FIFTY YEARS OF **GREAT INVENTION**

Some of the Marvels Wrought During the Last Half Century.

EFFECT ON PEOPLE'S DAILY LIFE

The Most Remarkable Period of Activity and Development in the History of the World -- Comforts of Liv-Energy -- Contrast with the Conditions of the "Good Old Days."

From the Washington Post. Politics and statesmanship must yield the palm to inventions as the conservator of human progress and civilization. It is indeed pleasing to turn from the chaotic conditions wrought by the blunders of legislation to the achievements of those who have contemporaneously carried the world forward at a greater pace than did statecraft in its aqueducts-one of the year 1842, followmost progressive days. The task of telling about the progress of a lifetime has the Croton Lake to the Central Park. been assumed by the editor of the New York, its path being traceable Scientific American, who, in the fiftleth anniversary number of that publication, reviews with a masterly pen the effect underground wherever possible, as a

The material world has advanced so rapidly during the last half century, and in one or two difficult places. To and with a pace so accelerated, that mankind has almost lost one of its most important faculties, and one es- ural lakes are utilized. The fact that sential to happiness-that of surprise, the lake or dam is to be fifty or more The nil admirari faculty is attaining a wide spread. The most marvelous developments are taken as a matter OTHER BRANCHES OF INDUSTRY. of course—the condition of things fifty years ago is seldom pictured to the mind-and all the material blessings which we now enjoy are used as conveniences of daily life, and no more. Formerly there was an idea prevalent that surprise and astonishment were emotions of the ignorant. Today they are rather emotions of the scientist. The educated engineer cannot without such emotions contemplate the insignificant feed wire of a trolley road carrying stlently hundreds of horse power to points all along the line-he cannot without these feelings contemplate the electric motors, drawing power in proportion to the work they have to do, all regulated by the automatic government of counter-electromotive force-he cannot see the unstable though gigantic ocean liner filled with every refinement of electrical and mochanical art, all working perfectly on -he cannot follow the construction of completed-these things all excite in serve them and know them without goes back a little over fifty years. a feeling of true astonishment at the achievements of mankind,

THE SMALLER THINGS FIRST. The temptation is to consider the greater things, to contemplate the 600plate steamer crossing the Atlantic through storm and sunshine—the open hearth furnace with its tons of steel, fluid as water and resembling molten silver-the immense steam engine and great hydraulic power plant. But we may usefully leave for the moment the monumental works of the last half ceneffected in our daily life by the move-

The steam engine has been greatly improved, and in the articles on naval progress and the locomotive much will liss valve motion and the compounding of cylinders, leading to more perfect expansion and a longer range of working temperature limits, have brought about great economy so that one-tenth the fuel will do the same work as compared with many engines of the middle of the century. In details, such as the jectors and inspirators, doing away with the feed pump, the machine stoker oil drop by drop to the cylinder, the drops passing through a glass tube so as to give sight feed lubrication, the steam power plant has had many and

great developments. The machine shop has not been neglected, and America can boast of the finest machine tools, for wood and metal, such as automatic lathes, milling machines and shapers, that the world can show. The development of abrasives, emery, and carborundum, has made the emery grinder a necessary tool in every machine shop. The miner even shares in the advance, special machinery for extraction of ore, for undercutting and drilling being invented, while modern explosives of graduated power and quickness make the work of placing shots much safer. Compressed air has been used in some classes of underground work, but electricity is making its presence felt there also, and electric machinery for tunneling the mining is in extensive use.

