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OF COMMERCE.

fest Advanced Worls of Its Kind-Oxus A Long Pontoon Bridge.

This seems to be an age of bridge building.

stream, at times almost if not quite fordable; at others her volume of swiftly flowing water is sufficiently powerful to sweep almost any-thing away before it.

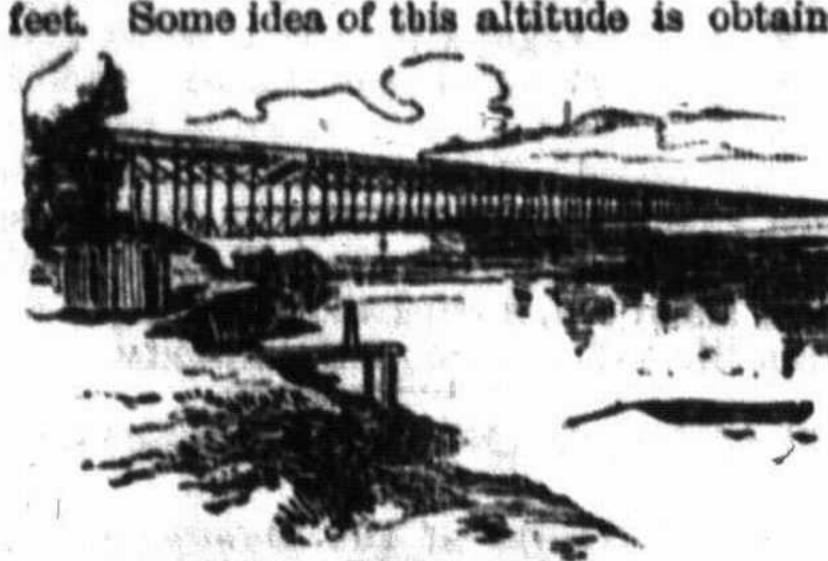
Ten years ago congress granted the inhabi tants of Nebraska City the right to build ontoon bridge there, but after securing th rivilege they scarcely believed that they rould avail themselves of it, supposing it to



PONTOON BRIDGE AT NEBRASKA CITY. be impracticable. However, the bridge has been built, and it is said to be the largest pontoon bridge in the world. The especial feature is a V shaped draw, with the angle of the V down stream, which the current may open whenever required. The draw is so constructed as to be closed by one man.

From the Missouri to the Oxus is a big step. The Central Asian railway has been constructed by Russia to open the interior of Turkestan and Bokhara to Russian commerce. The diffculties in the way have been the crossing of the rivers Tejend, Murghab and Amou Daria, or Oxus. The obstacles in bridging these streams are the same as those encountered in the Missouri-the shifting sands and liability to flood. To combat this culiarity the Russians planted a shrub called "Saxanl," which takes root in the sand and at last forms a barrier and permits numerous conduits. The bridge across the Oxus at Chardjui is a light structure of wooden piers and is two miles long, though it includes an intervening island. The rail way line has been in all its parts under the superintendence of Gen. Annenkoff, one o the most distinguished officers in the Russian service. He has been rewarded by the czar with the Order of St. Alexander Newsky and the appointment as chief director of the line

And now come the Scotch with a new style of cantilever, which looks for all the world like a string of whales. This bridge, though not a suspension, rivals in proportions the great Brooklyn bridge. It is more than a mile and a half long, and has a clear headway of 150 feet, which will allow the passage of the largest ships. The cantilevers are simply enormous, being each 680 feet long, and held in position and united by 350 feet of girder. Two of the spans are each a third of a mile in length. The extreme height of the structure, from the bottom of the foundation, ninety-one feet below high water, is 361 feet. Some idea of this altitude is obtained



OVER THE OXUS.

when we remember that the Bartholdi statue in New York, with its pedestal, is 305 feet high. The height above water of the Niagara bridges is greater than the Forth bridge, but these Niagara bridges were not built up from the bottom of a river, but across a chasm.

It will be finished next year and takes the place of the long bridge which used to span the Frich of Forth, and was blown down with

Doubtless the Brooklyn bridge and this Scotch cantilever are the two most remarkable specimens of bridge building today; at any rate, of suspension and cantilever bridges. There are several truss bridges of renown, but none of them exhibits so much engineering skill, especially as to magnitude in bridge building, as the Scotch and American bridges. Of arched structures probably the most difficult in building was the St. Louis bridge. Fontoons are at best temporary structures, and have been used mostly in military operations.

