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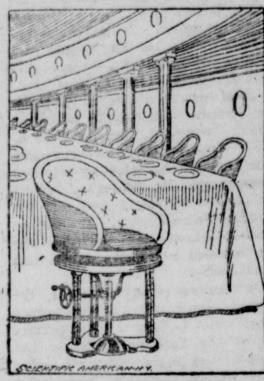
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NOVEL STEAMSHIP CHAIR.

Cecured to Deck or Floor by Means of a Vacuum Cup.

Many people in crossing the ocean have experienced inconvenience by reason of the fact that the chairs in the saloon and card rooms are rigidly screwed to the floor. The chairs are secured at such a distance from the tibles that they will accommodate persons of very ample proportions, and therefore when a comparatively thin person occupies a chair he finds it pecessary to sit merely on the edge, for should be endeavor to lean back in the chair he finds himself too far from the table.

While recently returning from Europe Colonel John Jacob Astor con-



IMPROVED STEAMSHIP CHAIR.

ceived of a very simple and practical scheme whereby the chairs may be firmly held in place at any desired distance from the tables or may be easily released and moved about. Colonel Astor's scheme involves the use of a vacuum cup beneath the chair, so mounted that it may be pressed into engagement with the deck or floor to hold the chair by suction, or the vacuum may be broken, the cup lifted and the chair released.

If the chair is on a deck or hardwood floor or on rubber tiling the vacuum will hold indefinitely, while if used on a carpet it will probably be necessary to depress the cup and raise It again occasionally to form a new vacuum. This device will undoubtedly add greatly to the comfort of the traveling public, as chairs may then be quickly and securely fastened at the desired distance from the table to accommodate either fleshy or thin persons. Colonel Astor intends to present this invention to the public, as has been his custom with all his recent in-

THE HORSE'S STUPIDITY.

Devoid of Mind, but Will Do Exactly as He Is Told.

The horse, as the most stupid of all the dumb creatures man has made his friend, has been painstakingly studied by E. T. Brewster, says the Chicago Tribune. He is so stupid he can be taught anything-that is, any habitmud, having no mind of his own, can beirelled on to do exactly as he is told. All'the authentic tricks, whatever the fletan's, are worked in this way:

The horse is taught by endless repetitions some mechanical habit. A given signal, and he begins to paw the floor. An other signal, and he stops. Press the Proper button, and he takes a sponge aild rubs it over a certain spot on a blackboard or picks up a card lying in a certain position. The meaning of & he act exists for the spectator only. The pawings count he answer to a problem in addition. The card bears the reply to a question. But the horse do 's not know it.

He merely follow vs a blind habit, just as he will stop who 'n you say "Whoa!" though you interpo late the word into your recitation of he Declaration of Independence. The heason the horse is so available for this particular deception and so generally useful to mankind is that he possesses, just the right degree of stupidity. If he' were stupider he would not be plast ic enough to acquire convenient habits. If he were cleverer he would acquire too many habits for himself and lea 'd too much his own life, like that partic ularly clever animal the cat.

The 2,000 tests to which James 1. Porter of Indiana university subjected two English sparrows serves as the type of all experiments with animals' counting. They proved beyond question that the sparrows could not count. After a bird had been given its food 100 times in succession from dish No.

o, to the next twenty trinis it went only nine times to the proper place. Moreover, after the bird became pretty certain of the situation of the . . aired dish when he came to it on the wing. walking up to it threw him all off Subscription \$1.00 per year, in advance again, while if he started his flight from a point to one side of his usual perch he was likely to hit correspond-

ingly to one side of his objective point. The sparrows guessed numbers better than most creatures that have been tested. They could not count certainly even two. Neither instinct nor reason is the key to the animal mind, but habit. The animal forms habits precisely as we do and, like ourselves, stores up as habits many common experiences of life. The difference is that what for us is a mere side line is almost the entire stock in trade of the beast We are all of us, men and beasts alike, bundles of habits. But the toan has more of other things wrapped up in the package.

DELUGE OF NOAH'S TIME.

Enormous Damage Done by the Flood,

Says Scientist. Professor Herbert William Magoun of Redfield college is studying Noah's flood as one of the greatest events of reliable history. In his latest chapter on it, just published, he says that it changed the whole earth, creating enormous seas where dry land was before and sinking large parts of the land. He tries to judge it by evidence that he can still find of damage done.

22 this record ne writes that the flood could not have been a myth. He does not undertake to say how much of Asia was covered by it or whether all the land on earth was covered. He hardly thinks so. He has no doubt that the change of which it was part was felt throughout the whole earth. It began in what are now the United States and northern Europe with the cracking of the earth's crust as great areas of land sank to lower levels. He thinks the earth's crust gave way upward or downward toward the close of what is called the great ice age in this country and Europe. The destruction of life was enormous. Wherever men then lived those who escaped saw the world changed as it has never bee changed since.

