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CONTENTS:

OIL-BURNING STEAM-ENGINES..... 73	Is the Race Degenerating?..... 87
WATER FILTRATION AND AERATION.. 74	To investigate Diseases of Swine... 87
THE CULTIVATION AND UTILIZATION OF RAMIE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA..... 75	MENTAL SCIENCE.
AN AIR-SHIP..... 78	A Statistical Study of Sleep and Dreams..... 87
ELECTRICAL NEWS.	ETHNOLOGY.
Hertz's Researches on Electrical Oscillations..... 79	Jade in Alaska..... 88
Another Electric Road at Atlantic City, N. J..... 80	Navajo Industries..... 89
West End Electric Road at Boston. 80	BOOK-REVIEWS.
A Southern Electric Railway started 80	Elements of Machine Design..... 89
A New System of Electrical Distribution..... 81	Gear Tables for laying out Accurate Tooth Profiles..... 89
The Westinghouse and United States Companies..... 81	The Secret Doctrine..... 89
NOTES AND NEWS..... 81	Healing Question..... 90
EDITORIAL..... 82	The Fundamental Orders of Connecticut..... 90
Politics in the Schools of New Jersey. — Capt. Zalinski's Pneumatic Gun. — The Government Printer	The Seventh Annual Report of the State Board of Health of New Hampshire..... 90
SOMETHING ABOUT TORNADOES	AMONG THE PUBLISHERS..... 90
J. P. Finley 83	LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.
THE SITUATION IN SAMOA..... 85	Indian Relics from North Carolina
HEALTH MATTERS.	L. N. Johnson 92
Poisonous Milk..... 86	The Characteristic Curves of Composition
The Pasteur Institute..... 87	Appleton Morgan 92
	The Permian Rocks of Texas
	Robt. T. Hill 92

IT APPEARS that *Science* will have to widen the field of its activity in combating politics in the schools. New Jersey is suffering, apparently, as New York City is, but with this important difference: in New York the politicians are entrenched; in New Jersey they are seeking to gain possession. The situation is this. A year ago an inefficient State superintendent of public instruction was superseded, on the expiration of his term of office, by Col. Charles W. Fuller, a lawyer of high standing, and a man of force and character. In one year he has revolutionized the administration of the office. On every side evidences of new life and activity are to be seen. The best and most useful teachers' institutes in the history of the State were held last autumn, with excellent results. Manual training, compulsory education, increased salaries, and other important measures, have been aided by Col. Fuller's administration. It so happens, however, that Col. Fuller is a member of a certain political party, which is not the one in control of the legislature this winter. In this the politicians have found their opportunity, and, by arousing partisan passions, are straining every nerve to legislate Col. Fuller out of office. It is not believed that this disreputable scheme will succeed, for every manly and fair-minded legislator, of whatever party, will oppose carrying politics into the schools. If the press of New Jersey expose the character of the contemplated legislation, it will surely fail.

ON THE 26th instant the board of naval officers continued its experiments with Capt. Zalinski's gun, the firing of which was to determine the accuracy of the range of the projectiles, which must, according to the requirements, fall within a rectangle 50 by 150 feet. The ranges were at 200 yards, 1,000 yards, and one mile; and although nothing positive can be stated, as the official report has not yet been made public by the Navy Department, it is confidently believed that the trial, which showed effective action of over 50 per cent of the shots fired, will be a triumph for the company that has so boldly attempted to solve the problem of projecting large masses of high explosive at a sufficient rate of speed to insure accuracy in the flight of the shell containing the explosive. Should the trial be considered as not satisfactorily answering every requirement of the specifications, it would be some two weeks before another trial could take place, owing to there not being a sufficient number of projectiles on hand. The official table of data of the trial, including the range of each projectile, is given below. It will be seen from the column of ranges that five projectiles fell within a rectangle of 50 feet by 100 feet, or the limits specified by the contract. These shots were Nos. 1, 4, 5, 6, and 9 in the order of firing. There being nine shots fired in all, it is seen that 50 per cent came within the rectangular limits. But the question is, Will the board consider the spirit of the contract fulfilled by the above, or, if the members do report favorably on the gun's accuracy, will the secretary of the navy demand a second trial and a rigid adherence to the contract provisions, as shown in the report of the trial? The following is the official table of Saturday's trial:—

No. of Fire.	Ranges.	Weight of Projectile.	Loss of Pressure.	Time of Flight.
1	2,177	450	125	Lost.
2	2,017	452	122	11 3/4
3	2,000	453 1/2	105	12 1/4
4	2,159	451 3/4	123	12
5	2,156	445	125	11 1/2
6	2,127	448 1/2	123	12*
7	2,055	454	110	11 2-5
8	2,090	483	220	13
9	2,154	440	125	12 4-5

* Approximate.

The elasticity of the requirements under which the trial was conducted may permit of the above being taken as satisfactory to the government, inasmuch as the firing at the 1,000 and 200 yards' ranges in itself proved the accuracy of the new guns.

ALL SCIENTIFIC MEN in government employ whose works will pass through the Government Printing-Office will be gratified, that, by the common consent of those who know him best, Alexander R. Hart of this city has been put forward as the best qualified and most available candidate for public printer under the new administration. For several years he has prepared engravings and illustrations of a scientific nature for the Smithsonian Institution, the United States Fish Commission, and other departments of the government. He has long been at the head of one of the best-organized and most thoroughly equipped printing and engraving establishments in this city, if not in the world. He is acknowledged to be a man of splendid executive ability, and he possesses a thorough knowledge of the printing and engraving business, down to the most minute details. He has worked his way from the foot of the industrial ladder by just such qualities as fit him for the position now suggested for him, where he would command the respect not only of those under his supervision, but also of all others who, socially or officially, should be thrown into contact with him.

Politics in the Schools of New Jersey -- Capt. Zalinski's Pneumatic Gun -- The Government Printer

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