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(Illustrated articles are marked with an asterisk.)

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Detailed table of contents for the supplement, listing sections like 'I. ENGINEERING AND MECHANICS', 'II. TECHNOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY', etc., with sub-articles and page numbers.

THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.

The sky was overcast throughout a great part of the United States on the morning of December 6; and, as a rule, the atmospheric conditions during the time of the transit were not favorable for continuous and exact observation.

In this city the observations were fairly good after the first contact, which was missed, until toward the end of the transit, when the sky became overcast again.

At the Naval Observatory, Washington, all four contacts were observed with the twenty-six equatorial, the first and last contacts through thin clouds. The sun was obscured during the middle of the day, yet a number of good measurements of the diameter of Venus were secured.

At Princeton, Professor Young observed all four contacts, partly through thin clouds, but on the whole satisfactorily, and took one hundred and eighty-eight photographs, mostly excellent; some were affected by clouds.

At the Allegheny Observatory, Pittsburg, Professor Langley's observations were only partially successful. Clouds prevented exact determinations of contacts and all photometric and spectroscopic work.

Observers in other places noticed light spots in the surface of Venus, some suspecting them to be snow-fields.

The observations of Professor Eastman, at Cedar Keys, Florida, were quite successful, though the first contact was lost by the intervention of a cloud.

The observations made at Yale College were much impaired by clouds. Professor Waldo reports over one hundred and fifty photographs, showing the full sun with a reference line from a horizontal mercurial surface photographed at the same time.

Considerable good work was done at Cambridge Observatory. The German astronomers at Hartford, Conn., secured eight sets of observations with the heliometer.

At the Lick Observatory, Mount Hamilton, Colo., the day was splendidly clear, and many photographs were taken.

The European observers were generally thwarted by bad weather. Favorable observations are reported from Cape Town and Durban, South Africa.

Professor Davidson's party in New Mexico were favored with a clear sky and steady atmosphere. The contacts were clearly observed. Two hundred and sixteen excellent photographs were obtained, and a large number of measurements were made with great precision.

Favorable reports are also made by observers in the West Indies and Central America. At Melbourne, Australia, successful observations were made, but observers in Queensland and Sydney were disappointed.

THE GREAT STATUE OF LIBERTY.

A large and enthusiastic meeting was held in this city November 28, to promote the subscription for the pedestal of Bartholdi's "Liberty Enlightening the World," to be presented to the United States by the French nation and erected on Bedloe's Island, New York Harbor.

The chairman of the committee having in charge the collection of money for the pedestal, Hon. Wm. M. Evarts, after reviewing the circumstances under which the project was started in our Centennial year, said that a communication had just been received from the Committee of the Franco-American Union describing the popularity of the project in France.

Touching the magnitude of the proposed monument, Mr. Evarts said: The simple statue will be, from the plinth to the top of the torch, 145 feet in height. From the water level up to the highest point in the span of the Brooklyn Bridge is but 135 feet—10 feet less than this truly colossal statue.

It is fitting that so noble a monument of skill and industry, so generous a contribution, should be framed as a magnificent gift from the French people, as one of the great evidences that the great international relations of value and importance between great countries are no longer maintained by courts and cabinets, but spring out of the intermingling pulses of the people.

The great Colossus of Rhodes, known in its time as the seventh wonder of the world, was erected to show the gratitude of the Rhodians to the Egyptian king who was their ally in war when their liberties were threatened by the King of Macedon. They were a small people, inhabiting an island of but 450 square miles, but that great work of theirs was erected at a cost of 300 talents, of the value then of between \$400,000 and \$500,000. It was but 105 feet high.

All the conditions of our acceptance of this great conception and great execution are already fixed. The French have spent \$250,000 upon the statue, and the best computation, without unnecessary expense, fixes the cost of the pedestal at \$200,000 to \$250,000.

THE PROPOSED COTTON CENTENNIAL.

The great success of the cotton fair at Atlanta, and the resulting advantages to the cotton growing States, have led to a still more ambitious project, which the South ought not to allow to fail. It is nothing less than a World's Fair in commemoration of the hundredth year of the cotton industry of this country.

The National Cotton Planters' Association of America are responsible for the proposition and the choice of date for holding the fair, and are now waiting to see which of the commercial cities of the South will subscribe the half million dollars for the choice of location.

"It is proposed to raise not less than \$2,500,000, one-fifth of which, at least, will be required as a subscription from the city securing the exposition. Every kind of machinery used in the manufacture of cotton is expected to be exhibited in motion and at work just as in the factory. The utmost importance will be attached to exhibits of improved