THE NEW METAL. The work of St. Clair Deville in the days of the last Napoleon have borne fruit, and now aluminum has a recognized place among commercial metals. In its reduction the electric furnace and the electrolysis of fused saits have been tried, and the cheapened production of sodium has had its effect on the cost of

The lightness of the metal led to tion of a flying machine. The development of the laws of moving aeroplanes have given a better basis perhaps in this direction than any preceding work, and the theory of the internal energy of the atmosphere gives a possibility of horse railroad is archaic, and with a the solution of the problem of soaring few exceptions in the way of com-

flight. Yet very little has been really accomplished, although more has been done during the last five years to raise the rational hopes for true mechanical flight than during the fifty years that

Food for the family is now procurable in endless variety, independent of the season of the year. The enormous development of the canned goods industry. of cold storage, and of cheap transpor-tation makes the salmon of Oregon, the winter kitchen can have every summer tral station it sends its power lines in supplying the tables of its emperors of cities, and at almost nominal charge ing Which Owe Their Existence to are daily surpassed, only it is now done carries passengers for miles at a speed the Fertile Resources of Brains and for the benefit of the poor. Even in the of ten to twenty miles an hour or more. The city worker is no longer obliged to als, there is great advancement, and live in closely built up streets. The cars the roller mill turns out flour of greatly escape to the region of green fields. improved quality and with larger yield The trolley may yet modify cities until old grist mills

In the matter of the transportation of water the most impressive achievements of engineering are executed :n order that at the turning of a kitchen faucet water may flow into the kettle of the cook. The contrast between old and new methods is nowhere more forcibly presented than in the two Corton ing approximately a contour line from from the surface over nearly all its extent-the new one of 1890 driven deep of inventions during the last fifty years. matter of preference, and built without surface disturbance except at the shafts supply cities with water through such aqueducts, great dams are built or natmiles distant plays no part.

Perhaps the manufacture of shoes supplies as good an illustration as any of the substitution of factory for hard work in supplying domestic wants. The American shoe factory with its workshops filled with machinery and with trained operatives, each practiced in performing one single operation, using ngenious sewing machines, producing velt shoes or shoes without welt, sends its products to all parts of the world. and the hand-made shoe is used less

Foremost among the developments of the last half century is the India rubber industry. The discovery of the vulcanization of India rubber at once brought into the realm of practical ises a unique material, India rubber. At first it had been unsatisfactory, subtect to change of qualities and uncertain in every way and affected by variations in temperature. But Goodyear's their never quiet, never level platforms great invention of vulcanization produced a new and wonderful material. a cantilever bridge with the ensuing which has affected every department changes from compressive to tensile of modern life, and which, as not the stress and the reverse, as the span is least of its achievements, has created the modern pneumatic bicycle. him such emotions that he cannot ob- hard to believe that this invention only

In the march of progress the farmer has participated. Reaping, mowing, raking, harvesting, plowing and cultivating, form but an incomplete statement of work now executed for him by machinery. Steam has long been used to do his work-now electricity is stepping in to his assistance, and we find an electric plow under trial. Patern churns, centrifugal, and deep pan cream separators make his dairy work easy, and it is further simplified by the creamery to which he delivers his tury and see what changes have been milk for butter and cheese making by machinery. Teday America Aports cheese in enormous quantities, and ed for carrying out this idea. This lands, under foreign titles, cheese from cheese factories of the Empire State.

be found on its development. The Cor- AN AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION. The stock farmer who raises cattle for market to supply meat is not neglected. His market has expanded enormously, until the "roast beef of old L'ngland" has to be supplied by countries thousands of miles away from London. Cattle ships, which in all their supply of water to the boilers by inrine engineering, receive them and they are dispatched across the ocean for supplying fuel, and the feeding of with as little concern or uncertainty as if it were a ferry which was to be crossed. The docks on the Thames receive steamer load after steamer load of cattle for the supply of the great metropolis and of the country at large. It really seems as if, without modern improvements, the world would have o go unfed. It would be fairer to say that it is the concentration of population in such centers as London and New York which has made it necessary to provide food supply by such methods. Under the conditions of former days. in a society more in accord with Mr. Ruskin's ideas, we might find the cattle ranges dotted with little villages, and andon as yet not unified and consolidated, its constituent settlements still having independent existence. At present it is the other way, and there are in the west, deserted cities whose inhabitants were unable to resist the tendencies of the day. The cattle trade and food supply systems indicate the tendency of the world toward life in great centers of population. The deerted farms of New England, like the described cities of the west, tell the same story.