The history of a flood of this king late in the history of the earth is so plainly shown in many ways that those who study the earth are fairly well agreed about its main points. Some of them might not agree with Professor Magoun that it was Noah's flood, but they might acknowledge that he has a right to call it so. The proof be relies on began with work done not quite a hundred years ago by a Scotch stonemason, Camous now as Hugh Miller, who first showed how clearly the rocks may be read. Many learned men then had ceased to believe in a deluge. Now many of them believe in several.

GREAT ARTIFICIAL HARBOR.

Naval Port at Dover Is Largest Area of Open Sea Ever Inclosed.

The opening of Dover naval port marks the completion of the greatest artificial harbor ever built extirely in the open sea. The scheme includes an extension of the admiralty pier for 2,000 feet, the formation of reclama tion works for the protection of the shore at the eastern end of Dover town extending in the direction of St. Margaret's bay for 3,900 feet, a protecting arm extending from the east ern end of the reclamation for a distance of 2,900 feet into the open sea and an island breakwater approximetely parallel with the shore line end. extending from the end of the admirady pier extension on the west to the end of the easterly pier already referred to, with wide entrance openings between the heads of the several break waters. If we include the eighty acres which constitute the present commercial harbor there is inclosed by these works a total area at low water of 690 acres of deep water harbor capable of floating the largest of modern battleships and ocean liners. This is the largest area of the open sea ever perclosed by solid masonry protecting works.

Although that portion of the inclosing breakwaters which is visible at high water gives an impression of their great leagth and of the wide extent of the harbor, it is a fact that the visible masomy represents only a small proportion of the work actually done. The total length of the sea works is two and a half miles, two miles of which are in exceptionally deep water. Thus the 2,000 foot extension of the admira'ty pier measures from the top of the parapet to the foundation nearly 100 feet in height, and the eastern pier has a total height above foundations of eight v-seven feet. The total width at the hase of the piers is over fifty feet and at the top forty-seven feet six inches.

The fears which have been expressed that this, like other harbors' won | first to the leaping contest, and those from the open sea, might be subjected to shouling up by drifting sand have have haved to hurl the javel. The four not been verified, the depth remaining in a successful in this too, part in a practically constant.—Scientific Ameri-

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The Famous contests in the Days of Ancient Greece.

MORE IMPORTANT THAN WAR.

Battles Might Be Forgotten, but Time Was Reckened and Events Dated From the Years of the Olympiads. The Fivefeld Contest, the Pentathion.

According to tradition, the oldest of all Olympian games were established by Zeus in honor of his success over Chromes in his struggle for the sovereigner of beaven. The more general belief among Greek writers, though, was that these famous games were instituted by the Adaean Hercules, the eldest of the five brothers to whom Rhea costided Zoas after his birth. These games were held every fifth year, because, according to this story, the brothers were five in number. The games were therefore four years

The first of the games, according to this tradition, was simply a foot wace. to which Hercules and his four brithers were the only contestants. I his straightaway foot race continued to the the only Olympic game till thy Lopscenth Olympiad, when a second context, the double course, was introducad-1 e., to the end of the course and back again. In the eighteenth Olympiad they added wrestling and the pentachion. Twenty-five years later lucing was made a part of the exercise, and four horse races, the pancratium and rives races were introduced. The pentartion was a fivefold contest in leaping. throwing the discus or quoit. wrestling and hurling the lavelin. All contestan's were admitted Who crossed a certain space were alon op I gut and the best three threw

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again the least successful retired, and the better wrestler of the remaining two won the prize.

The pancratium was a rough and tumble fight. Almost any method of throttling an opponent and compelling him to acknowledge himself vanquished was permitted. Wrestling, boxing, bugging, choking and even the deliberate breaking of bones were allowed.

The prizes in the Olympian contests were merely wreaths from the wild olive trees abundant in the locality, and the games all took place on one day until the twenty-seventh Olymplad, when the Greeks, desiring to do greater bonor to the gods for their degames to fill five days.

All Greece regarded the month durnice stock of CHRISTMAS MOTTOES. ing which the games were held as a holiday. Business of every kind was at a standstill, and even hostile armies disbanded and attended the games as friendly rivais. The importance of the games may be gathered from the fact that the Greeks reckoned their time according to the games, just as all people have reckoned it from the events which seemed to them the most important

The Christians refer all time to the beginning of the Christian era, so the Mohammedans to the flight of their prophet and Romans to the year of the founding of their city. But the Greek historians used to speak like this: "This battle was fought in the fourth year of that Olympiad in which Euryb otus, the Athenian, won the prize in the course." While a war might be forgotten, an Olympiad would never be.

