

and granite, copper and silver ore, asbestos and a coarse nickel. She shows a piece of nickel ore weighing six tons, and an ingot of nickel weighing 4,500 pounds, and valued at \$2,250. Iowa shows a coal mine with miners at work, and New Mexico a model of a miner's cabin. The petrified wood shown by Arizona is very beautiful, and takes a fine polish. All the foreign countries make fine displays, Cape Colony showing a very large collection of diamonds.

From here we go to the Transportation Building, the only colored building in the group, and one of the most beautiful. The arches that form the grand portal are overlaid with gold-leaf and surmounted with beautifully carved figures. On one side of the entrance is depicted the rudely-made vehicle of the past, drawn by oxen, and on the opposite side the luxurious railway coach of to-day. Within are shown, either by specimen or model, the various conveyances used in ancient and modern times by the different nations of the earth. Very striking is the contrast between the old sailing vessel and the present steamship, the first railway trains and those now in use. The C. P. R. shows a train of cars finished in mahogany, finely upholstered, and lighted by electricity. The Pullman cars on exhibition seem like a succession of beautifully furnished parlors. Many fine models are shown, among them one, 30 feet long, of the ill-fated man-of-war, Victoria, the Nicaragua canal with water in it, and one of the Forth bridge, 20 feet in length.

We next enter the Horticultural Building. Here in the central dome is a miniature mountain, its sides covered with plants and shrubs, among which a stream of water makes its way down, while under the mountain is a large cave. All kinds of tropical plants can be seen here; palms of many varieties, tree-ferns under which you can walk with ease, orange trees bearing fruit, bananas, pine-apples, the rubber tree, and many others of which we have read but now see for the first time. The exhibits of fruit, natural and preserved, from the different countries are also shown here. Of course there is also a large exhibit of plants and flowers outside, in the adjoining grounds and on Wooded Island, which is in the lagoon near, and contains some sixteen acres.

The Children's Building is near here, and is worth visiting. In it is shown everything likely to amuse or instruct children, and also the work of the children in various schools. Here, too, we see children employed in the kindergarten, the moulding room and the gymnasium, while in the creches very young children are taken care of while their mothers are at the Fair. But the most interesting room is the one where children who have been born deaf are taught to talk. Here, by watching and feeling the movements of the vocal organs of their teacher, they are taught to articulate distinctly.

Just beside this building is the Woman's Building. The exhibit here is interesting, chiefly because it is woman's work, showing, as it does, the many departments of labor in which she is engaged, and the excellency of the work done in all. The building itself was designed by a woman. Its marble fountain, its statuary its paintings, and all the work exhibited in it are the work of women. We need not attempt to describe the exhibit, as it covers much the same ground as the department of Liberal Arts, of Fine Arts, etc., in the other buildings.

Not far from the Woman's Building is the one devoted to Fine Arts. It will be impossible in this to mention many of the pictures displayed in those long galleries. In Canada's section we of course noticed Read's, "The Foreclosure of the Mortgage," which has since been awarded a diploma; "The Visit of the Clock-Maker," by the same, is very natural. We remember having often seen, just as it is shown in the picture, the old man with the works of a clock scattered around him on the table. "The Venetian Bather," by the late Paul Peel, is another that attracts attention.

Russia exhibits five or six large paintings, representing scenes in the life of Columbus, the coloring of which is very fine. In the British section, "The Forging of the Anchor" and "The Passing of Arthur" are pictures one will not soon forget. Japan shows a large number of pictures; some are painted and others worked in silk, with stitches so fine that it really looks like painting. She also shows here three vases, each eight feet in height, and valued at \$50,000. It is said to have taken thirty men three years to make them. This building also contains large exhibits of sculpture, casts, models, etc.

From here we go to the Fisheries Building, where are collected both fresh and salt water fish from all parts of the world. Some of them are very valuable, so much so that a hospital, with doctors in attendance, is established in the building, and here the sick fish are brought to be treated. In the centre is a large fountain, containing a great number of fish of various kinds. The tanks are in the walls, and the fish can easily be seen as you walk along. It is very interesting to watch the gold and silver fish, the lobsters, sea anemones and others. A pure white seal from Norway is shown, and also a white whale from the Gulf of

St. Lawrence. Russia, Norway, Sweden and Holland make large exhibits of cured fish.

Just across the lagoon from the fisheries is the U. S. Government Building. All the different departments of the government have very large exhibits here; and besides, there are shown specimens from nearly all the departments of the Exposition. This is interesting, as showing collectively the various products of the U. S.

In a short visit to the Fair one cannot spend much time in the state buildings, but it is well to take a walk among them. Most of the states have fine buildings, and those of foreign countries are specially interesting, displaying as they do their native architecture. Many of them contain exhibits of their products and manufactures, and by leisurely walking through them you get a good idea of the general resources of each country.

We have heard Canada's Building spoken of disparagingly, but think it answers very well the purpose for which it was designed. It contains no exhibits, and is not very large, but it is tasteful in appearance, has comfortable parlors, the necessary offices for each province, reading-rooms, etc., while placards in the halls locate her exhibit in each department.

Of course, a visit to the Fair would be incomplete if it did not include a day on the Midway Plaisance. Here you may see Moors, Javanese, Turks, Persians, Japanese, Egyptians, Chinese, Hawaiians, Bedouins, Dahomeyans and Cannibals from the South Sea Islands, all living and dressing in native style. The Ferris Wheel is one of the popular attractions of the Plaisance. As it slowly revolves, the passengers ascend 250 feet. The ice railway seems to be well patronized, probably by those who have never before had the chance to have a sleigh ride. In the Japanese, the Turkish and the East Indian Bazaars, native goods in great variety are offered for sale. The Street of Cairo is as amusing as interesting, with its foreign-looking buildings, its camels and donkeys, its native pro-

MINNIE MAY'S DEPARTMENT.

