

### THE PALACE OF FOOD PRODUCTS AT THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.

Up to the present, in universal exhibitions or those of less importance, food products have been relegated to unoccupied corners, or placed under tents put up in haste in ephemeral board structures having no pretensions to magnificence.

In 1889 this is all changed. The managers of the exposition, with a true appreciation of the influence that alimentation has upon a people, from a physical as well as an intellectual and a hygienic as well as a moral standpoint, have accorded the *animal* the place that belongs to it.

The fine arts have a palace on the Champ de Mars; and food products, too, have theirs—a true palace, vast, sumptuous, and monumental. The architect in charge of the work, Mr. Baubin, whose unaffected modesty shuns renown and applause, and who, moreover, is one of the most distinguished of his profession, has striven to scatter the "gold dust of his talent" over the work confided to him, and gastronomy will not have to be jealous of its grave neighbors.

The facade of the Gargantua Hotel is charming in its simplicity. Almost on a level with the water, in the base-

### Natural History Notes.

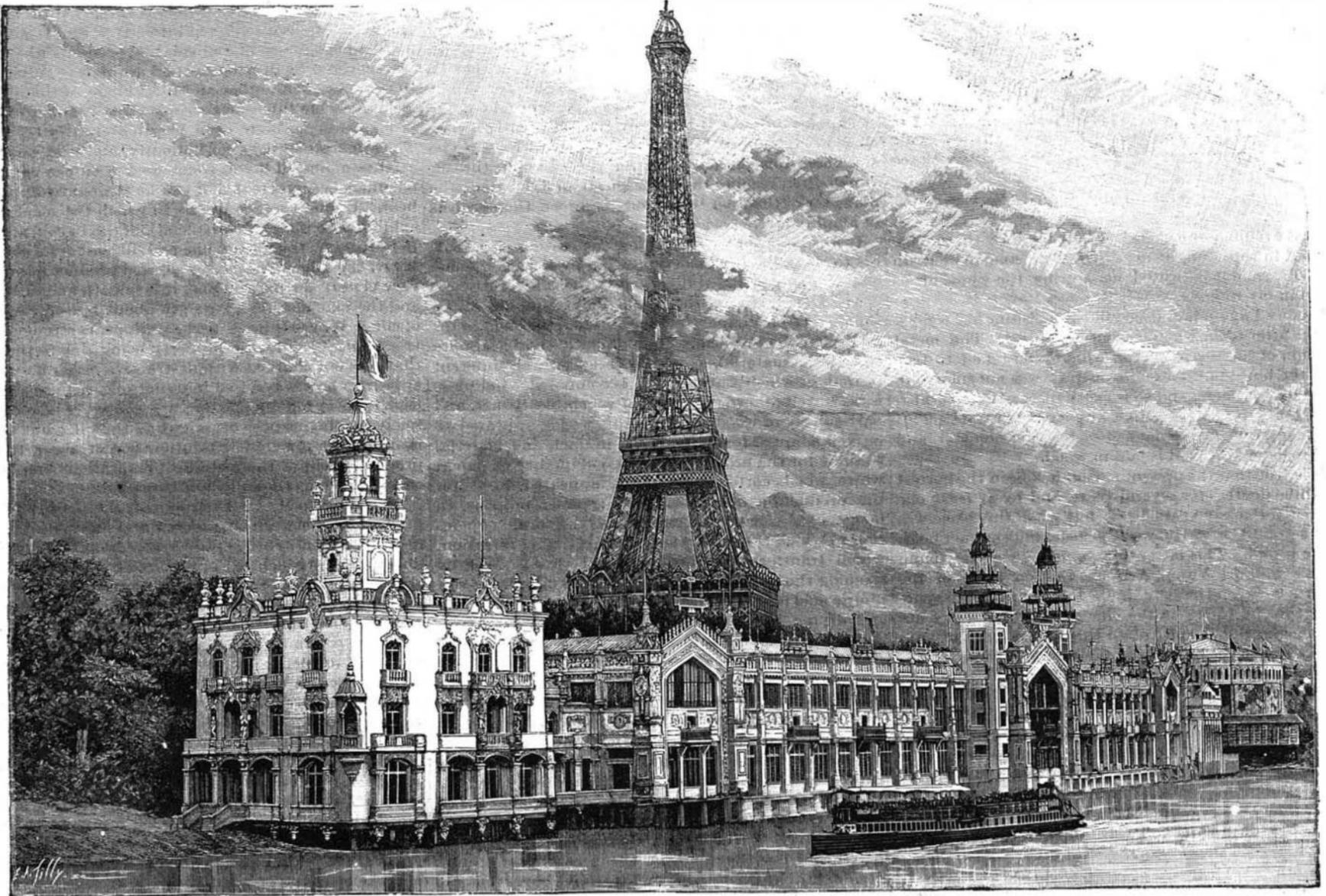
*The Larva of the Common Tiger Beetle.*—For agility, strength, and ferocity, this larva is a veritable tiger among the insect world. Its body is long and narrow when young, but becomes broader as the larva approaches the pupa state. After each moult its color is a soft creamy white, which in a few hours changes to a dead black, except in the creases and under parts, which remain lighter. When hungry, it is lithe, active, and quick-motived, jerking, twisting, and throwing its tail up over its back when molested. Its strong jaws, too, are ever as ready to be used in its defense as in procuring food. The specimens observed by me seem to prefer cutworms as an article of diet, the common garden worm being usually chosen. The tiger larva seizes the worm near its head as it lies in its underground retreat. The struggles of the doomed worm—often several times larger than its assailant—throw both combatants to the surface of the ground, where it continues in the vain effort to free itself until it can struggle no longer, the bloodthirsty little tiger burying its jaws deeper and deeper into its victim, until sometimes its whole head and fore legs are hidden. Without loosening its hold it continues to drain the

