

Fate of Andree Still Uncertain

The Rev. Dr. Farlies, a Church of England clergyman, arrived at New York from York Factory, Northwest Territory, and brings authentic information of the fate of the explorer Andree, and his companions.

Two years ago, eight hundred miles north of York, a party of Eskimoes, under the leadership of "Old Huskie," saw the Andree balloon alight on a plane of snow in that vicinity, which is about two hundred miles north of Fort Churchill. Three men emerged from the balloon, and some of "Huskie's" people approached them out of

covery of any portion of the outfit belonging to Andree, and though natives have gone in search of them they have never returned, believing, as the Rev. Dr. Farlies says, that they will in some way be punished, for they now understand that it was not an attack upon them, but an accident by which the gun was discharged that precipitated the massacre.

Had Andree made friends with the natives it is held he would have been safely conducted south and would eventually have reached civilization.

The Hudson Bay company has recently sent another party in search of the balloon and outfit of Andree, and hopes to have conclusive evidence of the fate of the explorer within a few months.

Solomon A. Andree, with two companions, Strindberg and Frankel, attempted in 1897 to find the North Pole with a balloon. They embarked on July 11 from one of the islands in the Spitzbergen group. Since that time, many rumors of their being found, dead or alive, have been circulated, but in every case until now these have proved false. Several of them have located the party on or near the north coast of the American continent.

The revival of an old story that Andree and his companions were murdered by Eskimoes up there raises a number of interesting questions. The first of these relates to the intelligence of the men who from time to time have passed this tale down from Hudson's Bay to civilization, and who pretend to have got it from the Eskimoes. In view of the large number of "fakes" which have been perpetrated since Andree's disappearance in regard to his fate, some doubts may exist as to the honesty of the persons who are responsible for this particular account. But, granting their perfect sincerity, it is not inconceivable that they wrongly interpret the facts.

Early last March this same story came from Winnipeg, and was attributed to a Mr. Alston, an agent of the Hudson Bay company. The officials of that organization, however, briefly discredited it.

What Andree hoped for when he started was a breeze blowing fifteen miles an hour to the northward. This would have enabled him to cover the seven hundred miles between Spitzbergen and the Pole in two days, and



Samuel M. Andree, Commander of the Expedition.
curiosity. As they did so, one of Andree's companions fired off a gun. This is a signal to uncivilized natives for a general battle. It is regarded as a challenge, and also instantly the natives fell upon the three explorers and massacred them.

Everything pertaining to their outfit was carried away to the homes of the natives on the north borders of the Arctic region.

"Old Huskie" himself gave this information to Ralph Alstine, agent for the Hudson Bay company, and after being investigated by the Rev. Mr. Farlies, was told by him. He says there is little room for doubt, as frequent reports have since come of the strange implements which the north natives have in their possession, the telescope being particularly described.

The Hudson Bay company has repeatedly offered a reward for the re-



Region Where Andree is Supposed to Have Been.

carry him over to Behring Strait in six. The last news received from him, dated two days after starting, was dispatched by a carrier pigeon. This report of latitude and longitude showed that he had gone in a north-easterly direction about one hundred and fifty miles, or at the rate of three miles an hour. If there had been no calms intervening thereafter and no deviation from a straight course that speed would have brought him to Eastern Siberia in about a month or six weeks. But the winds in the Arctic region are exceedingly fickle in summer. What is still more important, it is hard to render a balloon so completely gas tight as to retain its buoyancy more than a few days. It is in the highest degree probable that Andree was compelled to abandon his balloon for this reason at some point hundreds, probably thousands, of miles from land. Search parties have looked in vain for some trace of him on the east coast of Greenland, in Spitzbergen, Franz Josef Land, the New Siberian Islands, and Siberia. The chance of his reaching Alaska or British North America was much smaller than that of landing in these other places. Hence, until the relics which are reported to have been found up near Hudson's bay are identified by competent authority it will be wise to receive the story with caution, not to say scepticism.

Tact of French Statesman.
Leon Bourgeois, the new president of the French chamber of deputies, represented France at the peace congress at The Hague, and gained there a reputation as a diplomat. He has been minister of public instruction. He is an orator and possesses all the arts of the trained parliamentary speaker. To M. Deschanel, whom he had beaten in his new office, he said: "I succeed you; I shall never replace you." That was a delicate way of softening defeat which is not habitual at the Palais Bourbon.

