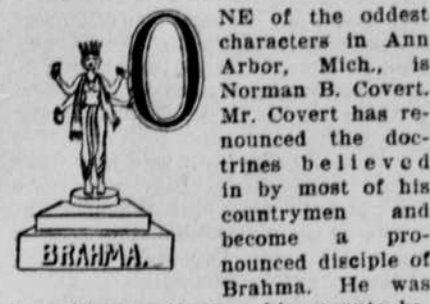


# IS AN ODD OLD MAN.

## ANN ARBOR HAS A FOLLOWER OF BRAHMA.

Has Renounced the Doctrines of His Countrymen to Embrace the Teachings of the Hindoo Prophet—Changed Many Times.



ONE of the oddest characters in Ann Arbor, Mich., is Norman B. Covert. Mr. Covert has renounced the doctrines believed in by most of his countrymen and become a pronounced disciple of Brahma. He was brought up a Quaker, his parents belonging to that religious body, but at the age of 14 became dissatisfied with the precepts of the friends and "evolved," as he says, to the Methodist church.

From a Methodist he became a universalist of the type of John Murray of Boston. As a member of this church he came to Ann Arbor in 1844. Religious principles still troubled him. He could not reconcile himself to the idea of the redemption. He was looking for a religion in which justice was the guiding principle. He began reading the doctrines on which Brahmanism is founded, and became a convert to Brahma and has since continued to be a follower of his.

He believes in a greater and a lesser heaven, the latter being here on earth at the present time if one lives well. Of course, he is a firm believer in the transmigration of souls, but he expects to have his own soul appear in some higher form of being than a dog or a horse. He thinks that dogs have more soul than some people he has met. Contrary to the law of Brahma, Mr. Covert allows himself to eat meat. As far as he knows, he is the only American



NORMAN B. COVERT, can who has adopted Brahamism. He is 78 years old and hale.

### New York's Pneumatic Mail-Tubes.

The system of pneumatic mail-tubes for which Mayor Strong broke ground on August 2, promises to bring about a notable quickening in the distribution of letters in Greater New York. Tubes are to connect the postoffices of New York and Brooklyn, and others, as planned at present, are to radiate from the New York postoffice to all parts of Manhattan Island. The lines that are first to be finished, and which may be done some time in October, will connect the postoffice with the Battery on one side, and with the Forty-second street station on the other.

There is no considerable part of Manhattan Island to which the summer and fall will not bring considerable changes. The mail-tubes are an item of an unusually long list of improvements that are either in progress or impending. Before November Fifth avenue will have been repaved, and possibly the demolition of the old reservoir will have begun; the great Astoria Hotel will be finished; the new Sherry's and the Delmonico's will be far along toward completion; Dr. Depew's New York Central cheap cab system will be working; progress may possibly have been made in accelerating the street car systems of the Fourth, Sixth and Eighth avenues; space will have been cleared for two new small parks on the east side, and on the west side the improvement of St. John's Churchyard Park will doubtless have gone forward. The upper part of the island produces its surprises every season, and is not idle this summer; and as for the new paving that is going on, and the schools, prisons, cathedrals, college buildings, model tenements, and recreation places that are a-building, there is no end to it. The average human being delights in change, and part of the fun of living in or visiting a big and fast-growing city is to keep the run of its changes, especially of all those which profess to be improvements.

Happily the changes now in progress here involve the demolition of very little that will be missed, and nearly all of them will be welcomed, even by old and conservative residents.—Harper's Weekly.

### Who Invented Spectacles?

Dr. Johnson expressed his surprise that the inventor of spectacles had not found any biographer to celebrate his achievement. It is known that a monk named Rivalto, in a sermon preached at Florence in 1285, said spectacles had then been known about twenty years. This would fix the time of their introduction at 1265. Accepting that date, it is still left in doubt as to the person who introduced them. The honor is divided between two rivals, Spina and Salvino, who flourished about that time. Some state that Salvino was first to make the discovery and turn it to practical use for his own advantage.

He made known the astounding fact that he could arrest the decay and restore the original strength and acuteness of sight even in those who were nearly blind. But he was careful to avoid giving even a hint as to the means by which he could effect this improvement. Spina, however, discovered the secret, and proclaimed it to the world. He did not attempt to keep the power he had discovered and use it for his own advantage exclusively. He generously made it common to all. Even if it be granted that Salvino's discovery preceded that of Spina a few years in point of time, it does not in the least reduce the latter's claim to the gratitude of mankind, nor alter the fact that the world—that great portion, at least, afflicted with defective vision—is indebted to Spina for spectacles.

