

AMERICA'S CAPITOL

IT WILL BE A HUNDRED YEARS OLD IN SEPTEMBER.

Story of the Grand Old Place—Burned Once by the British, It is Now Finer Than Ever—Its Centennial to be Celebrated.



THIS is an era of centennial celebrations and multiple-centennials, and the like, and next September, while the World's Fair Quadri-Centennial is still in full blast in Chicago, the United States Government will turn aside from its official labors for one day, according to the present arrangement, and commemorate in Washington the founding, a hundred years ago, of the American Capitol, of which

as having delivered an address "punctuated by fifteen salvos of a cannon from the Virginia Artillery," and then, after "solemn and beautiful prayer," succeeded by Masonic chanting and another salvo of artillery, the company retired to a booth, where an ox of 500 pounds weight was barbecued, of which they "generously partook, with every abundance of other recreation."

The duty of erecting suitable buildings at the permanent seat of government had been entrusted by Congress in Philadelphia to President Washington and three Commissioners selected by him. The first Board of Commissioners was composed of David Stewart, Daniel Carroll and Thomas Johnson, as named above on the silver plate, and the second, appointed 1795, of Gustavus Scott, William Thornton and Alexander White. The advertisement for designs for the Capitol stated that it was to be of brick, with a conference room and a room for the Representatives, each to accommodate 300 persons, with a lobby or anti-chamber, a Senate room of 1200 square feet area,

about ready in 1812, when the preparations for continuing the work were suddenly stopped by the war with Great Britain, and the work was resumed until the restoration of peace in 1815.

Then, too, had to be commenced the rebuilding of what the British had earnestly endeavored to destroy on August 24, 1814, after the "Bladensburg Races," as the battle at that place has been facetiously called, on account of the speed and agility displayed by the American troops in their retreat. The visitors had piled the rooms full of cordwood, desks and chairs and set fire to them after saturating the wood with inflammable materials. But, as Providence willed it, the most important parts of the Capitol escaped wholly uninjured.

The sandstone or freestone columns injured by the fire were replaced by pillars of beautiful conglomerate marble, obtained from the breccia beds in Frederick County, Md., and in Loudon County, Va., and other details were changed to give greater strength and durability to the structure. Stone

In 1855 Bulfinch's old brick and wooden dome—shaped like an inverted sugar bowl of homely pattern—was removed, and the materials for the new iron dome, the crowning glory of the Capitol to-day, were contracted for. The greater portion of the interior was finished in 1857. The House of Representatives first met in the new hall on December 16 of that year, and the Senate in the new Senate chamber on January 4, 1859. The remainder of both wings was completed in 1861.

Owing to the exigencies of the Civil War no appropriation was made for continuing the work on the new dome in 1862, but through the faith and patriotism of the contractors, who continued placing the iron castings upon the dome at their own expense and risk, the pound of the hammer upon the Capitol ceased not throughout the entire struggle, giving to the Union troops and visitors in Washington an assurance of the Government's belief in the successful outcome of the strife. The spherical portion of the dome was completed in 1863, and on December 2d of that year Crawford's colossal statue of Freedom was raised to crown it, and saluted with 455 guns from the forts surrounding Washington. In 1864 the eastern portion of the north wing was finished and the dome completed. In 1865 both wings with their beautiful six porticos, two magnificent entrances and four grand stairways, were substantially done. The interior of the dome, decorated by Signor Bramidi, of Rome, was also finished, and Architect Walter's task was declared at an end. He was succeeded by the present accomplished incumbent, Mr. Edward Clark, who supervised the construction of the beautiful white marble terraces on the western side from 1882 to their completion in 1891.

The old portion of the Capitol, completed in 1827, cost \$2,433,844. The whole building, up to date, cost \$11,455,000, including the terraces, which were built at an outlay of \$800,000. Counting in the art works within it, but leaving out of the calculation the furniture and also the grading and improvement of the grounds, the Capitol has cost in all \$16,000,000.—New York Recorder.

A Traveling Gown.

A New York belle who will travel this summer with a party of friends has one costume which is "wholly and intensely old Parisian," and is illustrated herewith. The stuff is a rough red wool, very soft and fine. The full skirt—not too full—has four bands of heavy black silk braid gimp woven and extremely lustrous. They are in graduated widths—and a truly novel touch is given by putting the narrowest of them at the bottom, the widest on top. The same style prevails in the trimming of the double pelerine falling over the shoulders. The waist is also finished with a row of braid. A hat of reddish brown—straw trimmed with three Alsatian bows—one gray, one green, one the color of the gown itself, was sent home with the frock—and, along with a pair of glass gloves in six button length of the same red-brown shade, completes a traveling costume which hits the golden mean between tailor-made severity and over ornamentation.