If the inhabitant of another world should come upon earth today with power to fly around it and view man's works at will, he would probably be most struck with the great bridges. They represent in the Nineteenth century what the pyramids represented before the Christian era. mid represents the sluggish intellect of the



OVER THE FRITH OF FORTH.

Egyptian with a certain extent of instinctive cumning in the methods of construction, as seen in the ant. The great bridges represent the splendid intellect of the European, wh by accumulative thought, experiment, inge-

Its Leading Spirits. The convention of the United Typothetse of America, which recently met in New York, attended strictly to business for three sucthe first day they went to Glen Island

would bring their machinery to this country

are in so short a

the executive committee of the American Copyright league, was called in and expounded the matter to the committee of the Typothetæ. He was followed by Mr. Y. S. Duncan, of Scotland, who testified that in case the bill were passed British book manufacturers would come to America, to the in jury of American workmen.

Enlightened by these two gentlemen the committee took a vote on a resolution instructing the executive committee to enter a formal protest against the bill being made a law; but the speakers had evidently neutralized each other's arguments, for the convention voted to lay the matter on the table.

Many other subjects came up for discus sion, among them being the Thorne type setting machine, some harmony of action between the Typothetæ and the Typographical union, etc.

The concluding dinner was an elaborate affair. It was held in the assembly room of the Metropolitan Opera house. A number of speeches were made by eminent publishers of New York, St. Louis, Boston and other places. Mr. Everett Waddy, of Richmond, Va., said that he thought the south was copying the enlightened methods of the west and northwest and was sure the south would keep pace in the race. The Society of formed in Chicago a year ago.

Theodore L. De Vinne, whose portrait is here presented, is one of the leading spirits of the Union Typothetes and is a leader among the employing printers of America.

JUDGE LAMBERT TREE.

Lately Appointed United States Minister to Russia.

Judge Lambert Tree, who succeeds Hon. Van Ness Lathrop as envoy explenipotenti-Russia from the United States, was born in Washington, D. C., Nov.

father being Lamclerk in the postoffice department under President Jackson. ceived a classical education, and completed his law studies at the University of Virginia. ington in 1855, and shortly afterwards

He was admitted to the har in Wash-

moved to Chicago, where he continued the practice of the law. In 1864 he was elected president of the Chicago Law institute, and in 1870 was elected circuit judge to fill an unexpired term, and was re-elected to the full term. In 1875 he resigned, and went abroad for several years for his health. Returning he was made a delegate to the Democratic national convention of 1884, and in 1885 was a candidate before the state legislature for the United States senate, but was defeated by Gen. John A. Logan by one vote. In July, 1885, he was appointed by President Cleveland United States minister to Belgium, where he was serving when appointed to the Russian mission. Judge Tree married Miss Anna, daughter of Haines H. Magie, of Chicago, and they have one child, a son, Arthur. Judge Tree has a sister, Mrs. Frank Rives, still residing in Washington, and an unmarried sister, who has recently joined his family

Col. Austin C. Wellington. Massachusetts has lest a man valuable among the soldiers of the commonwealth in the death of Col. Austin C. Wellington, the popular commander of the First Massachusetts militia regiment. Col. Wellington was

born in 1840 at the place where the first skirmish of the Revolution took place, Lexington. He passed his boyhood there, but grew into manhood at Cambridge. In the stirring days of 1861, when so many young men were stepping forward in defense of the Union, young Welling ton enlisted,

netwithstanding AUSTIN C. WELLINGTON. serious opposition of his family. He served two years in Louisiana and a third in Virginia with Sheridan, rising from a private to first lieutenant. In 1870 he entered the First, afterwards the Fourth battalion, Seventh regiment, of the Massachusetts militia as a captain. He became major and afterwards colonel of the regiment.

There is a special sadness attending the death of Col. Wellington from the fact that less than a year ago he was married to Miss Sarah Cordelia Fisher. His labors in a military way and in business are supposed to have brought on the shock from which he died. In addition to his duties in the militia and manager of the Wellington Coal company, Col. Wellington was actively interested in the Grand Army of the Republic.

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