

Greatest "Zoo" in the World.

At last New York is to have a zoological garden in keeping with her position among the great cities of the world. It will be the largest and most complete in existence. The vaunted gardens of the European capitals will pale into insignificance by comparison. The final plans, says the New York Herald, have been submitted to the Park Board by Professor Henry F. Osborn, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the New York Zoological Society, and as soon as the necessary preliminary arrangements have been made the active work will begin.

After eight months of careful study of the adopted site in Bronx Park, and after a systematic examination of the large European zoological gardens, Director William T. Hornady submitted to the Zoological Society a preliminary plan for the development of the garden, which was reproduced in the Herald at the time. This plan was approved by the Executive Committee, whose Chairman has been one of the most active promoters of the zoological garden scheme, on a broad scale, and the final plan, now matured, is merely a careful elaboration of Mr. Hornady's first scheme. The design of the central glade, formed by the six larger buildings, is the work of Hein & La Farge, architects, and for the rest of the plan Director Hornady and Charles N. Lowrie, landscape architect, are responsible.

A space of fifty by 250 feet in extent, adjoining the house. This space, which will be reached by an overhead bridge, so as to allow all spectators to freely pass between it and the cage, will be enclosed by a high fence of wire netting, terminating at the top with an inwardly curved projection of metal, which will prevent the nimble climbers from getting outside.

The monkeys will have practically no restrictions on their natural propensities, for this bridge and extended tree covered play-ground will enable them to graduate from the restricted kindergarten cage to the higher branches that will offer full scope to their greatest possibilities. Here they can hide in the underbrush, scamper over rocks, ascend the trees, leap from limb to limb, sport amid the foliage and even form the monkey span of life by joining claws to feet and tail in one long chain of apish links, and so swing from a projecting branch to a tree beyond, over an intervening stream, as travelers say they do in their native wilds.

Nor will the larger beasts be unduly restricted. The elephants will have attached to their imposing home, measuring 78 by 144 feet, eight paved yards, each 100 by 156 feet, and in these yards, besides a swimming tank, will be great trees, in the shade of which the animals can stand as in the jungles of Asia and Africa.

The lion will be in equally great

CHAMBERMAIDS WITH MUSTACHES.

A Remarkable Feature of Hotel Life in Cairo, Egypt.

Although the two gentlemen from Cairo here portrayed look like Oriental dignitaries or high priests they are really Egyptian chambermaids. They are a remarkable feature of hotel life in Cairo.



TWO QUEER CHAMBERMAIDS.

The first time one needs a chambermaid in the latter place and finds the call answered by a coal black man six feet four inches high, in high cap and narrow white gown, one is surprised

Children's Column



Bobby's Three-Inch Smile.

Sister measured my grin one day; Took the ruler and me. Counted the inches all the way— One and two and three. "Oh you're a Cheshire cat," said she. "Father said, 'That's no sin.' Then he nodded and smiled at me— Smiled at my three-inch grin. Brother suggested I ought to begin Trying to trim it down. Mother said, "Better a three-inch grin Than a little half-inch frown." —Boston Traveler.

After the North Pole.

If the North Pole is not discovered in 1898 it will not be because brave explorers have ceased to be interested in it. Some time ago we told you about Lieutenant Peary's proposed expedition, how he will establish two or three Eskimo stations in the far north which will be in the nature of stepping stones to the pole. From the last one he will make a dash with a sledge and dogs and only one or two companions, and he hopes to discover the pole and get safely back to his last station during the summer. But Peary is not the only man who will seek the "farthest north." Captain Sverdrup, who commanded Nansen's famous ship, the Fram, in the recent expedition, will sail away in 1898 with sixteen men and several hundred sledge dogs. He will get as far north as he can in the ship and then try to cross the vast stretches of ice on sleds. The Norwegian government has furnished the money for fitting the ship, and Captain Sverdrup feels sure that he can reach the pole. —Chicago Record.

Saved His Life by a Jest.

Amelia Wofford tells of "The Court Jesters of England" in St. Nicholas. The author says of one of them: Archie Armstrong was the beloved jester of King James VI of Scotland, afterwards James I of England, and this is the traditional story of their introduction: "One day a shepherd with the carcass of a sheep upon his shoulders was tracked to his cottage on the moorlands by the officers of justice. In the cottage they found a vacant-faced lad, rocking a cradle with more attention than a boy is accustomed to give that duty; this, however, did not arouse their suspicions. They searched the cottage thoroughly, but failed to discover the sheep. They were about to depart, when one of their number accidentally looked into the cradle, and—the stolen sheep lay there! The lad, who was supposed to be the thief, was brought before King James VI of Scotland. He was tried, convicted, and sentenced to die. He began to plead with the king. He was a poor, ignorant fellow, he said; he had heard of the Bible and would like to read it through before he died. Would the king respite him until he did so. The king readily gave his consent, whereupon the culprit immediately said: "Then hang me if I ever read a word o't, as lang as my een are open."

