

"Bish" on Birds.

"Bish" says that "birds having long legs have to have a long neck."

"How's that, Bish?"

"Why, you see, if they didn't have a long neck, they couldn't drink without sitting down."

"Well, Bish, some birds have long necks and short legs. How is that?"

"You'll find these things are all calculated out. These birds having long necks have use for them. You are thinking about the swan. Well, he likes a bit now and then from the bottom of the water, and his long neck is to enable him to satisfy this taste; besides, long necked birds feed on food of a poor quality, so that to get any enjoyment out of eating, they have to have a long neck to enable them to taste it long enough to make it enjoyable."

"How about snipes?"

"Snipes! well, some of them haven't a very long neck, to be sure, but they have what amounts to the same thing—a long bill—and they are rigged so that they can tip up to make up for the rest. Now," said Bish, full of the long neck idea, "the ostrich has the longest legs of any bird I know. Look at his neck! It easily reaches to the ground. Doesn't this prove my position? And his legs are strong enough to hold up an elephant. Speaking of the elephant," continued Bish, "he isn't a long necked bird, I mean animal. He hasn't any neck at all, and he is so heavy that he can't sit down every time he wants a drink or a mouthful of hay. See how these things are calculated out for him. Could anything be handier than his trunk?"

"How about snakes, Bish?"

"All neck. They can reach anywhere for food or drink. Returning to birds," said Bish, "did it ever occur to you that birds that roost can't fall over backward?"

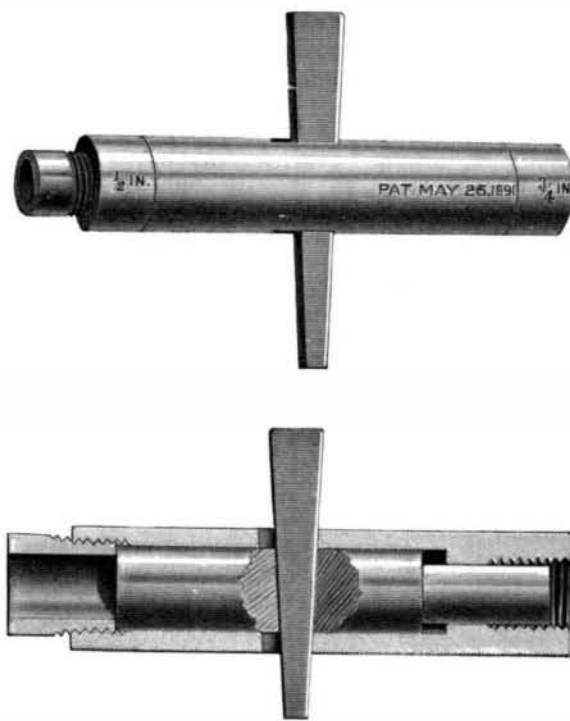
"No, indeed. How do you explain that?"

"Well, you see, their claws reach around the perch, so that when they begin to lean over backward, their claws tighten like a pair of pipe tongs. I tell you," said Bish, "these things are all calculated out."

PAINTED PAPER.—Unsize paper is coated with an aqueous solution of dextrin. When this coat is dry a layer of siccativ oil paint is applied; and the sheet so obtained may be used for packing purposes, to render fabrics impermeable to water, etc.

NIPPLE HOLDER.

As shown in the accompanying cut, this holder is double ended and holds two sizes of nipples $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch. They are made in various sizes running from $\frac{3}{8}$ inch to 4 inches, and can be used in a machine or a vise. These holders are so arranged that when the thread is cut, the nipple can be removed by simply starting back the wedge. This loosens the inner part

**NIPPLE HOLDER.**

of the holder and allows the nipple to be easily taken out with the fingers. The sectional view shown in lower cut clearly shows the operation of the wedge. Formerly the nipple was driven in so firmly that after the thread was cut, wrench or tongs had to be used, which often broke or damaged the nipple. These holders are made by the Armstrong Manufacturing Company, of Bridgeport, Conn.

Chicago Fair Items.