laid their eggs on him and the myriads of tiny maggots that hatched out of these eggs burrowed into him and literally ate him alive—a cruel ending to a cruel life. When nothing was left of him but a shell, and a very thin shell at that, the maggots pupated, and shortly after came forth tiny, innocent-looking flies, to act over the same tragical drama. Well, such is (insect) life! In the midst of prosperity comes adversity, and *vice versa*.

WALTER A. LYNN.

### The American Catalogue.

The United States Commission have earned the distinction, says *Engineering*, of being the last country of importance to publish a catalogue. Although it appears thus tardily it is a very creditable production, being issued as a bound volume of about 250 pages. The map that accompanies the volume has been copied from that issued with the British catalogue. Probably a feeling of delicacy on the part of the American compiler made him hesitate to acknowledge the source, for it is such a very badly executed copy. Nearly 2,000 names of exhibitors are recorded in the index, a large result as to quantity, but somewhat misleading, as a



THE FRENCH EXHIBITION—THE PALACE OF ALIMENTARY PRODUCTS.

ment, are seen wines placed in lines in a hall that preserves the coolness of a cellar. On the first floor, facing the Seine, and on the ground floor of the quay side, extend spacious galleries, in which are brought together all the food products of the world. Three halls, one in the center and two in the wings, are glazed from the flooring up, and are surmounted with cornices in the form of angular frontons that intersect the long line of the entablature. The central *motif* is flanked by two very original turrets, which terminate in openwork belvederes whose elegant outline is coquettishly reflected in the river.

Wooden balconies here and there perforate the wall against which the sashes rest within. The entire sculptural decoration, in the gutter, the frieze, the jamb linings, the brackets, and the pilasters, recall the divinity of this cathedral erected to gluttony.—*L'Illustration*.

### Pasteur's Method for Rabies.

Before the Academy of Sciences a paper was lately read by M. L. Pasteur on the prophylactic method as applied to patients after being bitten. In his brief report for the year ending May 1, 1889, the director of the Pasteur Institute announces the treatment of 1,673 subjects, of whom 6 were seized with rabies during and 4 within a fortnight after the process. But 3 only succumbed after the treatment had been completely carried out, making 1 death in 554, or, including all the cases, 1 in 129.

worm until it is gorged and the worm a mere shell, when it leaves what remains of its victim and retires under the damp earth, where it remains inactive until ready to moult.

In one experiment three tiger beetle larvæ, two of them over half an inch long and the other much smaller, were placed in an insect cage containing thirteen cutworms. In two days only three of the worms were left in company with the two larger tigers, the smaller and the ten worms having been killed and devoured by the larger two. The worms were not, however, so completely drained as those I had observed before. Probably the larvæ had selected the choicest parts on account of the plentiful supply. They had visibly increased in size, but not to the extent one might suppose after having had such a feast. The supply of cutworms running short, the stronger larva did not allow his brotherly regard to interfere with his appetite, but fell upon and devoured his weaker companion. I kept him two weeks, during which he ate seventeen worms, nearly all of them larger than himself.

But a fate more terrible than that of the cutworms overtook him at last. He became dormant and prepared to go into the pupal state. For a day or so I had noticed many very small flies around his cage, but did not think of parasites, which was just what these small flies were. The tiger larva shed his larval skin, and while he was in this condition, soft and utterly helpless, the parasites attacked him. The little flies had

appears on analysis. In the groups devoted to works of art there are 255 exhibitors, and some highly creditable pictures have been contributed. Thanks chiefly to Mr. Pickering's efforts the collection in the Machinery Hall is a very high class one, but the Industrial Court appears to be a great disappointment to Americans themselves. At least 700 exhibitors are found in those classes devoted to education, books, printing, etc., and nearly all the objects shown are either current numbers of periodicals, reports or catalogues of publications or of institutions. Current numbers of the *California Cackler*, the catalogue of books in the Young Men's Christian Association library at Meriden, Conn., the file of the *Swarthmore Phoenix*, and even Betsy Ann White's *Three Holes in a Chimney* have more of a local than an international interest, and do not tend to elevate the standard of excellence.

Our contemporary might have added the above forms part of the fun to pay for which Congress appropriated two hundred and fifty thousand dollars cash from the treasury.

### Hot Decks in Torpedo Boats.

The steel torpedo boat D lately arrived at Calcutta from England, but it is to be feared one great drawback to her general utility will be her iron or steel decks, which radiate heat copiously. Her chief officer was landed at Kidderpur ill with sunstroke. A few iron decks are coated with India rubber, but it is a poor heat insulator.