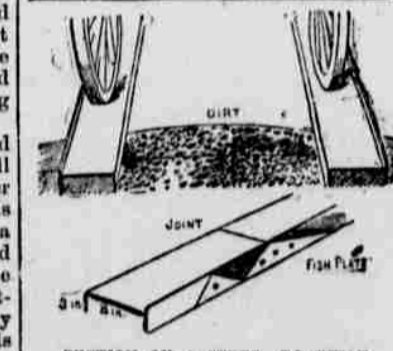
Carberry's Christmas.

Last Christmas there was a great surprise in the little town of Carberry. For years and years—ever since the boys and girls could remember—there had been a public celebration in the town hall, with a huge Christmas tree lighted from top to bottom with candles and bright with all sorts of presents for the boys and girls of the village. Usually old Captain Conklin in his big buffalo overcoat, which was buckled tight with a string of sleigh bells, acted as Santa Claus and kept everyone laughing and expectant as he passed out the gifts, reading off the names one by one in a big, hearty voice. But last year it was all different, so different, indeed, that Carberry is going to try the same kind of celebration again this winter. And it was quite unique enough to furnish ideas for any of our inventive boys and girls who wish to get up something new and striking for this year's Christmas entertainment. You see old Captain Conklin was taken sick early in the winter and had to go south, and a Christmas tree without Santa Claus would have been no celebration at all. So the principal of the Carberry school and some of the older pupils got together and discussed the situation. As a result they were appointed a committee on arrangements for the celebration, it being understood that they were to have the entire work of decorating the hall and of arranging the presents. From that time on a dense cloud of secrecy hung over the school. The teacher and his little band of helpers—which included about a dozen of the older boys and girls—held a meeting early every night at which the details of the great plan were discussed. By day they all went around with wise glances at one another and frequent mysterious conversations, until the younger folk of the town were all but wild with curiosity. It was also the

STEEL ROADWAYS A SUCCESS.

The idea of building tracks for trucks takes practical shape.

For the first time there has been carried into practical operation a plan for the improvement of public roads that has heretofore been regarded merely as an interesting theory that would never rise to the region of fact. The plan is to lay steel tracks along our roads so that the wheels of wagons



SECTION OF A STEEL ROADWAY.

may run on a smooth surface instead of on the rough and soggy path over which for a great part of the year horses are compelled to flounder dragging heavy loads. The results of experiments by two prominent engineers are here given. One series of experiments, made by Mr. Abel Bliss, of New Lenox, Ill., is particularly interesting, as will be seen from the following statement of Mr. Bliss: "I have laid about 169 feet of steel road in the public highway near my home at New Lenox, Ill. The road was first graded in proper shape. The rails are of steel, one-quarter of an inch thick, eight inches wide, wide a downward flange of three inches on either side and an upward flange of one inch on the outer edge to keep the wheels on. These rails were laid on the crown of the grade and pressed into the soil to the depth of the flange or until the soil supported the rail. The downward flange prevent the soil from being pressed away from the rail and hold it there, making a firm foundation, so that no ties are necessary on which to rest the rails. These rails are made continuous by the fastening of the ends together with fishplates.

"A mile of road requires about sixty tons of steel, which can be produced in quantities for \$1800 or less. One cubic yard of gravel is required to the rod."

In Texas little Miss Fite, of Moran, wants to pick cotton against little Miss Ward, of Meridan. Both are six years old, and they weigh forty-eight and forty-three pounds, respectively.

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED

MADMAN'S LEAP.

Jumps from a Train and is Out in Two Near Altoona.

Adam Pfeiffer, 60 years old, a German, thought to be insane, on his way to Hamburg, Germany, from Minnesota, caused excitement on the Atlantic express the other morning and ended by hurling himself from the train. Just before entering Pittsburg he wandered into the Pullman car, and drawing a pistol and a knife, threatened the life of one of the passengers. He was put out into the day coach, where he sank into a corner muttering. Outside of Pittsburg he refused to give up his tickets, and the conductor and brakemen had to take them by force. His fatal plunge from a car window was made at Mineral Point. No one saw him start, but the crash of the glass as he jumped through startled all. The body, when found, was cut in two, showing that Pfeiffer must have been run over after his leap. The body was brought to Altoona.

