

A PHOTOGRAPH AT WORK. Making a Plate from Which a Perfect Production of Your Speech Can Be Made When You Are in Your Grave.

The Philadelphia Times has an article describing Professor Edison's marvelous phonograph and how it works. We make the following extract: The instrument was operated sometimes by Mr. Bentley, but principally by Mr. James Adams, the inventor's representative.

Mr. Adams, before the performance began, thus explained the instrument: "In this gutta percha mouthpiece is a tin foil, which is held in place by a diaphragm, made of tin type metal. The vibratory motion of the diaphragm, which has in its center, underneath, a fine steel point. Around this brass cylinder, which you see, is closely and finely grooved by a spiral, I wrap a sheet of tin foil. I shove the mouthpiece up until the steel point touches the tin foil, just kept down by a groove on the left. Turning the cylinder with this crank, I talk into the mouthpiece. The diaphragm vibrates, causing the steel point to perforate the tin foil, leaving little holes of different diameters and resembling the old Morse telegraphic alphabet.

Now I turn the cylinder back to the starting place in order that the steel point may go over the perforations which I have made in the tin foil. The steel point touches the tin foil, and the voice there produced with this crank, I talk into the mouthpiece. The diaphragm vibrates, causing the steel point to perforate the tin foil, leaving little holes of different diameters and resembling the old Morse telegraphic alphabet.

Mr. Adams, having wrapped a sheet of tin foil around the cylinder, spoke into the mouthpiece in a voice of ordinary pitch and time, but with distinct articulation, meanwhile slowly and regularly turning the crank, the following: Jack and Jill went up the hill To get a bucket of water there Jack fell down and broke his crown And Jill came tumbling after.

Having reset the cylinder and fixed the funnel in the mouthpiece he turned the crank and the diaphragm repeated the rhyme, not only as distinctly as he had uttered it, but with so perfect a mimicry of the Scotch accent as to cause a general outburst of laughter, in which the genial operator heartily joined.

Causing the steel point to proceed from the outgoing groove to the hill, Mr. Adams again put his mouth to the diaphragm and uttered in more varying tones, which had a range from almost a whisper up to a screaming soprano, the following: Hallo! Hoop-la! Ya-hoo! Nineteen years in the land I scratched my nose on the wall And that name was Robert Lundy-yy, Parlez vous Francais? Sprechen sie Deutsch? Turning the crank backward until the steel point reached the beginning of "Jack and Jill," he gave the forward motion. The diaphragm's eloquence of the rhyme was on this occasion as good as before, and the second conglomeration of utterance was delivered by the vibrating metal with all the characteristics of the operator's ejaculations and recitation.

"This mule," remarked the lively stable man, as they passed the stall where the sleeping animal was leaning up against the partition, drawing of an Eden wherein there was but one mule and a thousand timid men, "this mule is a kicker." "This one?" innocently inquired the young man, laying his hand upon the mule to be sure that the proper animal was indicated. "This—"

CONSTANTINOPLE. A Graphic Description of the Turkish Capital.

There are four cities in the world that belong to the whole world rather than to any one nation. These are Constantinople, London, New York, and San Francisco. The whole world, or round which its history has at one time or another revolved, cities in which students and philosophers from every country are equally interested. These four are Jerusalem, Athens, Rome, Constantinople.

St. Sophia is one of the wonders of the world. It is the only grotto in the church which has been preserved from very early times; for the basilicas of St. John Lateran and St. Mary the Greater, at Rome, have been considerably altered. And in itself it is a prodigy of architectural skill as well as architectural beauty.

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