### Round Towers of Scotland.

Though Ireland possesses seventy-six round towers—the puzzle of the antiquary—Scotland has only two, these of Abernathy and Brechin. When the Scotch towers were built Scotland had not yet become one kingdom—it was still divided into four, Alban, Pictland, and Caledonia were all more familiar names. In the north were Picts and Scots. From Ireland, then called Scotia, had crossed a colony, who settled in Argyleshire in the fifth century. Fergus, their first prince, came in the fifth century. But in the ninth century the colony from Scotia gained predominance; and the feuds and dissensions were never ending until, in 843, Kenneth II, the Great became king of the kingdom of Picts and Scots. He it was who married the daughter of the Lord of the Isles, and, in thanks for his great victory, sent the sword and coat of armor of the Pictish king to Iona, "in perpetual memory." He, too, brought the "fatal charge," La Foll, or Stone of Destiny, from Dunstaffnage to Scone, whence it was carried by Edward I. to Westminster, and placed in the coronation chair.

### A Consumption Cure.

That consumption can be cured is the hope once more held out by Prof. Robert Koch, a German scientist whose name was on every tongue seven years ago. Koch's "tuberculin," which was then tested, with unfavorable results, was a preparation of the bacilli of tuberculosis. The present treatment also consists of hypodermic injections of these bacilli, but with this difference, that the bacilli have been broken up by mechanical means in order to facilitate their absorption. Doctor Koch does not promise that the new tuberculin will be useful when the malady has reached an advanced stage. He does affirm that "a large number of suitable patients" have been cured by it. It is noticeable that European scientists treat this claim with great respect—a certain indication that, in their view, Doctor Koch's twenty years' study of tuberculosis may at any time be crowned with full success.

### Peacocks.

The real home of the peacock or peafowl is in India. There they were and are hunted, and their flesh is used for food. As these birds live in the same region as the tiger, peacock hunting is a very dangerous sport. The long train of the peacock is not its tail, as many suppose, but is composed of feathers which grow out just above the tail, and are called the tail-coverts. Peacocks have been known for many hundred years. Job mentions them in the bible; Job mentions them, and they are mentioned, too, in I Kings, 10. Hundreds of years ago in Rome many thousand peacocks were killed for the great feasts which the emperors made. The brains of the peacock were considered a great treat, and many had to be killed for a single feast.

### New Statue of Lincoln.

This statue, the work of Sig. C. Caccia, was lately exhibited in the Royal academy, London. The Sketch is



CACCIA'S ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

pleased to say of the figure: "It is full of alertness and vitality, representing Abraham Lincoln under the general description, 'From the Wood to the Presidency of U. S. A.' Lincoln is represented as a young man in agricultural costume, seated in an attitude of contemplation, his book resting on his leg and his ax against his knee. The head is finely modeled and the hands are carefully and beautifully executed. The whole suggestion of the figure is one of power and excellent restraint, the body seated in a loose attitude of rest, and the expression of the face is quite beautiful."

### Condensed Fuel.

One difficulty in the way of utilizing the great peat-beds of Germany for heating purposes has been the great bulkiness of the material. But now a process has been suggested by which thirty tons of peat can be reduced to one ton of carbide without losing any of the stored-up energy of heat.

# PAZ FROM BOLIVIA.

## THE NEW MINISTER TO THE UNITED STATES.

A Young Statesman Who is Already a Power in His Country's Government—His Career in War and Politics in His Native Land.



HERE have been two important additions to the diplomatic corps from South America this summer, and for the first time in many years both Peru and Bolivia are represented by ministers resident at this capital. Luis Paz, the new envoy from Bolivia, who presented his credentials only a day or two before the president left Washington, making at the time a most felicitous speech, is the last to arrive. His credentials having been presented, there are no official duties that demand the minister's immediate attention. He has planned, therefore, to leave Washington soon, and will visit some of the eastern resorts. The first representative accredited from Bolivia was Ladisloa Cabrera, who served from November, 1880, until December, 1882. After Mr. Cabrera's recall there was an interval of nearly four years during which time, and at all subsequent times when there has been no minister resident here from that country, all diplomatic business was conducted by the state department directly with the secretary of foreign affairs at Sucre. It was the hope of interesting capital and stimulating immigration and the desire to study the railroad systems of this country, which the chief executive of Bolivia, President Alonzo, considers the finest in the world, that inspired Mr. Paz to resign his seat in the senate and relinquish the leadership of a great political party to accept the post of



SENIOR LUIS PAZ.