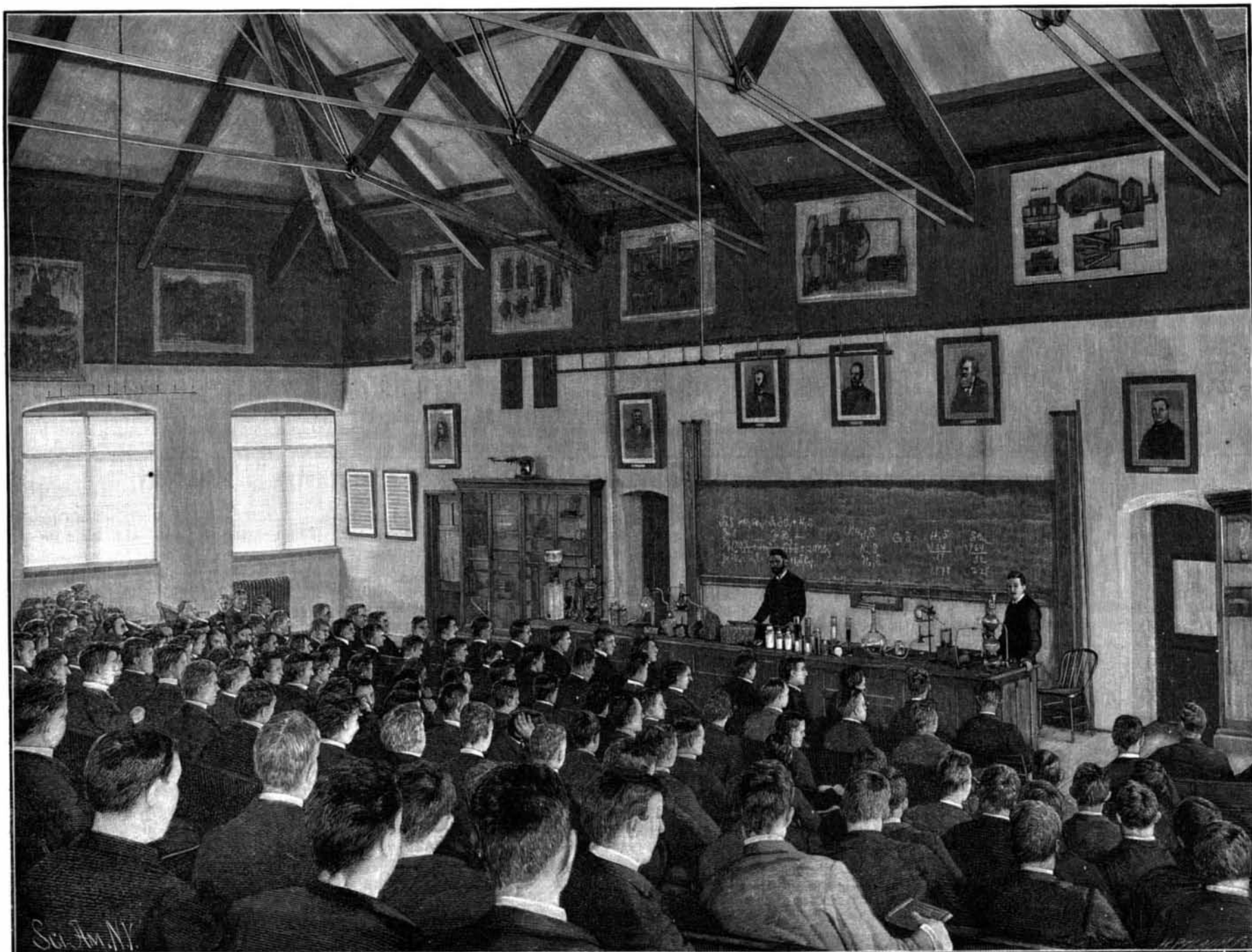
Mr. James Dredge, editor of *Engineering*, London, and Sir Henry Trueman Wood, the Royal Commissioners for Great Britain and Ireland to Chicago's World's Fair, passed through New York last week homeward bound.

They had been to Chicago and selected a site for a building suitable for the British exhibits. The commissioners express their belief that our exposition will be the grandest that any nation has had and that their manufacturers will be well represented, notwithstanding their aversion to our tariff.

Mr. Stepani, of Berlin, wants to build a Moorish castle on the World's Fair grounds, and proposes to spend \$500,000 on it. He exhibited a structure of this kind at Paris, but its cost was much less. The plans have been submitted to the Committee on Ways and Means, and if they are adopted visitors will certainly be dazzled by the Oriental magnificence of Mr. Stepani's palace. The building, it is proposed, shall be 200 × 200 feet, one story high, and constructed of brick in the Moorish style. Mirrors will make of the interior a place of brilliant and many times multiplied reflections. Indeed, one will be likely to lose himself in the maze of beveled and prismatic glass, for it is intended that a feature of the castle shall be a labyrinth where the illusions are to be so perfect that on entering one will think he is advancing to an endless series of colonnades.

Good Eyesight of Indians.

Dr. L. Webster Fox is of opinion that savage races possess the perception of color to a greater degree than do civilized races. In a lecture lately delivered before the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, he stated that he had just concluded an examination of 250 Indian children, of whom 100 were boys. Had he selected 100 white boys from various parts of the United States, he would have found at least five of them color blind; among the Indian boys he did not discover a single case of color blindness. Some years ago he examined 250 Indian boys, and found two color blind, a very low percentage when compared with the whites. Among the Indian girls he did not find any. Considering that only two females in every 1,000 among whites are color blind, he does not think it surprising that he did not find any examples among the Indian girls.



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