

**THE GREAT ROUND WORLD
AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.
VOL. XVI, NOVEMBER 1, 1900,
WHOLE NO. 208. PP. 129 - 160**

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VARIOUS

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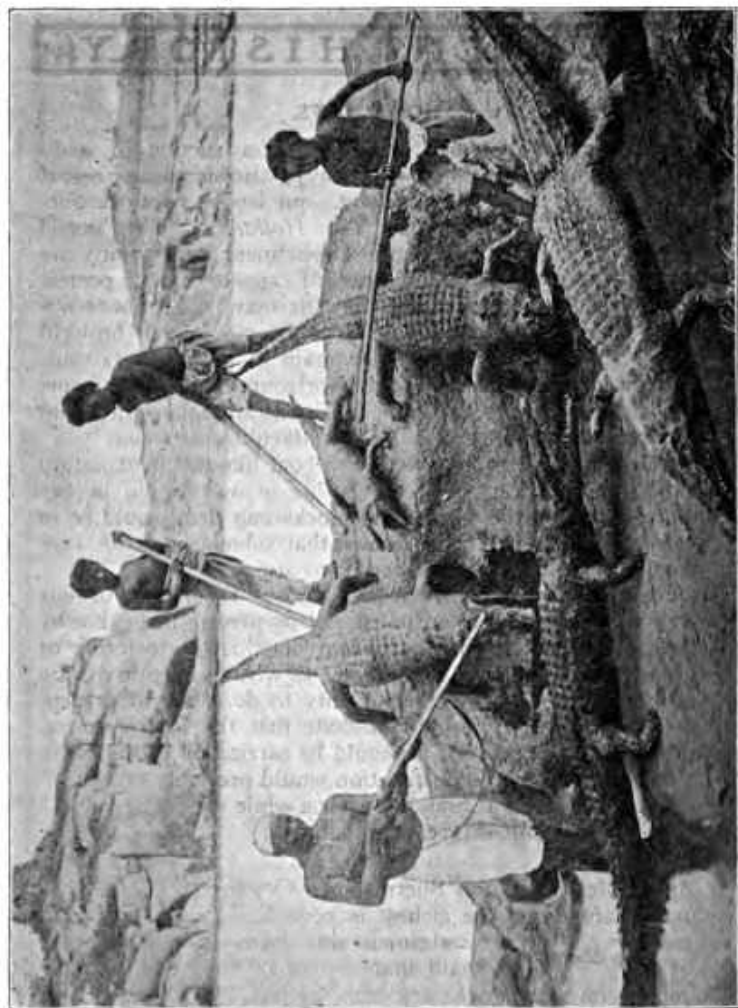
Vol. XVI.

November 1, 1900.

Whole No. 208

CONTENTS

	Page
Natives and Crocodiles on the Nile. (Illustration).....	130
Submarine Boats for Our Navy.....	131
Government Recommended to Build Its Own Warships.....	131
Career of the Late Mr. John Sherman.....	131
Value of the Late Cabinet Officer's Services to his Country. . .	133
Our Relations to the Cubans.....	134
Cuba's Secretary of Finance Urges Better Business Methods..	134
A Breach of Naval Etiquette.....	135
Investigation of Anarchy in New Jersey.....	136
Preparations for the Cup Races next Summer.....	136
Henry E. Youtsey found Guilty.....	137
Does Admiral Sampson Think Americans Ungrateful?.....	137
Bartholdi's Statue of Liberty Neglected.....	138
Lieutenant Hobson's Unfortunate Speech.....	138
Anthracite Coal Miners' Strike Declared Off.....	139
Riot at the Empire Washery, Wilkes-Barre.....	139
Large Appropriation by the Philippine Commission.....	140
Aguinaldo Tries to Prevent the Establishing of Peace.....	140
Explosion at Indian Head Proving Grounds.....	141
The Wreck of the <i>Maine</i> to be Removed.....	141
Sun Yat Sen, the Chinese Revolutionist.....	142
Favorable Reception of the Anglo-German Pact.....	143
Will the Boxer Movement Grow?.....	144
The Transvaal Formally Annexed to Great Britain.....	144
Mr. Krüger on the Ocean.....	145
South African Orders for America Cause Friction.....	145
W. P. Schreiner Resigns from Cape Parliament.....	146
A Prince Fined for Selling a Picture.....	146
Queen Wilhelmina and Her Betrothed.....	147
The Hollanders are Pleased with the Match.....	148
Troublous Times in Colombia Continue.....	148
Lord Curzon Gives Statistics of the Indian Famine.....	149
Danish Colonials Wish to Retain their Possessions.....	150
Count Von Bulow, Germany's New Chancellor and His Task..	151
Serious Cabinet Crisis in Spain.....	151
Senor Silvea and the Cabinet Resign.....	152
Canal Between Southampton and London Discussed.....	152
Reorganization of the British Army Demanded.....	153
Prof. Langley of the Smithsonian Institution on Airships.....	154
Hurricane Experiences on the Atlantic.....	154



NATIVES AND CROCODILES ON THE NILE.

