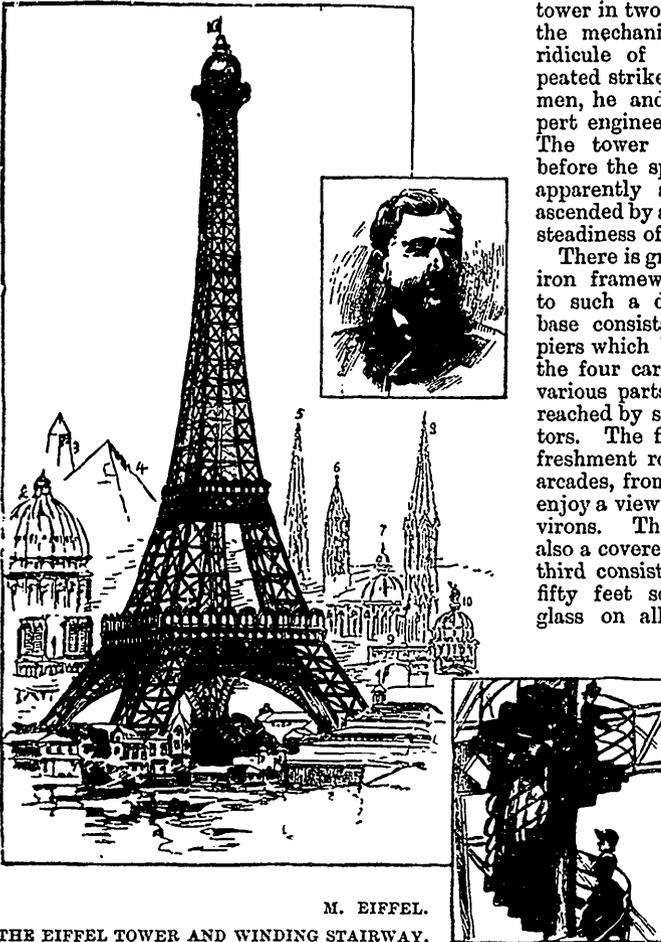


Science Notes.



M. EIFFEL.

THE EIFFEL TOWER AND WINDING STAIRWAY.

COMPARATIVE HEIGHTS OF OTHER STRUCTURES.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. NOTRE DAME, PARIS. | 5. CATHEDRAL, ROUEN. | 8. CATHEDRAL, COLOGNE. |
| 2. ST. PETER'S, ROME. | 6. CATHEDRAL, STRASBURG. | 9. ARC DE TRIOMPHE, PARIS. |
| 3. WASHINGTON MONUMENT. | 7. DES INVALIDES, PARIS. | 10. PANTHEON, PARIS. |
| 4. PYRAMID (GREAT). | | |

The Eiffel Tower will be the most conspicuous feature of the Paris Exposition of 1900, as it was of 1889. Like a gigantic lighthouse it rises above the roofs and domes of the city—an illusion which is heightened by night by the far-flashing Cyclops eye at its summit. Rising to a height of 1,000 feet—500 feet higher than Egypt's greatest pyramid—it was erected in the face of great difficulties and obstacles. M. Eiffel contracted to build the

tower in two years, and, despite the mechanical difficulties, the ridicule of all Paris, and repeated strikes among his workmen, he and his corps of expert engineers kept the pledge. The tower was finished even before the specified time; it is apparently safe, and may be ascended by any one of sufficient steadiness of nerves and head.

There is great strength in this iron framework which springs to such a dizzy height. The base consists of four immense piers which bear the names of the four cardinal points. The various parts of the tower are reached by stairways and elevators. The first landing has refreshment rooms, galleries and arcades, from which visitors can enjoy a view of Paris and its environs. The second story has also a covered gallery, while the third consists of a great salon, fifty feet square, shut in by glass on all sides, and here, sheltered from wind and weather, one can see the magnificent panorama spread out below—the towers, domes, monuments, and boulevards, of the city, the Seine winding in and out like a ribbon of steel, while beyond is the circle of hills which completely surround the city.

Above the third platform are laboratories and observatories for scientific purposes, and in the centre is a winding stairway leading to the lighthouse, where an electric light shines out over the city.

Why the government of France and the municipality of Paris were willing to pay £160,000 in order that the Eiffel Tower should be put up, is a question that has perplexed many a wise head. Some eminent scientists claim that as an observatory it is useless, owing to its