That same fortunate young woman owns one of the adorable new traveling cloaks in pale tan box cloth, made with a deep detachable cape that is lined with silk, whose soft plaids repeat all the colors of her costume. Of course, it is worn only in stress of weather—as when, for example, the winds of Lake Michigan visit her too roughly; before the party goes on later to Alaska, when she stands in one of its mountain meadows, breast high, with flowers, though snow lies white and thick in the shade and still hoods in white the everlasting hills. For wear in New Mexico, whither also the party will

Edward Snyder, aged 19, of Hopewell, Bedford county, was shot by his half brother, Austin Ford. The ball, a 32 caliber, entered Snyder's head and lodged in the brain. He will die. The young men were toying with a revolver when the accident occurred.

John Wagner, yardforeman of the Phoenix Iron Works, Meadville, while making repairs was caught by a retreating shaft and battered out of resemblance to human form against a brick wall. He leaves a wife and nine children.

Since the marriage license law went into effect over 1,300 licenses have been issued in Elk county, which has only 25,000 inhabitants, and only about 1,100 in Jefferson county, which has a population of over 43,000.

Well-informed woolgrowers in Washington and Greene counties say wool will come down to 18 cents this summer. It is now selling at 20, although many farmers kick on the price, holding it will go up.

G. W. Keppert, of Altoona, is the owner of a leghorn hen that laid an egg of the following dimensions: Round the length 74 inches, round larger end 63 and weighs 34 ounces.

Lightning struck a telegraph wire, and running into the Western Union office at New Castle exploded a large quantity of fireworks stored there and set fire to the building.

Barlow Nye, aged 45, of Courtney, ran a nail in his foot three weeks ago. No attention was paid to the wound and blood poisoning set in, from which Nye is dying.

Michael Bonnell, postmaster at Jersey Mills, Lycoming county, has the star nose bush. It covers one side of his nose, and contains 3,000 roses.

There are 150 towns in Pennsylvania equipped with electric lights, this state leading all others in that direction.

The 4-year-old daughter of Mrs. Mary Rogers, of Beaver Falls, was killed by a wagon running over her.

George Greller, a brakeman, was killed near West Newton, by getting his foot caught in a frog.

Carlisle and Chambersburg are both hustling for the new soldiers' orphans' industrial home.

There will be a few apples in Warren county this year, but plenty of potatoes.

KEYSTONE STATE CULLINGS.

PENNSYLVANIA BANKS

SUPERINTENDENT KRUMHABER'S FIGURES SHOW A HEALTHY CONDITION.
HARRISBURG—Superintendent Krumhobar of the State Banking department has received his quarterly reports from all the banks, trust companies, savings and other financial institutions of the State, which show that there is no grounds for reports that the people's money is being drawn from the banks. The sworn returns for June 7, as compared with those of March 4 show a decrease of the cash in hand of \$2,538,314.00, but the increase of loans, has been \$6,370,929.90, and the increase of deposits \$2,493,011.97. These figures do not indicate the lamentable condition of the money market which has been so generally discussed.

KILLED BY HIS BROTHER.

WHILE PLAYING BUFFALO BILL, A REAL TRAGEDY IS ENACTED.
PHILADELPHIA—Henry Butler, aged 13 years, was shot and killed by his 16 year old brother, Willie. The lads were playing Buffalo Bill and the eldest boy manipulated the fire arms, while the youngest threw the lariat. Willie had a toy pistol in one hand and a genuine shooting iron in the other. He held them aloft in cowboy style while he pranced around on an imaginary bronco. Willie afterward explained that he meant to pull the trigger of the toy pistol, but unconsciously pulled that of the real gun. The ball entered the brother's eye and passed through his head and across the yard into the sleeve of the father, who was standing by.

A GLASS EYE EXPLODES.

THE PECULIAR ACCIDENT THAT BEFELL A FORTY-TWO YEAR OLD MAN'S OPTIC.
PHILADELPHIA—For several years William Brosius, of Pottstown, has worn a glass eye. One of his natural eyes had been destroyed while he was employed in the bridge works. The other evening as he was walking along the streets the artificial eye exploded from no apparent cause. The sharp edge of the broken glass cut the socket about the eye, causing a severe hemorrhage.