CURRENT HISTORY

HOME NEWS.

Rear-Admiral Hichborn favors the construction of additional submarine boats for our Navy. In his annual report

Submarine Boats for he dwells at some length upon the success of the *Holland*. "The vessel
Our Navy. which the Department has recently ac-

quired," he says, "has shown herself capable of such perfect control in the vertical plane that she may be kept within a few inches of any desired depth while moving, or brought to the surface and taken under again in a very short time. Her direction and control in the horizontal plane on the surface is effected with the same facility as any other craft, and submerged, is limited only by the difficulties of vision."

While the offensive powers of a boat like the *Holland* are very great, perhaps her chief value in war would be her moral effect on the enemy. A blockading fleet would be in constant terror, if it were known that submarine boats were continually putting out of harbor to attack.

Rear-Admiral Hichborn also advises that some of our warships should be constructed, not by private firms, but by the Government. The question involved is the fostering of private firms, which it is regarded as wise to keep in a state of efficiency by giving them plenty to do. But at present there is so much work to be done that the Rear-Admiral thinks that a portion of it should be carried on in the Navy Yard. Government construction would probably not lessen the cost of vessels at first, but after a while the change would be likely to result in greater economy.

*

By the death of John Sherman, on October 22, one of the most mature and the richest in record of living American statesmen was removed. It may be

John Sherman. said that we should not thus give the impression that he was active to the last, but his retirement from political life was so recent in comparison with his long career that it is hard to think of him otherwise than as a public servant.

His death was not a surprise. He resigned his position as Secretary of State on April 25, 1898, because of failing health. In March, 1899, while on a pleasure trip in the West Indies, he suffered a severe attack of pneumonia. His remarkable vitality enabled him to regain his health and also to withstand a serious relapse. Last summer, however, the death of Mrs. Sherman told upon him very severely, and he grew weaker until death released him.

The regard in which Mr. Sherman was held, and the importance of his public services, are made manifest in the following proclamation, which was issued by President McKinley, immediately after the death of the aged statesman:

To the People of the United States: In the fulness of years and honors, John Sherman, lately Secretary of State, has passed away. Few among our citizens have risen to greater or more deserved eminence in the national councils than he. The story of his public life and services is, as it were, the history of the country for half a century. In the Congress of the United States he ranked among the foremost in the House and later in the Senate. He was twice a member of the Executive Cabinet, first as Secretary of the Treasury, and afterwards as Secretary of State. Whether in debate during the dark hours of our civil war or as the director of the country's finances during the period of rehabilitation, or as a trusted councillor in framing the nation's laws for over forty years, or as the exponent of its foreign policy, his course was ever marked by devotion to the best interests of his beloved land, and by able and conscientious effort to uphold its dignity and honor. His countrymen will long revere his memory, and see in him a type of the patriotism, the uprightness, and the zeal that go to moulding and strengthening a nation.

In fitting expression of the sense of bereavement that afflicts the Republic, I direct that on the day of the funeral the executive offices of the United States display the national flag at half-mast, and that the representatives of the United States in foreign countries shall pay in like manner appropriate tribute to the illustrious dead for a period of ten days.

Done at the city of Washington, this 22d day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand and nine hundred, and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and twenty-fifth.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

By the President: John Hay, Secretary of State.

John Sherman was born at Lancaster, Ohio, May 10, 1823. His father, a man prominent in the law, reared a family of six sons and five daughters, of whom John was

the eighth. The fame of his older brother, William Tecumseh Sherman, is so great that it needs only this passing reference. John received an education at the academy of Lancaster, then began life actively, as a rodman with a company of surveyors, but soon decided to enter the law and went to Mansfield, Ohio, to study with his brother Charles. He was taken into his brother's firm at the age of twenty-one. Meanwhile he had gained an interest in a manufacturing concern, which brought him such considerable profits that, by the time he was twenty-four, he was worth \$10,000. In 1848 he was a delegate to the Whig National Convention, filling the same capacity in 1852.