Peculiar Philippine Fish.
In the Philippines is to be found the smallest vertebrate animal in the world. It is a fish, which is known to the natives as sinaparan, and has been baptized by the United States Fish Commission "Mistichthys Luzonensis." It is almost transparent. The Filipinos consider it a delicacy and use it with sauces and with rice. Hundreds of the tiny creatures are required to make a good dish, but fortunately the fish is found in many places and in large numbers.

Life of President Kruger.
A Utrecht correspondent tells this story of the way ex-President Paul Kruger spends his nights: He retires at 8 p. m., but gets up at 1 a. m., "dons a dressing gown and a pair of slippers and sits down to read his Bible, smoke and drink tea. The teapot is set over a little spirit lamp and he brews it strong. And thus he sits from 1 until 2 o'clock, reading and commenting aloud on the Bible texts. At 3 o'clock he returns to his bed to finish the night's rest until 5, when he rises for a fresh day's labors."

One Serious Cause for Regret.
A former Virginian who migrated to Australia twenty-four years ago is making a visit to this country after his long absence, and in conversation with a gentleman in Washington regrettably said: "Though I am a British subject now, I must confess to the superiority of some of the social customs of my native land. For instance, though mint is grown in Victoria, somehow or other the people have never learned the old Virginia way of making a julep."

SOURCE OF ELECTRICITY.

Most Eminent Physicists Unable to Explain It Satisfactorily.
At a time when electricity is rapidly transforming the face of the globe, when it has already in great measure annihilated distance and bids fair to abolish darkness for us, it is curious to notice how completely ignorant "the plain man" remains as to the latter developments of electrical theory. Some recent correspondence has led me to think that a vague notion that electricity is a fluid which in some mysterious way flows through a telegraph wire like water through a pipe is about as far as he has got, and if we add to this some knowledge of what he calls "electric shocks" we should probably exhaust his ideas on the subject. Yet this is not to be wondered at. Even the most instructed physicists can do nothing out guess as to what electricity is, and the only point on which they agree is as to what it is not. There is, in fact, a perfect consensus of opinion among scientific writers that it is not a fluid, i. e., a continuous stream of ponderable matter, as is a liquid or a gas; and that it is not a form of energy, as is heat. Outside this limit the scientific imagination is at liberty to roam where it listeth, and although it has used this liberty to a considerable extent, no definite result has followed up to the present time.—The Academy.

HAD MADE A DISCOVERY.

But Non-Enthusiastic Friend Made Ribald Remarks.
When speaking "In Praise of Books" at the commencement exercises of Bryn Mawr College, Richard Watson Gilder told of a good friend of his who found in almost every new book taken up something to surprise her. "Something so very much in the nature of a discovery," he said, "that it became a sort of joke among us—these 'discoveries' of hers."
"A party of us were making that ever-wonderful Hudson river trip once," he went on, "and this woman, whom I regard as one of the ablest of her sex, had a great deal to tell us of the workings and appearances of the devil idea in literature, both sacred and profane. It was obviously her latest discovery, and her enthusiasm was such that at Peekskill one of the party went ashore and wired a mutual friend in New York:
"Emma has discovered the devil."
"The telegram did not reach its destination until quite late that night, and the recipient was feeling a bit under the weather. It was this combination, taken with the seeming triviality of the message, that inspired the reply: 'Tell Emma to follow up her discovery.'"

The Mont Pelée Reports.
Every man who has written from Martinique seized the proposition in a different way from his fellow's way. The correspondent of one of the morning papers had the singular taste to treat it as a humorous opportunity; his description all revolved around the fun he had with the geologist who was blessed with strong individual characteristics and a picturesque name. Another treated it as a literary proposition, and two or three wrecked their stories on the rock of the mere news requirement. It was found hard to unite the literary and the news aspects.

The best story of the actual calamity yet produced is that contained in an interview with the priest who, from his perch in the hill village of Morne Vert—rising from the sirocco of hot and suffocating air that had swept over him, and during the rain of stones that was still falling—sat and watched St. Pierre flash into sudden fire when the mountain blew its breath of flame upon it. This supreme moment will be the thing that the interest of the world will be forever centered upon; and fate has mocked the Genius of Journalism, demigod as it is, by leaving the telling of this tale to shepherds or water-carriers or village priests who chanced to see from afar.—New York Mail and Express.