There is often a companionship in disease and its remedy. Cities grow large, and dwellers in the suburbs identify themselves with the metropolis. For their benefit special rapid transit methods are developed. It is a very few years since the horse car was welcomed by the American city as an improvehopes that it might lead to the construc- ment on the old rattling omnibus. The writer recollects the day when there were many omnibus lines in New York. and when the horse railroads of Philadelphia were an object of pride and rejoicing. Now all is changed. The

pressed air steam and electric motors. transit within city limits is done by central station methods. The city resident who desires to see the finest example of steam engineering has but to visit the power plant of his municipal railroad. The maintenance day after day and month after month of the great cable roads of New York and other cities is a wonderful triumph of endelicate fruits of California, and the these factors in what we have alluded vegetables of the west familiar to the to as the work remedial of the ills of dents of the most distant cities. The modern centralization. From the cenvegetable, and the feats of the Romans in all directions through the suburbs from the grain than was done by the they become centers of work and not

THE UNDERGROUND TROLLEY. The trolley line with single overhead wire and rail and ground return is not a satisfactory thing. Much damage has been done by escape, or rather branching, of current from its rails. The underground trolley has been in use on a couple of roads, one in Ireland and one in Hungary, but only recently has it been introduced into America. cities of Washington and New York have excellent examples of it. As it avoids the unsightly aerial wires, with attendant dangers, and as the underground system has two insulated conductors, avoiding destruction of pipes by electrolysis, the best wishes of civic engineers should be extended to it.

We have already alluded to cold storage. Another domestic use to which the science of the day has been devoted is the production of ice. Ice formerly was harvested entirely from natural sources. Now it is made artificially in great quantities, and every first-class ocean steamer or large steam yacht can make its own ice and cool its own refrigerators. In southern regions this art makes itself most directly felt, for Florida need no longer import ice from Maine. It can be made by machinery in quantities required for daily con-

The business man and the litterateur, even the newspaper reader, share in turn and turn ad infinitum. the advance. Quick processes of illustration have changed the daily journal into an illustrated publication, and color printing is used in it. as well as of the chair. The committee have not for works of the highest art.

The typewriter, a product really of perfect revolution in the old-time secretary's art. There is no longer the striving after a legible hand of definite style, but the even work of the typewriter makes the handwriting of the secretary a thing of no importance. The close juxtaposition with that of the printer, and, following out the analogy, we find the modern printer in ession of machines for composing. TYPE-SETTING MACHINES.

It has long been a dream with inventors to do away with the hand composition. Early in the fifties William Mitchell's type-setting and distributing machines were experimented with at the Trow printing office, in New York city, and were used for some years Other inventors attacked the problem in other ways; some devoted their efforts to the production of a mairix, by means of which a stereotype or electrotype could be produced. At last the idea of a matrix-setting in highly ingenious machine was invent-Linotype machine (which might more means of a key-board, individual letter molds or matrices. For justifica-

tion, wedge-shaped spaces or quads

were used. These were inserted between

vords, and when the line was nearly a word was reached, the line was completed by thrusting in the wedges. This preceding machines-the machine did ts own justification. When a line of done, and a "slug" of one complete printer's work is now done on machines problem of four centuries' standing. A very important line of work is in the field of the gas and oil explosion the field of the gas and oil explosion vast subject "Dafydd Morganwg." engines. In these we have a long range "Tafolog," and "Pedrog" have been reof temperature change acting to reduce the low economy due to the sectube, flame or electric spark igniter, all. Ericsson, Roper, and others have coin college, and Dyfed. done well in a parallel line of work with hot air engines, and the entire subject of displacement of the steam engine is affected by them as well as by electric motors. These smaller motors, because they require so little plant, are now entering into the dally life of the individual. They are used in small machine shops, small boats are driven by them, and industrial conditions may yet be gravely modified by the possibility of economically pro-

ducing small units of power with small investment of capital. While this indicates the possibility of the division of industries into small units, we are confronted on the other hand by immense industrial settlements, the tendency of the day having prought about consolidation of interests. Thus we have the car shops of ground and employing 8,000 men, a veritable industrial army, beyond the image the study of Welsh dialects. This aginations of the past generation.