minister to the United States. In conversation the other day the Bolivian minister, who, by the way, speaks no English yet, said: "I see just now that your people are much excited over the discovery of gold in the Klondike region. We have more gold in Bolivia than they have in Klondike, and you don't have to freeze or starve to death in our country. There is not a stream in all Bolivia where gold cannot be washed out. With modern machinery there are vast quantities of the precious metal to be had. It is to interest capitalists here in our gold possibilities that I came. One of the greatest opportunities Bolivia offers to men of small means is the development of the rubber and cocoa industry. Many come among us to mine gold, and when they see the chances offered by the rubber fields they never go near the mines, but at once engage in the rubber business. Since the passage of our recent laws, any person can stake out a grove of rubber trees and it belongs to him." The new minister is a young man, having been born in Farija some forty-three years ago. He was brought up and educated at Sucre, the capital of Bolivia, and received from the university there, of whose faculty he is now a member, the degree of doctor of laws. But Mr. Paz was not destined to spend much time in the practice of his profession, as at an age when most young men are still in the classroom, he entered politics and soon rose to be a power in the state. For a number of terms he served as member of the lower house of the Bolivian parliament and in the cabinet of Mr. Alonzo's predecessor he held at first the portfolio of interior, and later was made minister of war. Mr. Paz is a typical Spaniard in appearance, and is possessed of a forceful personality. When he speaks it is to convince his hearers. For the institutions of the United States and for its people he expresses the warmest admiration, an admiration shared by the young and brilliant president of Bolivia, who has only recently been elected to that office. Mr. Paz has traveled widely in Europe, but this is his first visit to the United States, and he hopes his mission here "will bring into more intimate relations Bolivia and the United States, for which my countrymen have the greatest love and affection." The minister is accompa-

nied by the first secretary of legation, Darlo Gutierrez, a young man of fine appearance, agreeable manners and diplomatic training, who shares his chief's enthusiasm for this country, and who confesses himself as delighted that his official duties have placed him in so charming a capital.

### A FAMOUS PISTOL.

Its First Owner Forced Frederick the Great From Bohemia. Capt. Wm. P. Hogarty, of Kansas City, Kan., has in his possession an old dueling pistol which was originally owned by Josef Maria Graf von Dann, who was commander-in-chief of the Austrian army during the Seven Years' War, and one of Austria's greatest heroes. The pistol is in an excellent state of preservation, although it has been little used since its owner, in 1757, drove Frederick the Great from Prague and forced him to evacuate Bohemia.

Josef had two of these pistols, and after his death one passed to each branch of his family. William Theodore Maria von Dann, a grandson, who was banished from Austria in 1848, brought one of them to America, and before his death at Quindaro, a few years ago, he gave it to Capt. Hogarty. It is inlaid with gold and silver, and artistically carved. Capt. Hogarty prizes it very highly. He is himself something of a military hero—having been decorated by congress for his distinguished bravery in the battles of Antietam and Fredericksburg—hence it is a pleasure to him to own a pistol which was carried by such a great military character as Josef Maria Graf von Dann.—Kansas City Star.

### Has Had Adventures.

Any woman who engages in the practice of medicine is warranted to have an interesting existence, but Miss Lillias Hamilton, an English woman, has had rather more than falls to the lot of most women physicians.

She is now in England, where she has returned from Afghanistan. When

she graduated from the London School of Medicine she went to Calcutta to practice, but after three years' hard work her health gave way and she was advised to seek the splendid air of Cabul, which she did. Arriving as a patient, she remained as a doctor. While in Cabul the favorite wife of the ameer of Afghanistan fell ill and Dr. Hamilton cured her. This made her so popular with the royal family that she was induced to remain as a physician to the court. As competent doctors were very few in Afghanistan, sick persons from all over the country

flocked to Cabul and this English woman wrote prescriptions and if necessary operated, for she is a surgeon as well as a doctor of medicine. Two years ago, when the ameer sent his son, Nasrulla Khan, to England on diplomatic business, Dr. Hamilton accompanied him as physician to the suite. Since that time she has had a trained nurse working under her direction in Cabul and hopes to establish a hospital with a corps of trained nurses as soon as the ameer and his wives realize the value of such help to a physician. Among other things Dr. Hamilton has introduced vaccination. Dr. Hamilton, as has been said, is now in England, but it is not likely she will remain long with such a promising field awaiting her in the land of the ameer.



MISS L. HAMILTON, M. D.

London has added to its parks until they occupy a fourth of the city's area. They have added to the health and prosperity of the metropolis, and the Londoners could not be persuaded to part with any of them.

### VARITIES.

It is estimated that the number of the Mississippi and tributaries, Canada, will this season amount to 112,600,000 feet.

Frogs have been raining down in thick showers on Bizerta, in Tunis. The largest were the size of a man's thumb.

