RARE FIELD FOR ANTIQUARIANS.

Bigh Time for Reform in the Treatment of Firemen on the Ocean.

Readers of THE DISPATCH who desire information on subjects relating to industrial development and progress in mechanical, civil and electrical engineering and the sciences can have their queries answered through this column.

The buried city of Palenque, Mexico, is Perhaps the strangest thing connected with this extraordinary place is the fact that, although the engineering skill indicated in its ruins is in many respects akin to that of the ancient Egyptians, antiquarians and Egyptologists have never investigated the ruins or sought to interpret these graven records of a long-forgotten race.

In 1750 a party of Spaniards were traveling in the interior of Mexico. They had wandered in search of things strange and new into the region north of Chiapas, when they suddenly came, in the midst of a vast solitude, to innumerable ancient stone buildings, the remains of a vast city still embracing from 18 to 24 miles in extent, and known to the Indians by the name Casas de Piedras. The Indians themselves could give no account of its origin. Two exploring parties were afterward sent out by Spain, without, however, attaining any appreciable results. A third exploration was made in 1840 by American travelers. They found the ruins overgrown with so dense a lorest of gigantic trees and tangled undergrowth that a person ten yards distant in any direction could not be seen. As the travelers had no axes, picks or shovels, but only the machete—the short, broad-bladed sword of the Indians-with which to clear away this accumulation of centuries of luxuriant vegetable growth, and make systematic observations, but little could be accomplished. A vast number of fine buildings, however, were discovered, constructed of stone, with a mortar of lime and sand, the outer walls of which were covered with stucco and painted in pigments of various colors, and fantastically ornamented with figures in bas-relief and with intaglio inscriptions in hieroglyphics. Interspersed with these were palaces, pyramids and tem-ples, and there were also the remains of an aqueduct by which the city was supplied with water.

One of the buildings, which was in course of construction, stood on a pyramid 110 feet high. It was 76 feet long, 25 feet deep and about 30 feet high. It was very righly ornamented externally, and on the interior walls were tables of hieroglyphic inscriptions carved in symmetrical lines out of stone. One was only about half finished when the work was arrested forever by the unknown catastrophe that c. ae "like a thief in the night" and obliterated the race of builders and all knowledge of their literature.

The solution of these unscriptions would in all probability reveal things that are more interesting and important from an ethnic point of view than the discoveries at Herculaneum and Pompeii.
Only one statue was discovered—that of a temale figure, ten feet six inches high, and more resembling Egyptian portrait statuary than anything else found in this new "Old Word." it can safely be regarding as an indication that there are other statues and monuments in the forest around. Where these great taken from the quarry, how transported and erected, with what instruments they were sculptured, and the thousand and one points connected with the origin and mode of life of the designers and builders of the massive structures round about, are questions, the solution of which would be received with the keenest interest, and they offer a field of investigation of the utmost value from an ethnical standpoint; but unless the probe of science be soon applied, these treasures of

antiquity will slip forever from the grasp

Forced Draught in Marine Practice. In a recent report, the Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering of the United States Navy says: "Now that the time is their new duties. A fireman accustomed only to natural draught becomes demoralized when set to work in a fireroom where INTERESTING EVERY DAY SCIENCE ful blowers. We have training ships for sailors, but we vainly imagine that the put-ting of a man down the fireroom batch with a shovel in his hand makes him an expert

Just what this means is conveyed vividly and accurately in the following extract from a late article on "Atlantic Racing." "To ature positively frightful; it is almost im possible to let a draught of air through the space, but in many ships coal has to be barbeyond question the most interesting ruin in America, if not in the world. The very race and language of the people who built ships to as much as 150 degrees. The only it are lost, and no one has yet interpreted the hieroglyphics which cover its massive walls. If this is done it is assumed that the men will be all right. There never was a more unwise policy. The engineers are often driven to their wits' end to keep the men up to their work."

The time for reform has more than arrived. That it will have to be carried out is certain, but whether it will consist in has little flexibility and no elasticity, and furnishing blowers enough and providing stands off much better than rubber. Alboilers and turnaces with air jackets, so as to bring down the temperature to a point where men can work in reasonable comfort, or better still in the supercession of manual by mechanical labor, time only can decide.

A New Aerial Apparatus.

An apparatus for navigating the air, and for towing vessels and vehicles over water and land is the subject of one of the latest patents. The inventor calls it an aerial railway, operated by two forces-the oblique impact of the wind upon the surface of areoplanes or kites, and the resistance to this force of a drag at opposite ends of three or more draught lines. The drag, when trav-ersing over land, is to consist of wheels and axle with a brake, for which heavily laden sledges are to be substituted when traversing icefields, and it is suggested that the successial carrying out of this device would afford a means for the exploration of the polar zone. In water, the drag may consist of one or more boats, or a raft of logs. The kites may be multiplied as desired, and balloons are attached to them to keep them aloft in the absence of wind. Steering is effected by the flexion of the wings by brace ropes. The height of the series of kites is regulated by halyards connected with the car in which the passengers ride. This car is supported on the draught lines and may be suspended in any position and firmly held there by means of a brake, which grips the lines. If the voyage is to be a long one, the drag is supposed to be capable of holding all the necessary baggage and sup-

Cage Fishing.

In Burmah a new industry, under the title of the Burman Fishing Company, has been formed with a view of carrying out deep sea fishing with the most approved ap-

pliances. The capital has been subscribed and the venture predicted a success by the manager, an experienced deep sea fisher Some two years ago a similar undertaking was attempted by the local Government, but after an expenditure of 10,000 rupees a miserable failure was the result. It seems that only fishermen from the coast ports atthat only fishermen from the coast ports attempt sea fishing by means of nets, but the Burmese resort to the rivers and trap der forced draught, steps should be taken to educate the men of the fireroom force up to right, oblong, finely made bamboo cage trap is set in intervals of a stackrade consisting. is set in intervals of a stockade consisting of solid bamboos firmly fixed across the river. The mouths of these traps have up-right triangular slits, and the ends of the bamboo slips point inward but do not touch each other; it is easy for fish of almost any size to enter these traps and next to im possible for them to get out. There is a small flap which unites at the back of the cage to empty the fish out. This forms one of the most effective fish traps known.

