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**SCIENTIFIC AND SANITARY.**

A congress of archaeologists at Rome  
is proposed for 1895, to be held at the time  
the International Fine Art Exhibition  
shall be open. Special excavations, laying  
bare the rest of the Palace of the Cæsars,  
are suggested as an attractive function.

Novel uses said to have been found for  
aluminum are for a folding pocket scale,  
one meter long; a necktie made of metal,  
frosted or otherwise ornamented, in var-  
ious shapes imitating the ordinary silk or  
satin article, which is recommended for  
summer wear, and military helmets.

Within three years the price of platinum  
at the Ural mines has increased five-fold.  
This is due to the heavy demand for this  
metal for electrical purposes. It is now  
nearly as dear as gold, with a reasonable  
prospect that it will soon reach a price that  
will encourage its production on the Pacific  
Coast.

The herbarium of the late Isaac C. Mar-  
tindale, of Philadelphia, comprising more  
than 200,000 different plants and ferns  
gathered from every country in the world,  
has lately been presented to the Philadel-  
phia College of Pharmacy, having been  
purchased from the estate for \$10,000 by  
friends of that institution.

At the arsenal of Rochfort a 6.3 inch  
gun was made up to the extraordinary  
length of 52.5 feet by screwing additional  
tubes to the muzzle so as to make it up to  
90 calibres in length. With a projectile of  
99.2 pounds weight the unprecedented  
muzzle velocity of 3,983 foot seconds was  
obtained.—*Scientific American*

Tricresol, or trikesol, is said by Dr.  
J. M. Charteris, of Glasgow, to be three  
times as strong as carbolic acid as a germi-  
cide and only a third as poisonous, and he  
thinks it is not only safer than carbolic  
acid used externally, but suggests the pos-  
sibility of giving it internally combined  
with an alkaline base in specific infectious  
diseases.—*Maryland Medical Journal*.

More than three hundred species of fish  
hitherto unknown to naturalists are des-  
cribed by M. Leon Vaillant as inhabiting  
the lakes of Borneo. Many other fish are  
identical with species living in the waters  
of the Sunda Islands and of Indo-China.  
As these species never reach the sea, they  
furnish another argument in favor of the  
theory of a former connection of these  
countries.

According to the Glasgow *Evening  
News* it appears that the latest statistics  
issued by the German Imperial Health De-  
partment give to Berlin the honor of being  
the healthiest city in the world. The death-  
rate is given as only 16.3 per 1,000. The  
unhealthiest city is Alexandria, which  
despite its unvarying fine weather, its three  
hundred fountains and its soft sea-breezes,  
has a death-rate of no less than 52.9 per  
1,000.

The Governor of New York has signed  
the bill "Providing that the Governor shall  
appoint a physician, a veterinary surgeon,  
and three members of the New York State  
Dairymen's Association, each of whom shall  
be breeders of three distinct classes of  
cattle, to constitute a commission to ex-  
amine into the existence of tuberculosis  
in cattle, and report needed legislation upon  
this question to the next Legislature."

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tions entitling the winners to free tuition are annual-  
ly open for Competition. Winter Term begins Janu-  
ary 8th.

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in railroad service. Where already in use  
it is a demonstrated economical and practi-  
cal success. The old oil headlight has its  
limits and its disadvantages. The electric  
headlight throws its rays from a half to  
three-quarters of a mile in front of a  
locomotive. Obstructions on the road are  
plainly visible at that distance.—*Age of  
Steel*.

The Baluban tribe of Central Africa  
are famous for their skill in casting and  
forging iron. They construct tall cylindro-  
conical furnaces of clay with tuyeres of clay  
and an ingeniously devised wooden bellows.  
They make arms for hunting and for war,  
and collars and bracelets of iron. The  
neighbouring natives resort to them in great  
numbers to exchange their own products  
for the manufactures of the Balubans.—  
*Popular Science Monthly*.

A writer in the London *Notes and  
Queries* says: "It is worth while record-  
ing that the 'penny-in-the-slot' automatic  
machine was known in the time of Hero of  
Alexandria, who describes in his 'Pneuma-  
tics' a sacrificial vessel which flows only  
when money is introduced. When the coin  
is dropped through the slit it falls on one  
end of a balanced horizontal lever, which,  
being depressed, opens a valve suspended  
from a chain at the other end, and the  
water begins to flow. When the lever has  
been depressed to a certain angle the coin  
falls off, and the valve, being weighted, re-  
turns to its seat and cuts off the supply."  
Hero's date is a little uncertain, but he is  
supposed to have lived B.C. 117-81."