

IS IT PERPETUAL MOTION?

The Invention of an Ohio Man Who Expects to Revolutionize the World.

An Electrical Machine Which He Claims Will Run Until It Wears Itself Out.

Mystery of Force.

For half a century, writes a Mansfield, O., correspondent of *The Cincinnati Commercial Gazette*, D. M. Cook has been a familiar figure in Richland county, and has been marked for his singular inventive genius. In 1850, when a young man, he became impressed with the wonders of electrical science, and then became enamored of its study. He began to delve into the unknown of this hidden force, and for thirty-six years in alternately brilliant and adverse circumstances has trodden over this field till there is no nook or corner with which he is unacquainted. He commenced his studies at a time when little was known of electricity, and by a pursuit of knowledge in that direction with unbounded zeal, he has not only kept pace with the wizards of the day, but has so far gotten in advance of them that his assertions are almost accepted as altogether incredulous.

But no matter whether his claims seem wonderful and almost beyond belief, they are worthy of credence, for he must be placed in the list of successful inventors. In 1852 he conceived and constructed a device that revolutionized the manufacture of sorghum sirup. The device was called an evaporator, and was used to make sirup from sorghum. His principle was to run the juice across a heated surface in zig-zag rows till the juice would run out as a pure sirup ready for the table, the water being evaporated in its passage, and the impurities being thrown to one side. On this he received letters patent in 1858, and in 1859 a company began the manufacture of the same. Thousands and thousands were disposed of, varying in price from \$25 to \$35, over \$4,000,000 being realized, on which the inventor got a handsome royalty. Through this he derived quite a fortune, although a portion of it he spent in improving and introducing the device. Even to this day a firm in Cincinnati is engaged in the manufacture of this same evaporator, from which the members of the firm made themselves rich. Cook, however, several years ago lost his right to the royalty by some means or other, and has not been drawing anything from that source since.

Save for this slight diversion, Mr. Cook has not experimented in any field outside of electricity since thirty-eight years ago to any considerable extent, but in this direction he can be said to have spent the greater part of his life. For a while he sought to solve the question of cheap power, light, etc., by producing the proper current by means of a battery. He invented a battery of peculiar value for telegraph purposes, which was in use for a long time at Crestline, on the Western Union, and until the discovery of the cheap gravity battery that is now in use. But Mr. Cook long ago concluded in his own mind that in dynamic electricity lay future success. Accordingly he cast aside the battery as a secondary affair, and set about to experiment with dynamo of novel and peculiar construction.

For several years past he would occasionally meet me and speak of his discoveries in the electrical field, but would say that he had not yet secured the results he was after. He would tell me: "When I get my experiments completed I want to show you what will revolutionize the world. I propose to make a perpetual electric generator or motor which will propel itself by its own current, the resistance of the generator proper being only about 10 per cent. of the rotary power of the electric engine upon which the current of the generator acts."

This assertion was sufficient to shock an ordinary person's nerves, but I accepted the statement with much allowance. However, I became interested and kept watching results. Last November Mr. Cook came to me and said: "I have at last met with success. I have found the principle that I have been hunting for so long. I can now start a dynamo to going, and it will never stop except by the wearing away of its own parts. Not only will it run itself by its own current, but also produce power enough, according to the size of the engine, to run any machine in the world."

"Perpetual motion," I suggested. "More than that," he replied. "It is perpetual motion with only 10 per cent of the force used, leaving 90 per cent for power to be utilized as is desired. Not only that, but more; one helix of my dynamo will produce light in proportion to its size while the other is making the current that runs the engine. It will serve to heat your house, so that instead of having stoves and grates, little wires will run through your rooms, and on your parlor table will be a highly burnished apparatus containing wires, etc., which will keep the temperature of the house at whatever point you wish."

"What will be the cost to run it?" "Nothing. As I said, start it, and it will go. Heat, power, and light produced by one machine, for absolutely nothing."

I looked at him to see if he was there yet, and if so, whether he was mad, in earnest, or joking. He laughed at my astonishment, and said: "I am now making a model, and when far enough along I will show it to you." The matter was not specially discussed after that, although he would frequently bring up the question, until a day or two ago, and I had serious doubts whether he would ever show the device to me. I thought of Keely and his motor, and felt that the results Mr. Cook professed himself able to obtain were such that he would keep secret his machine, if he had any, in order to mystify the public. My surprise may

be imagined, therefore, when Mr. Cook came to me a few days ago and said: "I believe I will show you my electric engine and generator. I am far enough along now to show you how the results are accomplished."

A time was fixed, and at the appointed hour Mr. Cook called and took me to his farm, about three miles south of Mansfield. As an excuse for a heavy crop of weeds in a fine field, where hundreds of bushels of wheat should have been harvested, he explained: "I have been so busy with my researches that I have been unable to put out any crops. I could get nobody to attend to the farm, and therefore it is a barren waste. I succeeded in getting a few acres of oats planted, and that, with a small potato patch, will be all I derive this year from this fine tract."