Gutta Percha and India Rubber. Many people think that gutta percha and India rubber are the same or very similar gums. This, however, is a mistake. India rubber is the solidified sap of a South American tree. It is of a soft, gummy nature, not tenacious, but very elastic; is easily decomposed by oily substances, and does not stand acids well. The sap is prepared for the market by congulation and heat. Gutta percha, which is found in the East Indies, is obtained from the gutta tree. It is a brownish gum which solidities by exposure to the air, and is usually scraped from the tree with considerable of the bark adhering It is fibrous and tenacious and acid proof. I though it softens at comparatively low tem-peratures, it may be melted and cooled many times without injury. It is used not only for insulation, but for making damp-proof shoe soles and many other purposes.

Vegetable Flannel.

A large industry has been developed in Germany by the manufacture of a textile material from pine leaves. This material is virtually a vegetable flannel, and consti-tutes a valuable addition to the textile fabrics of the country. The fiber is spun, knitted and woven into undergarments and clothing of various kinds.

HARRY WILLIAMS' ACADEMY

MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 3.

Matinees, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

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March 10-Reilly & Wood's Big Show.



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First Appearance in Pittsburg OF THE DISTINGUISHED CHARACTER ACTOR, MR.

RICHARD GOLDEN



Richard Golden, the Great
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Old Jed Prouty, of Bucksport, maine,
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Mr Gulick's bijon Theatre play
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The One Week commencing
The Monday Hight, Mirch the 3st
Wednesday and Saturday he does it
twict at 2 o'Clock and same
Thing At 8 O'clock he will be helped by
dera Wiley the sweet singer of maine
also by Zack Wileox
the Constable also by zeb hardy the teamster and justice of the peace john Todd
Joe Stover and Dick Stubbs Will
also Give Him a HFT
so Will Beacon Hill the Boston
drummer and That son of a gun
Aaron hemmin Way the Villain of the
Piece lige Prouty will also take A
hand and Pinkey Pike too The
Women will be martha Giddens
Tribulation Prouty Fannytodd
And mrs Stubbs so Will lifte thretty.

IN HIS CHARMING CREATION OF

this show is a dAlsy the bucksport chamPion choir String band will be along to sing the SonGs in good shaPe so will the bucks port fire bucket comPany the Best Squirts there is the aCting is Number one you have to pay to Get in Richard Goldden will act the PiecE 6 nights steady starting AiteR SuPPer and keep it Up until BedtimE without stopping the biGgest until HeduimE withOuT stopPing the biGgest Play Piece in the TowW Mo Re for your money than yoU knoW what to do with GRAnd acTings eveRy NiGht leaVe youR Lanterns outside the dook Don't brind; youR Dogs in tie them Home SteP liVely dont hand along the walk in FrONt YoUrs

JeD proUty of bucks
Port maine Port maine

NB yoU can get Your
nice warm seAts riGHT
awAy at the pLayHouse
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OLD JED PROUTY.

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Presented With Special Scenery and the Original Cast, Including MISS DORA WILEY, "The Sweet Singer of Maine."

RESERVED SEATS.

March 10—Gilbert & Sullivan's New Opera, "The Gondoliers."

EXTRA.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS,

BIJOU THEATER

WEEK OF MARCH 10.

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GREATEST HIT

-OR,-

THE KING OF BARATARIA.

"The score is superior to the Mikado."-"It contains more catchy music than any

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Original Scenery, including the Famous Scene, The Housetops of New York. The Acme Quartet and the Whistling Bootblack.

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Thursday, Friday, Saturday, She does this in every city she goes to. March 6, March 7, March 8. MATINEE SATURDAY.

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One Week, Commencing MONDAY, MARCH 10.

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The most wonderful trait of nature ever known to exist. A beautiful young lady, but 26 years of age, with feet larger than the largest cured ham; her loot measures 26 inches in length, while the instep measures 18 inches in circumference. Imagine a lady walking about the city wearing shoes No. 32. Miss Mills, although the owner of these cumbersome feet, can walk as sprightly as any young lady. She enjoys outdoor exercise, and has engaged a carriage in which she will visit every portion of the two cities. Miss Mills, while on exhibition, will ex-

pose her feet in a modest yet satisfactory



Everybody invited to see her alight from the carriage and walk into the Museum, 12:30 P. M. Monday, March 3.

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OTTO HEGNER. THE PHENOMENAL BOY PIANIST,

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25 doz. decorated plates marked from 25c each to 12 1-2c. 25 doz. assorted individual butters marked from 1.50, 1.25

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3 doz. sevres pattern china cups

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1 lot of plain and gold line tea pots, fire proof, marked from 60 and 40c to 27c.

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REMOVAL

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6 Austrian china salad bowls, assortment of colors, marked from \$8 each to \$4.50.

6 only, decorated fruit dishes, marked from \$2.75 and \$2 to \$1.49. 1 lot low china fruit bowls marked from \$3.50 to \$2.12.

3 Haviland china bread and milk sets marked from \$2 to \$1.23. China bread and milk sets

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2 exquisitely decorated cracker jars marked from \$6 to \$3.73. 3 English china cracker jars with plates, marked from \$6.50 and \$5.50 to \$3.29.

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1 artistic turquoise and gold vase lamp, supported by gold dolphins, marked from \$30 to \$21.19.

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