

LAKE'S OCEAN TRICYCLE AT ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

The illustration shows a vehicle designed to cause somewhat of a sensation in the world under the waters as well as above. The ocean tricycle, as it is called, consists of a high platform carried on an iron framework, the whole resting on three wheels. The peripheries of the wheels have slight projections cast upon them similar to those on the driving wheels of mowing machines. These wheels are turned by a steam engine placed upon the upper platform and as they turn drive the machine over the smooth sandy bottom near the shore.

The engine, with its boiler, is placed well above the reach of spray. As it works it turns a vertical shaft that descends within the framework. At its lower end the shaft actuates miter gearing so as to turn shafting running to points over the main wheels. On the one shaft with each driving wheel is a sprocket wheel of about two-thirds the diameter of the driver. Chains go around these wheels, and around much smaller sprocket wheels, one on each of the horizontal driving shafts, thus completing the connection between engine and drivers. It will be noticed that the three wheels are driving wheels, so that there can be no slip. On the platform is placed a steering wheel, by which the course of the vehicle is regulated at pleasure. There is also room for a number of passengers on the same platform.

Owing to the light construction of the framework, the wind and waves will have very little effect upon the machine, and we doubt not that the inhabitants of Atlantic City will have many enjoyable rides on this machine over the level ocean bottom that exists there. One very pleasing feature is the height above the water at which the passengers are carried. On a quiet day the view of the bottom will disclose many of its features, otherwise invisible, such as variations in color, depth, beds of seaweed, etc., exactly as the same can be seen from the masthead of a sail boat when lying in still shallow water.

CHINESE ALLIGATORS IN THE AQUARIUM AT BERLIN.

To the casual observer, crocodiles bear such a strong resemblance to one another that it is difficult to distinguish the various species, especially as they differ so little in coloring and in habits when in captivity. Still, there are about twenty known species, which are divided into three families distinguished by the shape of their jaws, viz.: the gavial, the crocodile proper, and the alligator.

While the gavial is found only in Asia, and, heretofore, the alligator only in America, the different species of crocodile inhabit all parts of the world except Europe, being found within a belt 70° wide and extending half to the north and half to the south of the equator.

The great Chinese empire is so situated geographically as to include the home of the crocodile, but, owing to the exclusion of all foreigners from the country, there has been, until recently, no proof of the existence of these creatures in the rivers of China. The oldest Chinese writers told of wonderful animals called "To," "Go," and "Ngo," which can only be explained by crocodiles. The skins of the captured animals were sent as great curiosities to the imperial court, and were there used in making great drums. In the "Pensao-kang-mu," of the materia medica, it is stated that the inhabitants of Southern China eat the flesh of the alligator at wedding feasts. We are also told by Han-Wen-Kung that in response to a petition from the natives of the Province of Chau-chu, the Emperor sent troops to rid the region of dragons. These and similar stories of other Chinese authors were first repeated to Europeans by Marco Polo, the Venetian, who visited China in the latter part of the thirteenth century, but he had these things only from tradition, for neither he nor Martini (who gave us gleanings from the Chinese classics in his "Atlas Sinensis") ever saw a crocodile. From the same sources we learned that crocodiles in ponds were cared for by

the priests of the neighboring temples and criminals were thrown to them, this mode of execution being considered a "judgment of God." It can easily be understood that many proverbs, superstitions, and stories of wonderful adventures would be connected with these



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animals. The next information came to us after many hundred years. None of the many exploring expeditions found any traces of the crocodile; but finally in 1869 Swinhoe saw a living specimen four feet long exhibited in Shanghai. On April 15, 1878, the Shanghai museum came into possession of a specimen, in which the curator was surprised to find an alligator of a species supposed to be confined to America. He called it "Alligator sinensis."

In 1888 the German consul at Shanghai obtained three living specimens of this natural curiosity and sent them to Prince Bismarck, who assigned them to the Berlin Aquarium, where they are still.

The largest of these animals measures about 5½ feet in length and the other 4½ feet. The third was, unfortunately, dead when it reached Genoa. They came from the Province of Chekaing, where they were caught in a pond near the Tien-mu Mountain.—*Illustrirte Zeitung.*

Paris Exhibition Regulations for Photographers.

Article First.—The right to take photographic views in the Universal Exhibition of 1889 will not be made the object of any monopoly or exclusive privilege. All photographers permitted, on application, to take pic-

tures within the exhibition limits, and upon the days and hours fixed by the administration, must be provided with an authorization, signed by the director-general of the "Exploitation." For that which concerns the fine arts group (classes one to five) the authorizations must be signed both by the fine arts director and by the director-general of the exploitation.

Article Second.—Photographers authorized under article 1 of the present regulation will work at fixed times. For each of these admissions a payment of twenty francs (sixteen shillings), to go to the administration, must be made for each apparatus employed. This payment must be made and receipted in the cashier's office at the exhibition. The admissions will have a duration of four hours: either from eight in the morning until midday, or from ten in the morning until two in the afternoon. All authorizations will be valid only for the days and hours indicated. The director-general of the exploitation will always have the power of renewing them, without additional payment, if they have not been used on the days and hours fixed.