The following Pennsylvania pensions have been granted: John H. Noel, Irwin, \$5; William H. Eisman, Adamsburg, \$6; John C. Frederick, Tyrone, \$5; John Barner, Larimer, \$8; William P. Briner, Pleasant Unity, \$8; John F. Gushard, Millintown, \$12; David W. Gilmore, Enon Valley, \$6; David R. Mumme, Laidig, \$8; Isaac M. Johnson, Mead, \$12; Albert S. Cobb, Tioga, \$6; Peter Christie, Emporium, \$8; Allen Lowe, Big Shanty, \$8; Peter A. Gaulle, Clearfield, \$9 to \$24; Thomas C. Reynolds, Hayfield, \$10 to \$17; W. H. H. Carrigan, Orbisonia, \$6 to \$10; Francis Howard, Meadville, \$6 to \$10; Henry C. Lehan, Hyndman, Bedford, \$6; Joseph Zimmerman, Tyrone, \$8; Lucy M. Adams (mother), Towanda, \$12; Bell M. Johnson, Allegheny, \$8; Sarah E. Foreman, Oil City, \$8; William J. Welsh, Knox, \$8; Robert M. McCulloch, Canonsburg, \$12; Thomas Voss, Hollenbeck, \$10; William H. Smith, Everett, \$6; Frank Cahill, Allegheny, \$6; Abram Toms, Allegheny, \$8; Edward Loudermill, Pittsburg, \$6; Valentine Bowser (deceased), Blue Knob, \$12; Joseph Sprick, Meadville, \$4 to \$8; William A. Herrick, McKean, \$10 to \$14; Ira F. Davis, Jullian, \$8 to \$8; John Ben Morse, New Castle, \$10; Henry Pierce, Torpedo, \$12; minor of Thomas J. Crago, Carmichael, \$10; Sarah E. Bruner, Manns Choice, \$8; Catharine Bowser, Blue Knob, \$8; Belinda M. Fulmer, Belle Vernon, \$8; Matilda Brent, Somerset, \$8; Isaac M. Egester, Pittsburg, \$10; Ernest O. Geyer, Solomons, Verdy, Sunbury; John Sole, Braddock, \$6 each; John T. Criswell, Bellwood, \$14 to \$17; James C. Weakley, Grove City, \$14 to \$17; Catharine Upham, Neath, Bradford, \$8; Catharine Currie, Irvine, \$8; Mary McKee, Altoona, \$8; Mary C. Depugh, Uniontown, \$12.

F. D. Freebie, a prominent citizen of Latrobe, has discovered an ancient will, through which, it is believed, he can acquire a vast amount of money. The faded document was found in an old German Bible in his garage. It was the will of Robert Anderson, dated December 12, 1802. Anderson bequeathed to Moses Thompson and John Freebie, father of F. D. Freebie, the sum of \$5,000, then held by Anderson, and mortgages against John McFarland and wife, which was due and payable in 1894, with interest. Robert Anderson resided in Oxford township, but Mr. Freebie is at a loss to know where Oxford township is located. It is not now in this county. He is now endeavoring to locate the township and the heirs of John McFarland.

Michael Gibbons of Sharon was nearly burned to death in a fire at Altoona, rolling mill recently. He was employed about the rolls and in catching a long piece of red-hot iron it wound around his legs and burned the flesh frightfully. It then coiled like a snake to his neck, when it struck the flesh and began to slowly melt it. He managed to tear it loose from his body, but not before he sustained serious injuries.

The Attorney General, at the request of Governor Hastings, gave hearing and rendered an opinion on the objections made by the Superintendent of Public Printing to certain items of a bill by the Public Printer. It was charged that they were exorbitant as well as illegal. The total amount disallowed by the Attorney General is \$7,000, some of the items being disallowed and others cut down.

Jacob Steyer and his aged wife, of Indian Head, near Conneville, were burned to death. A son sleeping on the lower floor of the house was awakened by smoke in his room. He tried to get up stairs, where his parents were sleeping but the fire had been burning for some time and access to them was shut off. Their charred remains were found in the ruins.

An unknown colored man met with a horrible death at the Mt. Braddock coke works, near Dunbar recently. He lay down on the oven to sleep, and some time during the night rolled over the tunnel head of the oven, and was burned to a crisp, nothing but a few charred garments and his shoes remaining.

Robert Johnson, aged 24 years, was the other day prospecting for coal on a farm two miles east of Mars, and was blasting with dynamite. In an explosion both of his eyes were blown out, his scalp laid bare and his face filled with small stones and smoke.

Patrick Kelix, aged about 45 years and single, went to sleep on the Conneville street railway track the other morning at Conneville and a car crushed in his skull, killing him instantly.

Maris Maulie, aged 23 years, was instantly killed by the bursting of the fly wheel of an old-fashioned threshing machine on the farm of his father, Nathan Maulie, at Hanover, Chester county. His skull was crushed.

F. C. Boyle, editor of the Oil City "Derrick," was arrested recently on information by Joseph C. Sibley, charged with publishing libelous articles in the "Derrick" against him during the recent campaign.