KILLED BY LIGHTNING.

LANCASTER.—During a heavy storm Charles McKinley was instantly killed by lightning and William Rhule fatally injured. They took refuge under a tree from the storm. The tree was knocked to pieces and one of Rhule's shoes was torn from his feet.

COWS MUST KEEP OFF THE STREET.

BELLEFOSTE.—By a 5 to 1 vote the Council passed an ordinance to keep the cows off the streets. This measure has been before every council for the past ten years and a often defeated.

In Somerset county, alone, bounty from the government will be claimed on 451,000 pounds of maple sugar, the bounty amounting to about \$10,000. As not more than one-third of the producers in the county availed themselves of the bounty law, some idea of the amount of sugar produced in Somerset may be had.

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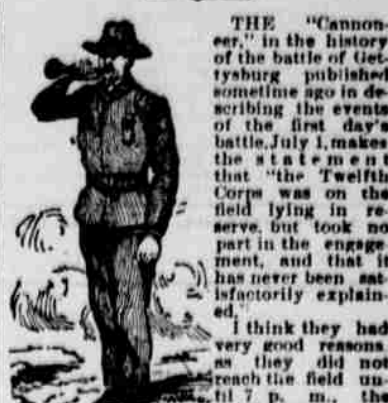
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SOLDIERS' COLUMN

THE TWELFTH CORPS.

The Part They Took in the Big Battle of Gettysburg.



THE "Cannoner," in the history of the battle of Gettysburg published sometime ago in describing the events of the first day's battle, July 1, makes the statement that "the Twelfth Corps was on the field lying in reserve, but it took no part in the engagement, and that it has never been satisfactorily explained."

I think they had very good reasons, as they did not reach the field until 7 p. m., the fighting on the first day being ended before we arrived, at least, this was the case with the Second Division. If either the First or Third Divisions were there I would like to hear from them, as I do not believe any part of the corps reached the field until night.

He also asserts that there was very little fighting done on Culp's Hill on the third day, except in the morning while we were recovering our breastworks that we left in the night when we went to reinforce Gen. Sickles. Now, the men of the Twelfth Corps know that this is not a fact, as there was heavy firing kept up until after Pickett made his famous charge. Their front line was not more than eight rods in front of our works, where they were somewhat protected by trees and large boulders. If it was merely a feint to cover Pickett's charge, it was pressed with vigor, as some were killed just over our breastworks.

About the time Pickett was getting ready for his charge, we noticed a white flag flying from the front of the enemy's line, we called to them to throw down their arms and come up over the works.

The firing being suspended, 78 rebels came forward and surrendered, including six officers. Lett, Leigh, of Ewell's staff, came up to endeavor to stop the surrender, but was fired upon, and he and his horse were instantly killed. Those that surrendered were part of the 4th Va., if my memory serves me right, and they said they belonged to the "Stone-wall" Brigade. We had charged them at Winchester on the 31st of March, 1862, as they lay behind a stone wall. In two hours we had them routed, but night coming on put an end to further pursuit for the day. We had faced them at Fort Republic, where we got the worst end of the bargain, also at Gettysburg.

The first time we had ever fought behind breastworks was at Gettysburg, and we paid them back with good interest for what we had received at the two former places.

One of the prisoners said he had been in many hard fought battles, but it was the most destructive of any they had taken part in. On the morning of July 4 one of our men leaped over the breastworks and went down where Lieut. Leigh had been killed the day before, and got his sword, watch and diary. I do not know what was done with them, but suppose they were turned over to head quarters.

We were ordered out on a reconnaissance, and passed over the dead bodies of rebels in our front. They were this time were lying down as far as Rock Creek. They had turned back during the night. It would be a sad sight to see at this late day; but we were younger then, and did not realize that many a mother would shed tears over a fallen boy that might have been a support and solace in her declining years.

We continued our march across Rock Creek in a north westerly direction, but failed to find a rebel, and returned to our former position. The battle was over, Harrisburg and Philadelphia were safe, and we were soon to retrace our steps to the Rapidan—G. D. BATTLES in National Tribune.

THE SAUNDERS RAID.

Nice Work Done on a Flying Trip Into East Tennessee.

