

For many years the clock in Strasburg cathedral has held its own, but now it must give way before the work of an Italian, who has constructed the champion marvelous time-piece of the world.

It occupies a space of two hundred cubic feet and weighs 1,500 pounds. It has two hundred and sixty-five wheels—some as large as those on a four horse wagon—which are kept in motion by one pendulum and twelve weights. Of the weights, the first is wound up every eight days; the second, once in every six months; the third, once in each two years; the fourth, once in each twenty years; the fifth, once a century; and the twelfth, only once in each 3,000 years! The dial indicates seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years, and the leap years from the year 1 A.D. until the end of the year 10,000. The Italian has been offered \$25,000 for his horological wonder.

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Frank Briggs, North Dakota's popular auditor, has lost his cat. Mr. Briggs and family feel the loss keenly; it had been in the family for forty-two years, having been a present to Mr. Brigg's father when a kitten. It was originally a white cat, but since living in Mandan it changed color every time the house was painted, and at the time of its disappearance was yellow with white trimmings. It wore side whiskers and sandburrs in its black hair, with a changeable tail. A big scar adorns one hip, which it got in the war the night it slept in the cannon. There was either some misunderstanding about the time of starting the cannon, or the cat overslept, and it struck a tree three miles in the country, and was lame for a week. It has always borne a good character, was amiable, and always seemed satisfied with Mandan mice or meat market liver. Two years ago it fell in with a bad dog, and lost some of the expression on its left side, but no one ever blamed the cat in the matter, and the dog didn't live long enough to be blamed.

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The human voice has a diversity of range which, considering the simple construction of the larynx, would seem incredible. From a whisper traveling but a few inches, there are all gradations of loudness up to the shout that has been made to travel eighteen miles. This latter remarkable feat was performed in the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. A man shouted the name "Bob" at one end and was heard at the other end, eighteen miles away. Lieutenant Foster, on Peary's third Arctic expedition, conversed with a man across the harbor of Port Bowen, a distance of 6,696 feet, or about a mile and a quarter. Sir John Franklin said he conversed with ease at a distance of more than a mile. Dr. Young records that at Gibraltar the human voice has been heard at a distance of ten miles. Sound has remarkable force in water. Calladon, by experiments made in the Lake of Geneva, estimated that a bell submerged in the sea might be heard at a distance of more than sixty miles. Franklin says that he heard the striking together of two stones in the water half a mile away. Over a surface of water or of ice sound is propagated with greater clearness and strength. Dr. Hutton relates that on a quiet part of the Thames, near Chelsea, he could hear a person read distinctly at a distance of 140 feet; while away from the water the same could only be heard at seventy-six feet. Persons in a balloon can hear voices from the earth a long time after they themselves are inaudible to people below.