Here he lives, as he has lived for years, with a wife and 14-year-old daughter and his wife's sister. The latter is his enthusiastic assistant, and has helped him in many long years of toil. Distant from the house stands an old shop, wherein is hidden the secrets of his life. No stranger ever enters here, for it is herein that are contained the results of thirty-six years of labor. This seclusive rule has been almost invariably, having been broken but half a dozen times in over a third of a century. Several electricians and two or three others of known integrity have been admitted, but only after signing an ironclad agreement not to reveal, patent, or cause to be patented or improved without his consent any of the parts shown to them.

The shop is dilapidated, as is the rest of the farm, so much is his mind taken up in the pursuits of his studies. The rear is used as a shelter for his trusty old horse, who has done near thirty years of royal service, while the front part is devoted altogether to his laboratory.

The agreement signed, Mr. Cook led the way to the door, but before unlocking it grasped me by the hand and had me renew the promise made in the written agreement. This done, I was ushered into the mysterious room. I was bewildered by the appearance of the place. The room was large, and everywhere hung bundles of wire. Magnets of all shapes and sizes hung about the walls and were scattered on the floor in confused heaps. In one corner was a huge machine, with large coils and magnets, which Mr. Cook told me was the first machine he attempted to make. But in the center of the room sat the pride of his life. I saw at a glance that this mysterious man had not wasted his time and fortune. He had branched out from the beaten track, and had produced a machine that defied in all respects from dynamo of present construction, except in that he also used wire and iron.

"This," said he, "is my perpetual electric generator and engine. I will call my assistant and show you how it works."

The machine was rudely constructed, for Mr. Cook made it all himself with a few old tools that had done too much service already. Parts of it were made of wood, and the whole was not put together in a very artistic manner, but it demonstrated his discoveries, and that was his only purpose in its construction. This model weighs three hundred pounds, and Mr. Cook said by the hand-power of one man could be generated current sufficient to light up from thirty to fifty sixteen candle-power incandescent lamps.

His assistant having arrived, who by the way is a young lady of handsome appearance, the work of demonstration began. I tested the current in several ways and found it very powerful. Having made electricity somewhat of a study, I was surprised at the simplicity of many of the principles. The manner in which he expects to get the results heretofore mentioned is theoretically correct, and there is no mechanical difficulty which he has not already overcome.

After examining the machine carefully in all its parts, I was conducted to an adjoining room, where, on a table, sat a smaller model of more accurate make. It contained a much better arrangement of the parts, and from what he told me I am compelled to believe all that Mr. Cook had told me. I asked him why he had not sought capital to develop his theories more rapidly, when he replied that he had not heretofore been ready. He said:

"I wanted to complete my labors, so that I could say my work is done. I desired to give to the world a machine perfect in every particular, that would settle forevermore the question of cheap power, light, and heat. Up to now my work was not finished. I am now almost done. Within a very short time I shall be able to show to all mankind that I have a machine that will revolutionize the world. When I can exhibit a running model, which I can in a few days, then I will be ready to consider the many propositions that I have already received."

Food Temperature.

The following are the practical conclusions arrived at by Dr. Franz Spach: A temperature of 104-122 degrees Fahrenheit generally is the best for all foods and drinks, and where solid food is to be masticated it should not exceed 95 degrees. Fluids may be borne at 140-149 degrees in small swallows, if cold solids are eaten with them. The warming of the body, for which purpose hot drinks are sometimes taken, can be attained at temperatures which exceed the blood heat (99.5 degrees Fahrenheit) by 18-24 degrees Fahrenheit, and the danger and pain of higher temperatures are needless. People who suffer from stomach troubles, especially ulceration, should carefully avoid high temperatures. Children especially should be guarded against this dangerous habit. For nursing infants, nature has clearly indicated the proper temperature. Mothers' milk is at 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit; therefore, all artificial food should be at this point. These experiments and the practical points deduced from them are of the greatest value hygienically, and should be heeded.—*American Analyst*.

A. D. Amfraud is the name of the latest defaulter. His name, when jammed together, should have sufficient warning.—*Detroit Free Press*.

He Was the Advertising Man.

Chicago Tribune.—"Is Mr. Smithers in?" inquired a sedate-looking man as he went into the counting room of a manufacturer in a suburban town the other afternoon.

"I am Mr. Smithers," replied the gentleman addressed.

The sedate-looking man produced his card. It read: "Alphons De Benyon, Christian Encourager, New York."

"Glad to see you, Mr. De Benyon. I think a great deal of the Encourager. My wife and I could hardly keep house without it. By the way that was a splendid editorial in the last number on the duty of church members to be total abstainers. I read it aloud to the whole family. Now that I think of it, this is our regular evening for prayer meeting at the church. We shall be happy to have you attend and give us a talk."

