

ANGUS MCKAY of the Hudson Bay Company at Pitt, Saskatchewan Territory, has a trained moose with which he can make the trip to Battleford, 98 miles, and return in two days.

A STEAM omnibus is in use in Dresden. The motive power is applied to the hind wheels, and is supplied by an upright boiler and compound engine. It is used in the streets for carrying passengers, and will seat twenty persons.

THE special car with samples of the products of Manitoba, intended for display at the forthcoming Dominion and Industrial Exhibition in Toronto, which was to have left Winnipeg on Saturday last, will be in the care of Mr. R. Waugh, of the *North-West Farm*.

ONE hundred and twenty tons of phosphate arrived at Kingston, Ont., last week, over the Kingston and Pembroke Railroad, the first instalment of fifteen thousand tons for the United States. At the same time one hundred tons of ore, the first received during six years, arrived from the Robertsville mines.

QUITE a number of Mormons from the United States have settled recently in the Lethbridge, Alberta, district. Over fifty families are already there, and 100 more are said to be coming. Utah doesn't seem to be quite as healthy a place for these people as it was before the Edmunds' Bill became law. Canada had better not encourage Mormon immigration.

At present prices, when we sell \$200 worth of wheat, we have parted with \$57 worth of plant food; in other words, we are selling our farms at the railway stations in a half-bushel. If we sell a horse worth \$200, but \$7 worth of plant food is carried away. When we realize \$200 for butter at 25 cents per pound, we have parted with less than 50 cents worth of plant food.—*Prof. Roberts, in the Empire State Agriculturist.*

A TORPEDO company is now manufacturing for the United States Government three fifteen-inch pneumatic guns of bronze, with forty-foot length of barrel, each calculated to fire a shell containing a ton of dynamite a mile, half a ton two miles, 500 pounds three miles and so on, with reasonable accuracy and safety to crew and ship and guns. The tremendous explosive force of such a projectile would be sufficient to blow any warship to atoms.

MR. SMEATON, Director of Agriculture of the Northwest Provinces of India, has issued a note on the competition between Indian and American wheat. He says India possesses means to compel America to withdraw her hostile tariffs and open her markets to British industry, but is burdened by higher railway freight charges, excessive handling, and apparently (though not really) inferior quality. He advises London merchants to use their influence with the railway.

MR. J. E. PALMER, 176 Broadway, New York, the publisher, has sent us a copy of "The Red Book: a Handbook for Textile Manufacturers," its object being to place in the hands of superintendents and agents of cotton, woolen, and worsted mills a complete list of manufacturers of the various machines, chemicals and supplies used in the textile industries. This, the third edition of the Red Book, is well printed, bound in cloth, and is sold at the reasonable price of one dollar.

A WATER bicycle was propelled across the Niagara river, below the falls, recently, with reported success by its owner. The machine is of the catamaran order and consists of two zinc floats 10 feet long, supporting a bicycle wheel, on the rim of which are a number of 6x3-inch paddles. A small rudder takes the place of the second wheel on the ordinary bicycle and is operated from in front of the rider, who uses a small horizontal steering wheel instead of a bar. The time was four and a half minutes and the distance about 1,300 feet. The swift current and the chop waves did not seem to bother him.

ELECTIONS for delegates to the Minneapolis Convention of the Knights of Labor have developed a tidal wave of opposition to the present administration of the Order. The opposition is apparent in all directions; and while not generally aimed at Mr. Powderly, will, it is almost certain, engulf him with the men who, by their attempt at centralization of power, have incurred the enmity of the laymen of the Order. The October convention will be a memorable one. If the organization survives the dissensions which now threaten its existence, it will come out of the struggle much weaker and its members "a deal" wiser.—*Industrial Gazette.*

MR. J. FITZGERALD, publisher, 24 East Fourth street, New York, has sent us "The Rise of Universities," by S. S. Laurie, LL.D.; price, postpaid, 30 cents. Every educator, and all who take

an interest in the history of education, will find this work to contain a vast amount of information of the highest importance. That nearly all of the great universities of Europe should have arisen in the deepest darkness of the middle ages is in itself a phenomenon worthy of serious study. Truly the founders of those institutions builded better than they knew, for the universities, directly or indirectly, have been the principal agency for the overthrow of all the principles of science and philosophy that were most prized in mediæval times.