Those who were victors were accorded the most extravagant honors. Their enthusiastic countrymen would escort them home with unbounded delight, and they were given the highest seats of honor at every public festivity. Poets of the highest merit sang their praises. The cities in which they resided erected statues to their honor.

It is not surprising that, when victory meant so much, dishonorable means were sometimes employed to secure it. Every attempt, however, was made to prevent foul play, and as unfairness was regarded as sacrilege, the games being religious ceremonies. the guilty ones were not only condemned by all those whose praise they sought, but they were subjected besides to heavy penalties in money and often scourged as well.

It does not seem, however, that deliberate wounding of an adversary in a contest was much deprecated, since though 22 ! ferior wrestler, won severas co is by breaking the fingers of his entag nist, but he who killed his opponent lost the prize, and the dead body was crowned victor.

The cause of the decay of the game was that the glory and the substantial rewards which followed victory finally became too great. At last there became classes of men who did nothing else but prepare for the games, and contending became a profession Kings and nobles then withdrew, and their example was followed by the better class of Greek youth, with the result that the games were finally neglected until, when they were prohibited by an edict by the Emperor Theodosius, in A. D. 394, few people objected to their

Long before this the games had become notorious by their brutality, and foreigners were allowed to complete. Bribery was frequent, and the Roman Emperor Nero on one occasion was perunitted to take every prize offered. -St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

You must live for another if you to live for yourself.

Threats.

f consider it a mark of great prudenne in a man to abstain from threats or any contemptuous expressions, for neither of these weaken the enemy, but threats make him more cautious and the other excites his hatred and a desire to revenge himself.—Machiavelit.

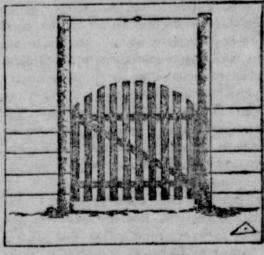
The Right Thing. "What did you do with your book witness leaf you found loosened?" ". Yut it through a legal process." "That do you mean?" "Ha of it bound over to keep the piece.". Baltimore American.

WIRE FENCE GATE.

Simple Method of Solidly Bracing the Side Posts.

The posts of a gate placed in & straight line of wire fence requires mst as much bracing as a corner post. A ver; effective way and one that will not require much extra material is shown in the accompanying sketch.

The two posts of the gate will need to be extra long and well set in the



GATE POSTS BRACED.

ground. The tops of the posts are then tied with wire so as to hold them in a parallel position with the right width between for the gate. The fence wires are twisted tight and held to the posts with staples .- Popular Mechanies.

New Steel Process.

An inventor in London has been doing some demonstrating in that metropolis to show the advantages of his new process for converting iron into steel. He declares that iron which is not worth more than 2 cents a pound may with ease be turned into steel which is worth a dollar a pound, and, what is more, ordinary iron, after it has been shaped into the tool or vessel desired, may then be turned into this high grade steel at a cost of about 5 cents a pound. The process has the advantage of being able to turn the iron wholly into steel or if it is desire. terely giving it a coating of steel. The inventor points out that & great saving is made by first shaping the tools in the soft iron and thes changing them into stell.

BOON FOR THE SIGHTLESS.

New Magazine For the Blind and How It Is Printed.

The Matilda Ziegler Magazine For Pausanias mentions one man who, I the Blir is a boon to the sightless, many of whom have found their education largely useless. States educated them to read, but they had little of interest to attract them to reading. The magazines existent were in price in most instances wholly beyond the average blind person. In the course of a few years the educated blind forgot how to employ their education. They really forgot bow to read. There have been thousands of such instances in the United States, and that became one of the problems with which the instructors had to deal. The blind, of course, read by touch.

Picture a sheet of heavy paper that has been run through a typewriting machine and covered with inkless periods. Imagine the period key of a typewriter has been struck again and again, and its heavy impression in the paper has been left uninked all over the sheet. Turn the sheet, run over it with your fingers, and you have an idea of a page in a magazine for the

The Matilda Ziegler Magazine contains about fifty pages. For each page a brass plate must be prepared. From this plate on heavy paper dampened to take the impression of the arranged points each page is printed. The plates are costly and invoive labor of infinite pains. Sometimes they have to be changed again and again.

There are between 75,000 and 80,000 blind people in the United States. Even 10 cents a year, the subscription price of the magazine, is considere able to many of them. But 10,000 take the magazine, and if Mrs. Ziege ler's hopes are realized for a law that will permit the free distribution of this wholly philanthropic paper all the blind are to have the opportunity of reading one of the most unique magasines in the world.-Chicago Tribune.

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