Mr. Sherman was first elected to Congress in 1854. He at once became a prominent figure in the House of Representatives. His logical views and his clear and direct way of presenting them gained for him the confidence of his associates. He was one of a commission of three sent to Kansas in 1856 to investigate the slavery troubles there. On his reelection in 1856 he came within a few votes of being made Speaker of the House. As Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee he gave evidence of his ability as a financier.

When Salmon P. Chase was called to be Secretary of the Treasury in President Lincoln's Cabinet, in 1861, the Ohio senatorship formerly held by Mr. Chase was given to Mr. Sherman. At the outbreak of the Civil War he personally raised two regiments of infantry, a squadron of cavalry, and a battery of artillery. He would have gone to the front himself but for the friendly veto of Mr. Lincoln, who considered Mr. Sherman's services essential in the Senate.

From this time Mr. Sherman's activity was devoted to monetary legislation. He carried the Legal Tender Act through the Senate, and later the bill establishing a system of national banks and another which did away with State banknotes. These and other financial bills in which he was interested were regarded as very important to the success of the Union during the war. Perhaps his greatest achievement was the passage, in 1874, of the bill for the resumption of specie payment—providing that beginning with January 1, 1879, the Treasury should redeem legal tenders with

coin. As Secretary of the Treasury during President Hayes' administration, he accumulated large sums of gold coin to meet the first operation of the resumption act, and this more greatly advanced our public credit. In 1880 and 1888 he was a strong candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination, but in each case fell short of the required number of votes. His last public work was entered when in March, 1897, he became Secretary of State in President McKinley's Cabinet.

★

While he was in this country last week, Governor-General Leonard Wood made statements denying that the Cubans

Conditions in Cuba. are hostile to the United States Government. He said that criticisms are confined to a small discontented element. The Constitutional Convention will meet on November 5. General Wood says that he will not interfere with the action of the delegates, because "it has been my settled policy to permit the Cubans to manage every detail of their Constitution making." Talking further on the same line, he says:

I wish to avoid all imputation of having meddled in this most important event, and so give the lie to any possible future crimination against the United States. The affair will be entirely Cuban, and I shall limit my function to attending the convention long enough to declare it open. There will be absolutely nothing that can be tortured into the shape of American coercion. As to the constitution which the convention will adopt, I suppose it will closely resemble that of the United States. No draft of a constitution has been offered for consideration by any one authorized to represent the United States Government. The delegates themselves, I understand, have many drafts, drawn from a busy study of all republican constitutions, from Argentina's to that of this country. Doubtless there will be a warm competition of models, but in their own way they will probably finally settle, as I have said, upon something like our own instrument.

Señor Cancio, Secretary of Finance for Cuba, is urging better business management of the municipalities. Last year the municipalities were allowed almost complete freedom in levying taxes and paying out the receipts; yet the total receipts for the year were thirty *per centum* below the estimated expenditure, not including many expenses which *were met by the State*.

Such a little thing as the failure of the British cruiser *Psyche* to fire a salute when passing Governor's Island, in

**A Breach of Naval
Etiquette.**

New York harbor, may lead to the disciplining of her captain. In the navies of the various Powers the proprieties are very strictly observed. The *Psyche*, which is a third-class cruiser, entered New York harbor on October 22 to get a British fugitive from justice and convey him to the Bermuda Islands. Naval etiquette requires that a national ship shall salute whenever it enters a harbor, provided there is assurance that the salute will be returned. In New York harbor the saluting-point is Castle William, on Governor's Island. When the *Psyche* entered the harbor, she calmly sailed by the quarantine station, without waiting for the usual inspection, and slipped by Castle William without saluting. There was some fog at the time, so that the ship was not observed from the Castle, and the men who had been stationed at the four guns to answer the salute were kept at their posts all day, vainly waiting. The *Psyche* meanwhile proceeded to anchorage and her officers went ashore and accomplished their errand. Meanwhile a quarantine tug chased the cruiser up the river and made an inspection of her at the anchorage. Later in the day, the *Psyche* slipped back down the harbor and out to sea, as quietly as she had come.

It is not known why Captain Pelly, of the *Psyche*, failed to order the usual salute, but naval circles are quite disturbed over the matter, and a formal complaint may be made of his remissness. He says that he did not see the fort and saluted after reaching his anchorage. A French cruiser which lay near by took the salute as intended in honor of herself. A consoling thought is that our Government saved its powder to the value of \$22.68.

★

Commissioner Trimble's inquiry into the supposed plot which was said to have sent the assassin Bresci from Pater-

**The Anarchy In-
vestigation.**

son, N. J., to Italy, appears to have established proof that there was no plot. All the anarchists who were induced to testify declared that Bresci went to Italy on his own initia-