With your permission I will give the organization of the Saunders raid made in June, 1863, into East Tennessee for the purpose of destroying the East Tennessee and Georgia Railroad, which is as follows: The 1st Tenn., as a regiment, a detachment of 200 men with officers from the 112th Ill., the same from the 44th Ohio, all mounted for the occasion; a detachment of 200 men and officers of the 2nd Ohio Cav., 150 men and six officers from the 7th Ohio Cav., 95 men and three officers from the 1st Ky. Cav., and one section of artillery from Battery D, 1st Ohio L. A.

The orders received by the regimental commanders were that 10 days before starting were that the details were to be made of picked men and horses, regardless as to who claimed the horses, and the officers to be selected, and all were to be kept off of duty of any kind for 10 days for recuperation.

We crossed the Cumberland River June 15, 1863, captured a supply train, and 130 prisoners at Wartsburg. We captured a battery complete with horses and harness and 130 prisoners at Lenoir's, on the railroad 18 miles west of Knoxville; burned the station and a wood mill. Then we began our work of destruction of the railroad, and reached Knoxville at dark and exchanged a few shots at College Hill, and left and went over a hill to the northeast of the city, and lay in the woods till daylight when our artillery fired three shots. The first blew up a caisson; the second dismounted a gun; the third killed a Capt. McClung and three other men.

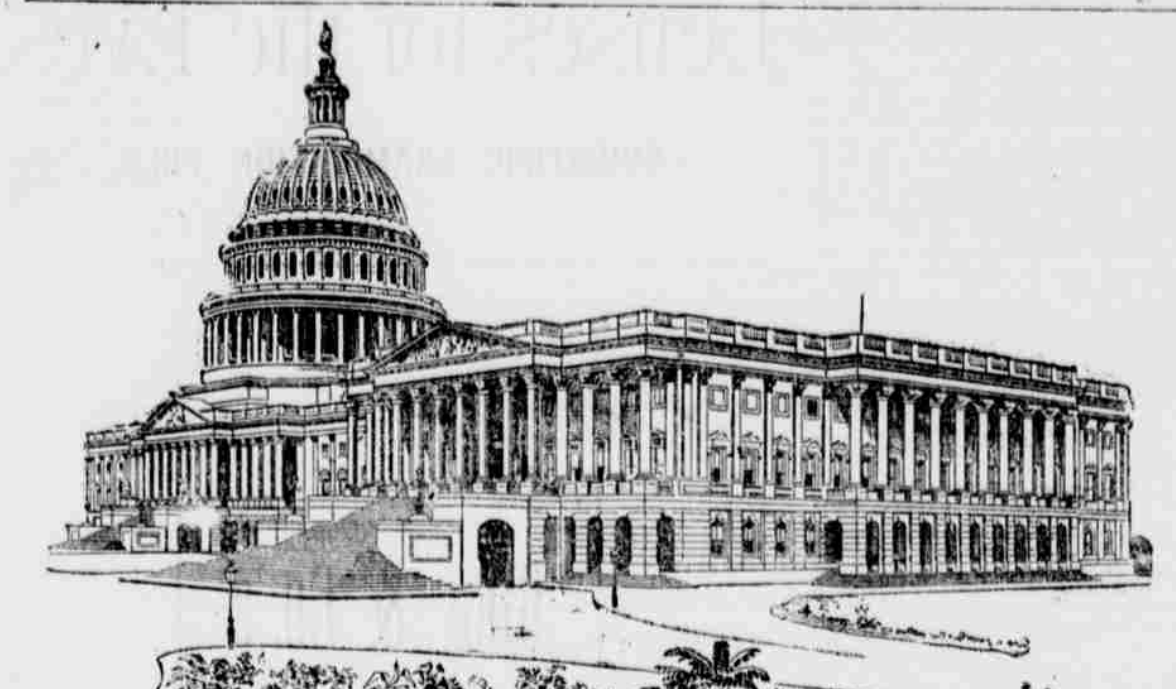
Now we drew off over the ridge and struck the railroad east of this city, and began our work of destroying the track, heating and twisting the rails and bending them around trees, burning bridges and trestle works, reaching Strawberry Plains before night, 20 miles east of Knoxville, where we captured another battery complete, with 100 prisoners.

The next morning we continued our work of destruction, burning wagon-road bridges as well as railroad, on through New Market and on to Mosby Creek, where we burned a Confederate machine-shop and depot, and store-houses filled with provisions and munitions of war.