She Runs an Engine.
In the city of Cleveland lives the only woman engineer in the country—a Mrs. Marten, who understands the business thoroughly and gives excellent satisfaction. She recently took the place of her deceased husband and has been faithful to every requirement of the place thus far.
Mrs. Marten had often been her husband's helper in his work, and so learned the ins and outs of his trade. The day after his death she went to the office of the building and asked for the position that had been her husband's. The owners of the building, knowing that the family was in poor circumstances and that the woman, from her familiarity with the engine, was capable of holding the position, gave her the place at the same salary that had been earned by her husband. There is a janitor in the building who carries the coal, but Mrs. Marten handles the shovel and does not shrink any task. She keeps the engine-room as spotless as such a place can be, and the engine shines like a new piece of machinery.—Chicago Chronicle.

Tried It Inverted.
An amusing and somewhat curious experience recently befell a certain French painter, who shall be nameless. He had gone to the Salon, accompanied by a friend, who was a member of the Committee of Selection, and who had been instrumental in procuring the acceptance of the painter's work. When the artist came near his picture he exclaimed, "Good gracious! You are exhibiting my picture the wrong side up!" "Hush!" was the reply, "the committee rejected it the other way up."

Illinois News Items

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHEEP MADE THEIR LIFE MISERABLE

Total Number is 9,714, Having an Average Value of \$2.96.
From the assessors' books it appears that the total number of sheep listed for taxation in Montgomery county is 9,714, the total value being \$28,752, and the average value \$2.96. The number and value in the various townships are as follows: Audubon, 721, value \$2,075; Fillmore 664, value \$1,980; Witt 199, value \$390; Nokomis 144, value \$392; East Fork 1,022, value \$3,115; Irving 142, value \$555; Roundtree 100, value \$270; Grisham 476, value \$1,655; Hillsboro 654, value \$1,880; Butler Grove 2,028, value \$5,490; Raymond 219, value \$630; Harvel 75, value \$220; Walshville 154, value \$420; South Litchfield 91, value \$435; North Litchfield 278, value \$1,115; Zanesville 1,008, value \$3,776; Pittman 589, value \$2,020; Bois D'Arc 1,134, value \$2,335.

PRESIDENT THOMAS P. SHEEHAN
Head of the Allied Printing Crafts Union of Illinois.
Thomas P. Sheehan, who has just been elected president for the third time of the Allied Printing, Crafts' Union of Illinois, is one of the best-



known union printers in northern Illinois. For many years Mr. Sheehan has made his home in Elgin, and is widely acquainted in the state. He is conspicuous as a labor leader, is a good organizer and is now serving his fourth term as president of the Elgin Typographical Union.

Naval Militia to Cruise.
The members of the Alton division of naval militia have decided that they will go on the annual cruise on Lake Michigan, notwithstanding the fact that no salaries will be paid the militiamen during their outing this year. After the return of the division from the cruise there will probably be a break-up, owing to the deficiency in the fund.

NEW AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.



The new temple of the Walters African Methodist Episcopal Zion church, the second largest church organization in the United States, with 700,000 members in various parts of the country. The laying of the corner stone was under the auspices of the handsome brick stone structure which will cost about \$30,000. It will belong to what is known as the A. M. E. Zion church.

Sells 400-acre Farm.
William W. Scott has sold his 400-acre farm on Fredonia prairie, just west of Salem, the consideration being \$17,000. This is the largest real estate deal ever made in Marion county.

Flora Fruit Plant.
The Flora Fruit Evaporating company has one building completed and work is being rapidly pushed on two other buildings. The plant will have a capacity of 1,000 bushels per day.

Imported Dog Catchers are Driven from Alton.

Alton dog fanciers made existence of the dog catchers in Alton impossible and after being in the city two days and capturing many dogs, the dog catchers employed by the police department left the city, not to return. They say that the Alton dog owners are so sincere in their hatred of the dog catcher that they nearly killed them several times. A mob of boys and women in the eastern part of the city assailed the dog catchers and drove them to the police station for protection.

State School Exhibit.
From present indications the exhibit of the schools at the state fair this year will exceed that of any former fair. The superintendent of the state reformatory at Pontiac, M. M. Mallory, is directing the preparation of an exhibit from that institution which will be composed of work in both the educational and manual training departments. Prof. Alfred Bayliss, state superintendent of public instruction, states that, on account of this being the golden jubilee of the fair, a special effort is being made to make the exhibit of the public schools one of particular merit.