Article Third.—Applications for authorizations addressed to the director-general of the exploitation must state: 1. The number of assistants the applicant intends to employ. 2. A statement of what apparatus he intends to use. 3. A formal declaration that the applicant takes the whole responsibility of any consequences his reproductions may entail. 4. An undertaking to conform to the police regulations and the rules of the interior.

Article Fourth.—Season tickets at the price of 300 francs for each piece of apparatus employed, available during the whole term of the exhibition, at the hours fixed by article 2, will be issued to those photographers who apply for them.

Article Fifth.—Assistant operators, like the operators themselves, must pay the same entrance fee as ordinary visitors, in addition to the sum paid for authority to photograph.

Article Sixth.—Operators admitted to photograph must not, under any circumstances, introduce within the exhibition fire or explosive or inflammable substances. Their preparations must be made outside the limits of the exhibition.

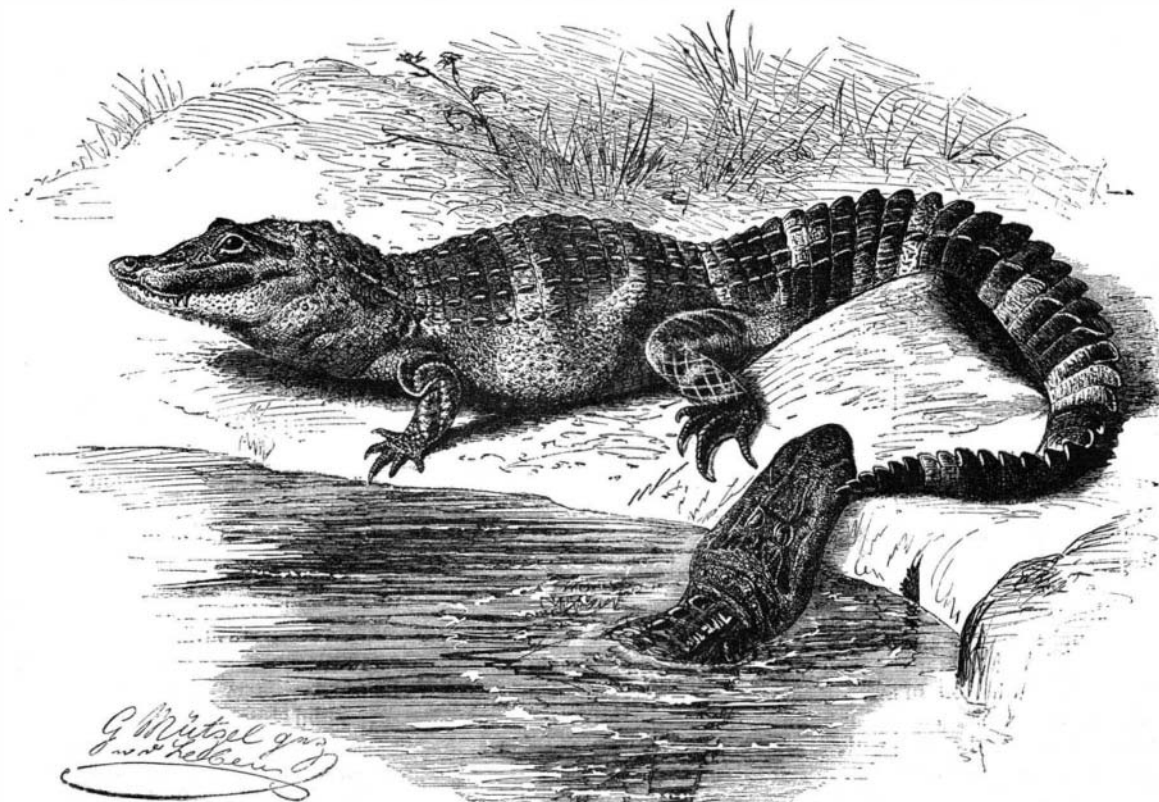
Article Seventh.—All reproduction of objects exposed, whatsoever be the nature of the said objects, is absolutely subject to permission being given by the exhibitors thereof or their authorized agents, countersigned by the director-general of the exploitation.

Article Eighth.—Photographers furnished with authorizations have the right to take general views of the palace, parks, and galleries, on condition that they send ten proofs of each view to the administration.

Preferred Creditors.

Medical men in general are probably not aware that in France the doctor's claim on the estate of a deceased patient has precedence of all others. Even the landlord's claims for arrears of rent must yield to the doctor's fee. The courts have decided that as it is an imperative right of humanity that the dying should have the necessary care and attendance, such attendance should be paid for before all the other debts. Such a law in this country would be hailed with satisfaction by the doctors, and a similar provision for the undertakers would delight that profession.

THE Boston Herald says that one-third of Boston is now resting on spruce stilts, some 112 ft. long, though in ordinary cases a length of 80 ft. is sufficient. But in certain localities "mud holes" occur which require piles of over 100 ft. in length to reach firm bottom. The piles lately driven at Ruggles and Westminster streets were made up of hard pine sticks 10×10 in. square and 42 ft. long. The sections were spliced by banding both ends and inserting an iron plate and completing the splice with four pieces of oak, 2×10 in. An 1,800 pound hammer was used in driving.



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