By this time the Johnnies were harassing our rear and "Mudwall" Jackson was approaching our front. As we had already destroyed 60 miles of railroad, and burned 3,000 feet of bridge and trestle work, we then struck north for Cumberland Gap. Near the Gap, and on the Knoxville road we captured another supply train and 30 prisoners. The Gap was too strongly guarded for us, and we burned the train and paroled the prisoners, as we had done on all previous occasions.

We now headed for Big Creek Gap, which was found too strongly guarded for us, when we headed off for Childer's Gap, which was guarded by a cavalry command which was soon brushed out of the way, and we crossed over the valley and into the mountains. We spiked our guns and cut the wheels down in front of Big Creek Gap. We crossed the Cumberland River July 1 and joined our commands about the 4th, with the loss of 35 men out of a whole number of 1,500 officers and men.—R. C. RANKIN in National Tribune.

MISS FUZZLE—"I want to break my engagement with Mr. Sappie, but I don't know how to do it without driving the poor fellow to suicide." Little Brother—"Why don't you let him see you in civil harness?"



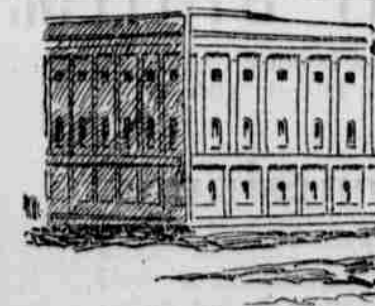
THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL AS IT IS TO-DAY.

President George Washington laid the corner stone on September 18, 1793.

This founding of the Capitol—the physical nucleus of the Government—was in a great measure the founding of the city of Washington and the permanent establishment of the Republic. The grand building itself, moreover, one of the most impressive and imposing public edifices in the world, has come to be regarded as a National heritage, replete with rich historic associations and memories, in which every American citizen has an interest. Hence the coming celebration of the beginning of that magnificent old pile is likely to prove an event of exceptional interest.

The exercises so far as they have been agreed upon, are to include a parade, participated in by the President and his Cabinet, the Senate and House of Representatives, the Supreme Court, Masonic orders, societies and civic organizations and detachments of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps, historical representations and spectacular displays, an opening address by President Cleveland from a stand erected at the east front of the Capitol, near the southeast corner of the old north wing, followed by other orations concerning the laying of the original corner-stone, the history of the construction of the Capitol, its cost and important events that occurred within it, and their effect; a balloon ascension, music, grand illuminations, fireworks, etc.

When the original corner-stone was laid, a century ago, the country around Washington was a practically unbroken wilderness, and the act was performed and witnessed by a small assemblage of people—few, indeed, in number, but strong of faith in the future greatness of the American Republic. George Washington, as Grand Master of Virginia Lodge 22, of Masons, not less than as President of the United States, was the leading spirit of the occasion. The procession, under command of Clotworthy Stephenson, marched "two abreast in the greatest solemn dignity, with colors flying, music playing, drums beating and spectators rejoicing" from the "President's Square"—now Washington Circle—to the site of the Capitol. After this usual Masonic cere-



THE CAPITOL AFTER THE BRITISH BURNED IT IN 1814.

monies, the President deposited in the corner stone a large silver plate bearing this inscription:

"This Southeast Corner-stone of the Capitol of the United States of America in the City of Washington was laid on the 18th day of September in the year 1793, in the thirtieth of American Independence, in the first year of the second term of the Presidency of George Washington, whose virtues in the civil administration of his country have been as conspicuous and beneficial as his military valor and prudence have been useful in establishing her liberties, in the year of Masonry 5793, by the Grand Lodge of Maryland, several lodges under his jurisdiction, and Lodge No. 22, of Virginia, from Alexandria, Thomas Johnson, David Stewart, Daniel Carroll, Commissioners; James Hoban, Stephen Hallette, Architects; Joseph Clark, P. W. G. M.—P. T.; Colleen Williamson, M. Mason." Clotworthy Stephenson is reported

a lobby and twelve rooms of 600 square feet each for committees and clerks' offices.

Many designs were discussed and rejected, but on April 5, 1793, President Washington gave his formal approval to plan submitted by William Thornton, of Philadelphia, one of the Commissioners, because "grandeur, simplicity and distinctness were combined" in it. Accordingly to Thornton was awarded the first premium—a building lot in the new Federal city and 3500 in money. But Stephen Hallette, also of Philadelphia, who was awarded the second prize for the next best plan, received the same, instead of merely \$250, as was offered, and thus was placed on an equal footing with Thornton.