By falling into a bucket of hot water the 3-year-old son of Arthur Pfloer of Taylorstown, Washington county, lost his life.

At Altoona the 3-year-old son of John Kneel played with matches, set fire to his clothing, and was burned to death.

Jesse Hamaker, 17 years old, of Columbia, fell from a freight train near Dillerville a few days ago and was killed. Hewas stealing a ride to Philadelphia.

A mandamus has been issued to compel the Schuylkill Haven Town Council to produce their books, illegal expenditures of borough funds being alleged.

James Scott, a traveling salesman of the nursery firm of S. D. Willard & Co., of Geneva, N. Y., was killed on the Lancaster Quarryville railroad.



NEW YORK, GREAT ZOO LOGICAL GARDEN.

(In the distance are great drives for bison and deer, forests for monkeys and ponds for beaver—in all 261 acres, by far the greatest "Zoo" in the world.)

This vista promises to combine picturesque natural beauties with every possible device in establishing the comfort of the captive animals. No zoological garden in the world offers such freedom to its inmates. The buffalo will roam at will over a great expanse of natural land, as untrammelled as though grazing upon his native prairie. The monkey will enjoy the freedom of his own jungle. Lions and elephants will not be confined in closed cages. Birds, beasts and fishes of every variety will be made to feel perfectly at home.

And now a few words about the extent of this big animal park. Aside from the natural beauties of the location, which compare favorably with those of any similar institution in the world; aside from the advancement which the plans show in the matter of caring for the animals, aside from the value of the collection, which we can at present only hopefully anticipate, aside from all this, the project must excite universal admiration by reason of its very size.

Washington's Zoological Garden comprises 168 acres, but all of it is not available. The Berlin gardens have sixty acres, Paris, fifty acres; Hamburg, thirty-five acres, and London and Vienna, thirty acres each. It will readily be seen that on comparison with these New York's monster zoo, with its 261 acres of land, must stand as the monster of the world.

The bird house, on an unshaded terrace, with ample air and light, a one story building of brick and iron—is planned to afford both within and without a great amount of cage room for its occupants. The interior of the aviary, whose ground plan is T shaped, will have 330 lineal feet of cage room, on a large portion of which cages will stand in three tiers. There will also be a huge water tank for diving birds.

The exterior of the building will not be less interesting than the interior, for here there will be 332 lineal feet of cages for hawks, owls and such like hardy perching birds. Then there will be six large open wire dome cages, and, most attractive of all, a huge wire cage 150 feet long, seventy-five feet wide and fifty feet high, in which will be pools of water, gravel, grass, rocks, shrubs, bushes and great trees. In this great cage the birds, hardly realizing their captivity, may dive and swim, run and fly to their hearts' content, and, with food to be obtained without the discomforts of early rising, may have all the enjoyment that ever fell to the fortune of lucky birds.

As with the birds, so with the monkeys, whose home of pleasing architecture will be in keeping with the aviary and the others of the six large buildings that will adorn the central glade. The monkeys will have ample cage room in the direct path of sun and air. The most interesting part of the monkey cage will be the great open air enclosure, which is planned to occupy

luck. There will be no restless and persistent tramping up and down behind the bars of a ten foot cage, no snarling and ill tempered howling. They will be housed in a handsome building, 87x263 feet in size, and they will be almost as greatly favored as the elephant. In outdoor cages, 45 feet wide and 200 feet long, they will have ample room for muscular development.

And here comes a unique suggestion from the director of the Zoological Park, for while three sides of these cages are open, he proposes that the fourth side shall be a painted landscape that will in the closest detail present an exact counterpart of the lions' surroundings in their wildest state. Any lion with a well developed imagination will be in a position to sit upon his haunches, gaze fondly at the counterfeit distance of wild jungle and fancy himself once more back among the old folks at home.

The buffaloes will be highly favored in the matter of liberty, for they will have a range of twenty acres over which they may gallop. Around this range, on higher ground, will be a walk, from which an unobstructed view of the buffalo grounds will be presented. This is significant in itself. The American bison is rapidly becoming extinct, and the few herds of a once noble race that are left are being carefully guarded and nurtured.

Fire-Tub Over a Century Old.

Here is a picture of the fire-tub that George III. presented to his loyal subjects of Shelburne, N. S., in 1795. This was in the days when the town was a populous and thriving place. Half the royalists who left Boston during the Revolution built houses in Shelburne, and of course the King



PRESENTED BY GEORGE III.

could not see such loyal subjects suffer for lack of proper protection against fire. The tub is still in a fair state of preservation.

Massachusetts convicts are getting fastidious. Not content with Boston baked beans for breakfast every day they have just sent in a petition for custard pie every Sunday.