

To facilitate trade between France and Spain, it is proposed to make three railway tunnels under the Pyrenees.

One hundred and twenty-three thousand persons have come from the United States to settle in the Canadian Northwest in the last five years.

The news that Dutch troops have captured another small Atchinese town reminds us that the war in Sumatra is still going on. It began more than thirty years ago.

By the use of blue light, a German investigator has been able to produce insensibility to pain without the loss of consciousness. The discovery has been put to a practical use in dentistry.

Sir William Ramsay is reported to have said that there is a great deal of nonsense written about radium. He does not believe there is a tenth of an ounce of radium in the whole world.

The revolt of the tribesmen against European rule in German Southwest Africa has spread to the Portuguese colony of Angola, where a detachment of Portuguese troops has been defeated by the natives.

With the United States forces still waging war in the Philippines, other wars in Asia and Africa, and grave danger of a war in Europe, a call has been issued for another peace conference at The Hague. No time is set for the meeting.

A new potato, called the Uruguay potato, is attracting notice in France, and is said to be much better than the one which we wrongly call the Irish potato. Another new vegetable for table use comes from Central Asia, and is said to be of better flavor than celery, which it much resembles.

An American explorer claims to have discovered, five years ago, near the northeastern end of Great Slave Lake, a vast and monotonous series of galleries excavated in the solid rock, the walls of which are covered with inscriptions in an unknown language.

The steel arch bridge across the Zambesi river, just below the Victoria Falls, the foundations for which are now nearly completed, will be 400 feet above the water, with a main span of 500 feet. By this bridge the Rhodesian railway will cross the Zambesi.

The British government has, for some reason, refused to let Germany make use of Walfish Bay as a base of operations against the hostile Hereros. Walfish Bay is a British possession, near the middle of the long coast line of German Southwest Africa; and is the only good harbor on the coast.

The remains of a pre-historic town of some 1,500 inhabitants have been discovered in Chili, in a small valley among the mountains. Stone houses, probably built twenty centuries ago, are still standing. The tools of husbandry and household implements found are of stone. The inhabitants were probably Aztecs.

The interruption of work on the Simplon railway tunnel, owing to the encounter of a spring of boiling hot water, may prove to be permanent. The heat increases as the work proceeds.

India is to have the benefits of standard time. It is proposed to adopt in that country, for the use of railways and telegraph lines, a time standard five and a half hours earlier than that of Greenwich. Burmah will have for the same purpose a standard time six and a half hours earlier than Greenwich.

The British force returning from Thibet has to encounter the same hardships from snow and cold in the mountain passes as on the journey northward; and, though the inhabitants are no longer hostile, there is much suffering reported, and some loss of life.

Vast forests of a certain tree from which rubber can be made have been discovered in the interior of Brazil. The product is said to be equal in quality to the best Brazilian rubber. The tree which furnishes this product belongs to the same family as that which furnishes the ordinary rubber of commerce, but has been hitherto but little used as a source of supply.

The greatest cataract in the world is not Niagara, nor the Victoria Falls of the Zambesi, but the falls of the Iguaza, lately discovered in South America. The Iguaza is a tributary of the Parana. The fall is said to be over two hundred feet high, and more than twice as wide as Niagara; and of immense volume and indescribable grandeur in the rainy seasons. Because it is in the heart of an almost impenetrable forest, it has remained so long unknown.

The steamer Neptune has returned from a fourteen months' cruise along our northern coasts, in the interests of the Canadian government. The farthest north point visited was Cape Sabine. One United States whaling vessel and four Dundee whalers were found in Hudson Bay and Baffin's Bay. The Arctic, with the second expedition, which left before the arrival of the Neptune, reached Port Burwell on the first of October.

The very successful flight of an airship at St. Louis, rising to a height of two thousand feet, and sailing against the wind for a part of its course, brings renewed hope of the flying machine becoming somewhat more than a dangerous and costly toy. T. S. Baldwin, the inventor, announces that a fifteen mile trip over a definite course will be attempted, regardless of weather conditions.

Dalgaty is to be the capital of the Commonwealth of Australia. It lies midway between Tumut and Bombala, in the choice between which two the two houses of the Australian parliament could not agree. It is situated on the Snowy river, in the southern angle of New South Wales, near the Victorian border. Forty miles distant is Mt. Kosciusco, the highest point of land on the Australian continent. Eden, N. S. W., is the nearest seaport.