CYMRAEG Y CERRIG CALCH

"Universal Brotherhood" the Chair Subject in 1897.

THE NEWLY-PUBLISHED PRIZE LIST

The Programme is the Best, the Most Interes ing and Most Comprehensive that Has Ever Been Published Under the Aegis of the National Eisteddfod.

For the first time in its history Newport next pear will be the locale of the National Eisteddfod, and there is every reason to believe that the local committee and the town will rise equal to the occasion. The committee has already shown a large amount of public spirit in connection with the undertaking, in proof of which we may refer to the handsome amount which they have guaranteed. This has reached a figure considerably above three thousand pounds. But it is not only in regard to the financial aspect of the affair that the committee has shown itself abreast of the time. They have produced an excellent programme. more varied and comprehensive, probably, than any which has ever borne the imprimatur of the National Eis-In saying this, however, it must not be understood that one approves of each subject and regulation introduced in the programme. The subject for the chair ode is "Universal Brotherhood," for which a prize of £25. with a chair of the further value of £15 is offered. The theme is a capital one. and worthy of the best efforts of the Welsh muse, but there is nothing distinctively Welsh about it, and it might have been suggested by an elsteddfod committee in Timbuctoo or Wilkes-Barre. This remark, however, is not applicable to the subject of the heroic Here we have a thoroughly Ceitic subject, "Arthur of the Round Table"--around which the "awen" may

The prize offered in this instance is

equal to that on the awdl, a crown of

the value of £15 being offered instead

consulted their better judgment in regard to the adjudicators. Those apthe last twenty years, has effected a pointed on the awdl are "Dafydd Morganwg," "Tafolog," and "Pedrog."
"Dafydd Morganwg" knows everything ganwg." that is known about "cynghanedd" and the Twenty-four Metres (though, by the bye, Dafydd ab Ermwnd will not be sworn by at Newport), but it would typewriter brings the writer's art in be interesting to learn what may be his other qualifications for the post he has been requested to occupy at Newport. His confreres are two Nonconformists ("Dafydd" also is of that persuasion), and it so happens that they are of the same denomination This is unfortunate, and will give occasion to the enemy to blaspheme. On the heroic poem we have as adjudicators "Dyfed," "Ceulanydd," and "Elfed," three excellent men, only, as a matter of compliment, they might have been invited to adjudicate on the awdl. "Dwfed," in particular, has proved himself an "awdiwr" par excellence, and should be confined to his special branch of Welsh poetry, much in the same way as "Gwallter Machain" was in his day. Apparently, the Newport committee are largely composed of mercontradistinction to a type-setting ma-chine occurred, and a complicated and with Welsh bards that the chair ode is schools and classes in Wales; botany, not to exceed 600 lines, and the heroic geology, natural history, wook binding, machine, the Mergenthaler, so called ulation, we take it, is a silent testimony to the literary value of "cyngproperly be written Lineotype), set, by hanedd," Other subjects in the department of poetry are a libretto on the "Court of Ivor Hael"-a well-deserved compliment to Lord Tredegar, the biggest guarantor on the list; a "cywydd" on "Electricity," and a catena of stanfilled and a syllabic division or end of | zas which is to reach "From Holyhead to Monmouthshire." There are also a series of verses on "The Banks of the accomplished the missing function of Usk" and a drama on the "Massacre preceding machines—the machine did of Abergavenny." By the bye, the committee should proffer some explanmolds were set up the casting of metal ation, for it is not perfectly clear against their faces was automatically whether this "massacre" refers to some done, and a "slug" of one complete eisteddfodic disaster. There are the line of text resulted. Quantities of usual minor competitions, such as a "hir a thoddaid," an elegy (to the late of this class. It marks the solution of Lord Aberdare), a "tuchangerdd," or a satirical poem on "Football Worship." and the regulation "engive," on which

quested to adjudicate. One of the most useful competitions ond law of thermodynamics. These ma-chines are now made without ignition is a "Collection of the Poems of Tudur Aled, with Critical and Historical and, as they operate without boiler and Notes," for which the really handsome require scarcely any attention, they go prize of £50 is offered. In this case the far to bring power within the use of adjudicators are O. M. Edwards, of Lin-

In the domain of translation there is nothing which calls for special prizes, there being only two paltry prizes of 65 each offered for a rendering of "Yr Enaid," by Islwyn, and of "Herve Riel," by Browing.