THE Zoological Society of Regent's park, London, England, are sending the Toronto Natural History Society a series of living English reptiles for the Dominion and Industrial Exhibition, and a letter has been received from the secretary, Dr. Selater, stating that a collection of snakes, lizards, toads, frogs and newts, comprising over one hundred specimens, is now on its way across the Atlantic. The Allan Steamship Line have given the specimens free passage in one of their vessels, and it is expected that the collection will reach Toronto by the end of this week. One of the Canadian snakes, which Dr. Brodie is keeping ready for the Exhibition, has given birth to between thirty and forty young ones, and the mother and her little family will form one of the most attractive features of the Natural History building.

A CLOSE observer of the fire extinguishers tests said:—Did you ever notice that all these tests are made under very similar conditions? There is a barrel with a hole at the bottom or a closet-shaped erection of wood, but never a pile of fuel to which the air has access from every side to represent a heap of rubbish. You will also notice that the fire is never set to the back of the closet-shaped structure, but always to the front, so that it is prevented from spreading out. The reason is that in the barrel or enclosure the gas generated by the chemicals curls up in front of the fire and chokes it off; but if the air had access from all sides, the gas would quickly be dissipated, and the fire go on with undiminished vigor. Now, fires start under all sorts of conditions, and the tests should be arranged to cover all these.—*Globe.*

MR. W. J. BELL, of Messrs. W. Bell & Co., manufacturers of organs, Guelph, Ont., who has for some time had charge of the business department of the concern at 58 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C., England, will sail in a few days on the steamer from San Francisco to Sidney, New South Wales, and will remain in Australia about a year, looking after the interests of his firm, his headquarters being at Sydney. He will establish agencies in all the principal cities in Australia for the sale of the celebrated Bell instruments. Mr. Bell was to have been married yesterday in Omaha, Neb., to a daughter of General Lowe, of that city, and his wife will journey with him into the Southern Hemisphere. Until Mr. Bell's return to London the office there will be in the charge of Mr. John Jenkinson, who has long been connected with the business.

THE third volume of Alden's "Cyclopedia of Universal Literature," now ready (cloth binding 60 cents, half morocco 75 cents), contains 496 pages, and represents eighty-six of the most famous authors of the world, of all nations and languages. There are nearly three hundred choice literary selections representing these authors—a truly wonderful amount of entertaining literature for a little money. The work is designed to be completed in 15 volumes. The publisher offers a sample volume, postpaid, for the nominal price of 35 cents, on condition that within three days after receipt the remainder of the price be remitted or the book be returned, in which case the money will be refunded—half morocco binding 50 cents, on the same conditions. Descriptive catalogue of the publisher's very large list of standard books sent free. John B. Alden, publisher, 393 Pearl street, New York.

THE revenue and expenditures accounts of the Dominion Government for the last fiscal year have been closed, and show the former to have been \$35,801,941.46 and the latter \$35,667,504.26, leaving a surplus of \$134,437.20. The sources of revenue were as follows: Customs, \$22,395,993.23; Excise, \$1,308,195.35; Post office, \$2,012,062.17; Public works, including railways, \$3,488,022.79; Miscellaneous, \$1,597,667.92. Total, \$35,801,941.46. Compared with last year this shows an increase of \$2,450,521.89 in revenue and a decrease of \$3,509,458.98 in expenditure. Every item of revenue shows an increase, except miscellaneous, which is \$1,288,451.32 less than last year, the falling off being mostly in the item of interest consequent on the closing up of the Canadian Pacific railway accounts. The increases are: Customs, \$3,022,141.12; excise, \$455,157.76; post office, \$112,907.17; public works, \$188,767.16.

LUMBERMEN generally expect to cut about as much in the woods this year as was cut last year, if nothing interferes with the season's