"I came in, Mr. Smithers," said the visitor, "to get you to renew your advertising contract with us for another year; but I am very thirsty. I'll step out and get a cocktail and see you again in a few minutes. Go to prayer meeting? Thunder! I never go to prayer meeting! I'm the advertising solicitor."

Salvation Oil kills pain every time. For cuts, bruises, sprains, strains, burns, scalds, and frost-bites it is an infallible cure. Price only twenty-five cents a bottle.

They Grew Side by Side.

A mother had been teaching her infant daughter a little prayer the refrain of which was, "Forget me not, O Lord," and because of the little girl's forgetfulness her attention had been called to the flower of that name, in the hope that its association with the prayer would improve her memory. After it was supposed the child had her lesson fully learned, the mother, one evening, in the presence of company, anxious to exhibit her daughter's precocity, asked her to recite her little prayer, and she surprised the company by shouting: "Bachelor's buttons, O Lord." The two flowers grew side by side in the family garden.—*Boston Post*.

Disposing of the Files for a Fee of \$250

A vermin exterminator of Boston recently offered to clear a large brewery of the millions in the beer hogsheads, for \$250. The proprietor agreed to the terms and the man went to work. "Roll these barrels into the ice-room," he said. The barrels were rolled into the room where ice was made. "Freeze 'em!" said the vermin exterminator. The brewery men were surprised that they had not thought of that simple remedy. They tried it, and in a short time swept out countless numbers of frozen flies.

If the gentlemen whose lips pressed the lady's snowy brow and thus caught a severe cold had but used Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup, no doctor's bill would have been necessary.

The Latest Snake Story.

A Georgia rattlesnake got into a pantry the other day and found some eggs which it swallowed. Then it crawled partly through the handle of a jug, and finding some more eggs, swallowed them. This brought about an interesting state of affairs, for the greedy snake found it impossible to get out of the jug handle, being unable to move either backward or forward. In its efforts to escape it made a great rumpus, and it was soon killed by the awakened inmates of the house.—*New York Tribune*.

A Washington Territory Woman.

Another smart American woman has been discovered. She lives in Washington Territory, and her name is Mrs. Annette Wynne. This lady is the proprietress of a fine farm, which contains 420 acres, much of it in a state of cultivation. Here she conducts a stock and dairy business, all the work being done under her supervision. She is also owner of a large number of town lots in Tacoma, the business connected with which she personally attends to.

Good Advice.

Don't attempt to cheat an editor out of a year's subscription of his paper, or any sum. Cheat the minister, cheat the butcher—anybody—but if you have any regard for your future consequences, don't fool with a printer. He will get even with you and more too. You will be put up for office some time, or want some public favor for yourself or some of your friends, and just when your luck is a thing of beauty and joy forever, the printer will open up on you and knock your air castles into a cocked hat at the first blow.—*Bill Nye*.

Take after the soup is a new and queer feature of some Newport dinners.

Capt. J. W. Williamson's Luck Again. As there have been various rumors, etc., about Capt. J. W. Williamson drawing \$15,000 in the Louisiana State Lottery, we again accosted the good-natured captain on the subject while on our streets last Saturday. The captain is a prosperous farmer of Willow Grove, this county, and before the June drawing of this well-known lottery, something seemed to tell him that he should make a small investment, which he did by handing Johnny Roedel, the clerk of the steamer Valley Belle, a couple of dollars with instructions as above—not knowing any other living man in the transaction. When Roedel got to the above amount and forwarded it to the Company and in due time received five tickets, two of which he handed to Capt. Williamson, one of these being No. 18,145 which entitled him to one-tenth of the Capital prize of \$150,000, and which amount he has received through the Bank of Ravenswood, W. Va., from S. A. Dauphin, New Orleans, La.—*[Ravenswood (W. Va.) News, July 21.]*

It is worthy of note that the mosquito never drinks behind the bar. Gray hair, however caused, is restored to its original color by Hall's Hair Renewer. Persons suffering from Aque of long standing will find a specific in Ayer's Hair Cure. Mrs. Cleveland's photographer is printing 500 pictures of her daily. A man who was caught stealing grain said he was making an extract of corn.

PATENTS obtained by Louis Bagger & Co., Attorneys, Washington, D. C. Est'd 1864. Advice free. The Omaha Type foundry can furnish new newspaper outfits on short notice. Prices same as in Chicago and freight already paid to Omaha.

A WIFE'S VICTORY.

From the Voice, N. Y.—It beats all this determination of the women to do all they make up their minds to. My income being limited, I asked my wife to exercise care in the management of her affairs, so that, when the time came for me to pay the bills, I would not be compelled to part with every penny of my income. To be doubly careful, I asked her to keep an account of our expenses, and every now and then we would look over the accounts, to cast out what we should judge unnecessary. The first hitch we had was in the matter of Pearline. I felt that it was not in the line of economy to put Pearline into the dish-water; Pearline into the wash-boiler; Pearline into the clothes-wringing water, or to use Pearline for house cleaning purposes; and despite the arguments of my wife, I succeeded in cutting that expense from the account. 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