In regard to prose, the committee have shown themselves more enterprising than any since the Cardiff eisteddfod, 1883, and have offered a prize of £100 for an original unpublished work of permanent value to Welsh literature, either on any period of Welsh history previous to the year 1300 having special reference to the social life and organization of the people, and dealing with Wales either as a whole or any particular province of it, or on Welsh poetry of the current century, or on the Welsh people-past, present and future. The subject is really an excellent one, and should invite some of the best Pullman, Ill., supporting a city. We men of the day into the arena. A very ee the great Carnegie Iron works, at useful prize, also, is that offered for an Homestead, Pa., covering 110 acres of account of the Welsh dialects of Gwent

and the adjudicators are Judge Gwilym but one fails to see what are the special merits of Mr. Darlington. He is not a native of Gwent or Morganwg. and, so far as one's knowledge goes, h has not made a special study of the dialects which prevail in those localities. Prizes are also offered for "A and a "Dictionary of Welsh Names of Rivers and Places," including .. elsh

field names in Monmouthshire. The adjudicators are Colonel Bradney, a man of wide local knowledge. and Mr. Ernest Rhys. There are two other subjects which are likely to provoke keen competition. They are "The Mystery and Miracle Plays of Wales," for which a prize of f10 is offered, and an essay on the medicinal springs of

knitting, embroidery, needlework and domestic arts. Altogether, the programme is the most interesting and most comprehensive, probably, which has ever been published under the aegis of the national eisteddfod.

Mr. Arthur Morris, son of Sir Lewis Morris, has just, after a sever examina-tion, both in theory and practice, won a cholarship in naval instruction at the Royal Naval college at Greenwich. It will be remembered that of his ancestor, Lewis Morris (Liewelyn Ddu o Fon) it was said "that he could build a boat and sail it. modern side of Westminster school.

Whatever may be the future of the tinplate trade Llanelly will ive in history. The Ffestiniog Elstedfold committee are already contemplating following the example set by the tinopolis and utilizing th isteddfod as the means of securing for the slateopolis a permanent covered building, which may be utilized for all public purposes from a horse show to a market hall—or a Methodist sassiwn!

Now there is in one part of the Land of Morgan a place that was known among men as the habitation of the sweet singfor they that dwelt therein had se cured shekels of gold, because in that they did sing better than them that dwelt in the land of Philistines. And because the people had done this thing many times it ome to pass that there arose among them 'Let me be your leader in the next battle and we shall surely win more shekels." and we shall surely win more sneeds.

And the people hearkened unto the leaders, joined with them, to the end that
their forces were divided and their power
was broken. And bitterness was enkindled between the leaders and them, so that new names were given to the armies of the people. And on of these armies was called —Builth! And the people who belonged not to the armies marvelled greatly at the Verily, there will be no place in the land while the people are thus divided among themselves." The chronicler who chronteles as above tells us to keep his notes and watch Dowlais!

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and the adjudicators are Judge Gwilym Williams and Mr. Darlington. So far as his knowledge of "Cymraeg y Cerig Calch" goes, Judge Gwilym Williams will perform his work satisfactorily. A Faithful Wife's Anxiety.

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to which a price of 10 is ordered, and an easy on the medicinal retrines of an easy on the medicinal retrines of an easy on the medicinal retrines of a construction of the proceed operation at the retrine of the proceed operation at the processive the width hangeage, and the action of an education in the artist and sciences, and a series of stories and sciences and scienc those pills; 'twill be back again, look out for the after effects.' But here are the after effects.' But here are the after effects,' said Mr. Underwood standing erect, the picture of health and weighing 165 pounds. "From the second day after getting the pills the change set in. I could sleep, the pills the change set in. I could sleep, my appetite came back, and before I had finished the third box of Dr. Williams' Pink

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