Potatoes Are High.
Potatoes are being shipped to Nameoki at the rate of a dozen car loads a day, averaging 500 bushels to the car. The price being paid is 49 cents a bushel, which is considered very high. The potato growers in the vicinity of Nameoki have an enormous crop of potatoes this year, of fine quality and large size. The early crop is not nearly harvested, and the late crop will be coming on in a few weeks. The growers will realize large sums from the potato crop this year.

Big Wheat Yield.
The largest wheat yield thus far this year was on the farm of Christ Koch, Jr., about two miles east of Highland. From thirty-two acres he thrashed 935 bushels, or more than twenty-nine bushels to the acre. The wheat is of good quality and tests sixty pounds.

Sells a Trotter.
The trotting horse Tommy McGregor, owned by J. H. McGregor of Decatur, has been sold to the Whitley brothers of Muncie, Ind., for \$3,000. Tommy is 5 years old, sire Anderson Wilkes and has worked out a mile in 2:16, a quarter in :32.

Big Water Reservoir.
The Illinois Central railway has purchased twenty acres of land two miles west of Duquoin from Louis Beck, and will construct a reservoir to hold 50,000,000 gallons of water. The water will be piped to Duquoin through a 6-inch main.

WOMAN WHO HAS WON RENOWN

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State Happenings Succinctly Told by Our Special Correspondents.

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MRS. ELIZABETH A. REED (President of the Illinois Woman's Press Association.)

Pedro de Brazil, Dr. T. H. Rhys Davis of the Royal Asiatic Society and many more equally prominent is her research into oriental religions and literature. Some of her books are "Primitive Buddhism, its Origin and Teachings," "Hindu Literature, or the Ancient Books of India" and "Persian Literature, Ancient and Modern." Mrs. Reed is also a member of several scientific societies of Europe, and at the time of her election to them she was the only woman so honored. Mrs. Reed is a homemaker, the mother of three children. Her only daughter, Myrtle Reed, has inherited her mother's literary gift, being the author of several successful books, among them "The Spinster Book," "Old Lace and Lavender," "Love Letters of a Musician."

Potatoes Are Damaged.
The damage done to the potato crop around East Alton by the floods of several weeks ago is beginning to make itself more apparent. The water covering the potato fields caused the potatoes to rot when the intense heat of the July sun came down on the fields a few days later, and potato growers say that hundreds of acres which were rich with their crops of unripe tubers will be almost worthless this season.

Struck by Engine.
Richard Crain, who has charge of the Illinois Central railroad company's pumping station near the Cache creek bridge, lies at St. Mary's Infirmary, Cairo, in a critical condition. He sat down on the end of a railroad tie to cool off and fell asleep. An engine came along and struck him, causing terrible injuries to his back and spine. Crain is a married man and has a family residing at Mounds, Ill.

Pay for a Life.
In the suit of Jno. N. Johnson, administrator of the estate of Mac Newman of Mount Vernon, who was killed while assisting in operating a steam plow at Marlown Hill last spring, against McArthur Bros. Co. for \$5,000 damages, a compromise has been agreed to, whereby the defendant company is to pay the administrator the sum of \$1,250, and in addition to pay all the costs of the suit.

New Sewer System.
Engineer George Kennedy has completed the plans and specifications for the sewer system for Carbondale. There will be 6,500 feet of 8, 10 and 12 inch pipe put down at an average depth of 8 1/2 feet. The excavation will be nearly 6,000 yards.

Reduces Railway Speed.
The Wabash railway company has reduced the speed of its trains through the city of Taylorville to sixteen miles an hour. The action is in accordance with an ordinance regulating the speed of railway trains in the city limits.

Mount Vernon Carnival.
The merchants and business men of Mount Vernon are considering the question of holding a merchants' carnival in the near future. It is proposed to have the management entirely under the control of the citizens.

Glass-blowing Machine.
C. J. Koenig of Alton has received letters patent upon a new glass-blowing machine recently invented by him.

Blame Railway for Floods.
Many of the farmers living near East Alton, who suffered in the Wood river floods and are laying the responsibility on the railway companies say that they do not believe suits against the railways will be necessary in some cases, as the railway companies are obviously responsible.

Death of Pioneer.
Washington Enlow, one of the pioneers of Adams county, died at his home in Liberty township aged 74 years.