THE CAPITOL IN 1827.

Thornton was not an architect. His design was an ideal sketch, very pleasing to the eye, rather than a practicable plan, and was unaccompanied by any drawings or elevations or sections. A board of consulting architects decided that there were six valid, material and insurmountable objections to it. Hallette was thereupon directed by Jefferson, then Secretary of State, to alter Thornton's plan. Thus the two designers, Thornton and Hallette, must be credited about equally with the honor of drafting the plans for the American Capitol, although after all, owing to still further modifications, subsequently made, the finally accepted plan, to quote the words of Washington, was "nobody's, but a compound of everybody's." Hallette,



THE CAPITOL AFTER THE BRITISH BURNED IT IN 1814.

however, was appointed to the official post of Architect of the Capitol.

In July, 1795, the foundations of the north and south wings were begun, and the walls of the north wing were raised in March, 1797, to within ten feet of their intended height, and in 1800 the present Supreme Court room and Law Library room below were fitted up for the reception of the Senate and House, respectively.

The old south wing walls were begun in 1803. Bricks for the interior walls were made upon the ground. After eight years of energetic labor both the old north and south wings were finished in 1811. The plans for the rotunda and central section were

and iron were substituted wherever possible for wood and brick.

Charles Bulfinch, of Boston, who served as architect from 1817 to 1830, laid the foundation of the centre building on March 24, 1818, finished both the wings, completed the rotunda and dome, and, in fact, perfected the whole building. It remained unchanged as he finished it in 1827, save for minor repairs from time to time, until 1851. The first public record of a proposition to extend the Capitol by means of new north and south wings is found in a letter of the late Jefferson Davis, then a member of the Senate Committee on Public Buildings, addressed to Robert Mills, the artist and architect, dated April 3, 1850. In answer to this Mills favored the pro-



THE CAPITOL IN 1827.

posed extension and submitted designs for new wings and a new dome. Later in the same year Congress ordered the extension to be added, and at the beginning of 1851 Thomas U. Walter, of Philadelphia, was chosen by President Fillmore as the architect to control the work. The extensions contemplated an addition of 187 feet at each end of the old building, with hexastyle porticos on each wing.

Work was at once begun on the foundations, and the corner-stone of the new south wing was laid by President Fillmore on July 1, 1851, nearly fifty-eight years after the laying of the original corner-stone. Architect Walter deposited in the corner-stone a sealed jar containing parchments and coins, newspapers of the day and a manuscript written in the autograph of Daniel Webster, containing these words:

"It shall be hereafter the will of God that this structure shall fall from its base, that its foundation be upturned and this deposit brought to the eyes of men, be it then known that on this day the Union of the United States of America stands firm, that their Constitution still exists unimpaired and with all its original usefulness and glory, growing every day stronger and stronger in the affection of the great body of the American people, and attracting more and more the admiration of the world. And all here assembled, whether belonging to public life or to private life, with hearts devoutly thankful to Almighty God for the preservation of the liberty and happiness of the country, unite in sincere and fervent prayers that this deposit and the walls and arches, the domes and towers, the columns and entablatures now to be erected over it, may endure forever. God save the United States of America. Daniel Webster, Secretary of State of the United States."

Webster was the orator of the day, and his address, requiring two hours for its delivery, was one of his most masterly efforts.

Before the close of the year 1851, the foundations of both wings were laid to a depth of from fifteen to forty feet, and the basement stories were finished. In December the western front of the center or old building, containing the Library of Congress, was accidentally destroyed by fire, but this was promptly restored the next year in connection with the new work.



SWAGGER TRAVELING GOWN.

journey, there are all sorts of blouses to replace the stiff waists when the hot winds blow and the grasshopper becomes a burden. They are of silk and light weight serge, even softer and more uncrushable. They have full soft fronts and very deep cuffs as well as turned down collars. And for the big cities in between, where my lady has already all sorts of social obligations, there are gowns galore, each worth half a column of description. One blue silk has an immensely full skirt, perfectly plain, with a bodice of blue cloth, richly embroidered with emeralds. The belt is of emerald velvet ribbon. It fastens with a buckle of old Wedgwood ware set in a thin rim of gold. It is as big as your palm, and two long ends fall from it almost to the edge of the skirt.

Seventy millions of people in Europe, it is said, wear wooden shoes.