Would Say.

Bishop Seymour of Minnesota while walking with a young lady pointed out to her some of the fine trees in the neighborhood. She professed great interest and delight. She cried:

"How the noble aspect of beautiful trees stirs up the keenest emotions of the soul!" Then, patting a great, rough

trunk, she went on: "You suppose now what would you say to me if you could talk?"

"I believe I can be his interpreter," the bishop murmured. "He would probably say, 'I beg your pardon, miss; I am a beech.'"

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