MY DEAR NIECES:—

In a few short weeks the great Columbian Exposition will be a thing of the past, leaving, however, many broadened views and happy memories with those who have been privileged to visit the great White City. Those of you who have not yet done so, I would urge to make every effort in your power to spend a few days at least within its gates. Such an opportunity will never be within your reach again during this generation, and, now that railway fares are reduced (with a prospect of being lower still), by careful management the trip need not be an expensive one. Deny yourselves in other ways, but by all means visit the Fair, for it will furnish you with food for pleasant and profitable thoughts for many months to come, and give you a clearer idea of the thought and advancement of the nations than you can gather by much reading. If you ask me what impressed me most, I can but answer: The immensity of it all, the lofty design and the accurate execution. One cannot but be struck with the order which prevails on every side, it being quite possible for ladies to go alone without suffering either annoyance or inconvenience—at least, such proved our experience during a recent visit to Chicago.

Apart from the great exhibition proper, we were interested in strange people, in foreign people and their ways, so that we paid two or three visits to some places and streets in the Midway Plaisance. Here one is apt to forget that one is really in America, there are so many Egyptians, Hindoos, Cingalese and Wild Arabs in swathed heads, Soudanese, Algerians, Persians and Dahomeyans, and in such great numbers—the place is alive with foreigners in queer dress and living after their own peculiar custom. In the streets of Cairo alone there are three hundred and fifteen—is it not Cairo indeed, one is apt to think, for although the walls and the fashion of them are artificial, yet they are built on the exact model of the real. A street in Cairo, with its donkey rides, its camel rides, of which you are given a perfect description in this number, its confused, shouting, noisy, good-natured crowd, cannot fail to interest. Here, as well as in the streets of Constantinople, we were much amused with the natives disposing of their wares and displaying to the best advantage their few English phrases.

There was no attraction on Midway Plaisance that so interested us as the Javanese Village, where the habits and customs of these people are fully exemplified and their everyday life faithfully portrayed. In this village there are one hundred and twenty-five from the Island of Java living in prettily shaped houses, as you will observe in our illustration, made of bamboo of various colors. They are a gentle-voiced people, with merry, laughing eyes, ready to converse, or try to do so, with all who come along. The little dress they wear is not beautiful; some of them go barefooted, but the majority wear sandals which are always left at the door when entering a home.

In the centre of the village you will notice a larger house, where one evening a party of four of us sat and rested and sipped a delicious cup of real Java coffee. It was so enjoyable to sit there seeing and hearing these queer folks—not enjoyable to hear their music though, for of all the hideous, unearthly sounds it was the worst, and this was supposed to be a drawing card and so was placed near the entrance. I fancy it may have kept many out, as the village was fairly empty, fortunately for us. We made the acquaintance of a little girl who calls herself Maud in the meantime. How she would laugh, and how pretty she was bedecked in her own peculiar costume, and wearing a huge silver American watch and a paste diamond ring—new toys which pleased her. She could not tell the time, but was willing and proud to learn how. We left her saying "Chicago good!" "Java good!" "nice ladies!" "nice gentleman!"

The best place to say good-bye and to take leave of this beautiful exhibition is in the grand Court of Honor, where, looking upon a group of buildings so entirely beautiful in themselves and in their arrangements, and down the great basin and upon the Peristyle with its magnificent columns surmounted by its exquisite groups, one's whole being is filled with delight. And later, when all the beauty of the night's illumination flashes out, and the beading of light runs up the golden Administration dome, around every white roof, and about the dark water basin, while the electric fountains flash their jets in green, purple, crimson, gold and green again, a kaleidoscope of color in the air, and over all the great search lights thrown upon the different groups of statuary, and at last resting upon the beautiful statue of the Republic, one is thrilled with the vision of enchanting beauty.

MINNIE MAY.

P. S. Minnie May offers a prize of \$5.00 for the best original Christmas Story—not to exceed one page in length. All communications to be in our office by 1st December.



THE JAVANESE VILLAGE.

cessions, and its noisy Egyptians, crying out their wares. In the Libby Glass Works you can watch the workmen making many of the different articles shown, and can also see them manufacturing it into cloth. There are many other side attractions in connection with the Fair that are worth seeing, but as I fear this is already too long, I shall now close. Before doing so, I would like to say, that we, as Canadians, have certainly reason to be proud of the exhibits made in the different departments by our country, and particularly by Ontario. That we are able to successfully compete with older and more populous countries should surely encourage us to go forward and develop to the utmost the vast resources of our Dominion.

Enormous Search-Lights.

"How far that little candle throws his beams," said the poet; but if he had lived to visit the Chicago Exhibition and see the enormous search-light in the Electricity Building, he might have expatiated upon that also. This gigantic electric light is fitted with a reflecting lens mirror sixty inches in diameter, with a total illuminating intensity of 375,000,000 candle-power. The largest search-light hitherto upon this continent is on Mount Washington, and has a luminosity of 100,000 candle-power. There is being constructed at Penmarch, France, the most powerful search-light in the world. It will have an illuminating capacity of 45,000,000 candle-power, and be capable of sending a double ray of light a maximum distance of 218 kilometres in fair weather. The light at Cape la Heve, at the mouth of the estuary of the Seine, formerly the largest in the world, has a capacity of 23,000,000 candle-power, and throws a single ray of light in clear weather 230 kilometres, 94 kilometres in average, and 37 kilometres in foggy weather. Estimating by the power of the Cape la Heve light, that at the Exposition should be capable of throwing a light-ray over a thousand miles, the kilometre being equal to .62137 miles.