In England and Wales the death-rate from typhoid fever has declined from 277 per million in 1876-80 to 135 in 1891-94.

# THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

## LESSON XII. SEPT. 19—ACTS 20:22-35.

Golden Text—Remember the Words of the Lord Jesus, When He Said, It Is More Blessed to Give Than to Receive.—Acts 20: 32-35.

TIME.—Sunday, April 23, A. D. 58. Paul arrived at Miletus on Thursday, April 20. As from Miletus to Ephesus was about forty-five miles, if Paul sent for the elders on Thursday afternoon, they might well arrive by Sunday. We follow the dates given by Lewis:

February 27 to March 27, A. D. 58, journey by land from Corinth to Philippi. March 28 or 27, arrival at Philippi.

22. "And now—Now that I am leaving and can admonish you no more, I commend you to God"—A mighty support, who would more than take the apostle's place. "And to the word of His grace"—The truths of the Gospel, God's message of grace, which they had received and could remember. The Gospel originates in grace; it reveals grace; it produces grace. "Able to build you up"—The foundation of faith had been laid, and the structure of a complete Christian character was to be reared by the almighty Builder through the instrumentality of his word. Heaven is the abode of holiness, and none but the holy can enter it.

"To give you an inheritance"—The final glory of the redemption, which is more than compensate for all their present trials. "Them which are sanctified"—"Those who have been made holy," or fully devoted to Jesus Christ. It is the word of God which makes Christians strong; therefore, we should feed upon it constantly. 24. "These hands have ministered unto my necessities"—No other mention is made of Paul's trade at Ephesus, but in Acts 18, 3, we learn his occupation; therefore, we should feed upon it constantly. 24. "These hands have ministered unto my necessities"—No other mention is made of Paul's trade at Ephesus, but in Acts 18, 3, we learn his occupation; therefore, we should feed upon it constantly.

"I have been through much tribulation"—The common stock of wealth. "The contrary, however, consumes without producing, and thus impoverishes society. But these Christians were urged to labor, not that they might gain, but that they might give. Support the weak.—"These unable to support themselves." "The words of the Lord Jesus"—"This beautiful paradox, nowhere found in the Gospels, is in perfect accord with the teachings of Jesus. We might construct a Pagan apothegm: To receive is human; to give, divine. To consider this as referring only to liberality with earthly goods would not do justice to Paul. He means also the giving of spiritual help, the divine abandonment of one's entire resources for the sake of the needy, whereby the soul enters into the fellowship of Him who took no account of His own, but became poor and gave himself to us. So Paul advises us in other places to have a care for the weak brother (Rom. 15), and to fulfill the law of Christ by bearing one another's burdens (Gal. 6: 2).—Horswell.

We turn our map, and take up the thread of Paul's journey from Ephesus to Macedonia, where he must have looked in upon his beloved Philippians and Thessalonians; thence to Corinth; then a return for a farewell to the Macedonian churches; then a voyage with a throng of companions across the Aegean Sea to Troas; thence, with a few pauses by the way, to Miletus. Explain the purpose of his journey, why he stopped at Miletus, and whom he met at that place.

1. We find in this address a look forward. Verses 22-30. The eye of the apostle peers into the future and beholds the times to come. 1. It is a vision of his own future. He sees awaiting him bonds, afflictions, imprisonment, and death at the end. Trouble foreseen is always hardest to bear, and this picture would daunt the bravest man. But Paul can look upon it not only without fear, but with joy; for his faith beholds the crown beyond, and hears the Master's voice saying, "Well done." True faith is an insight into spiritual realities. The believer sees what others only hope for, and the vision encourages and gladdens his soul. 2. It is a look forward into the future of the Church. Verses 31-35. He beholds the gathering clouds of persecution. "Grievous wolves" from without. History shows how terrible these were. But more to be dreaded were the dangers from within the fold, of men "speaking perverse things." An enemy within the camp is more dangerous than an army outside of it. Some of these traitors are named in 1 Tim. 1: 20; 2 Tim. 2: 17; and the dangers are enumerated in 1 Tim. 4: 1-3; 2 Tim. 3: 1-8. Note that these epistles were sent to Timothy at this very city of Ephesus. The second generation after the apostle's life witnessed a fearful decline and corruption in the Church, which became almost entirely paganized. What are the perils of our day against which the Church should be on its guard?

11. We find also a look backward. Verses 31-35. The apostle points to his own life among them for three years. Notice the traits of his conduct: 1. It had been faithful, warning everyone. 2. Affectionate, "with tears." 3. Unselfish (verse 35); 4. Industrious (verse 34); 5. Helpful (verses 34, 35). Is not this a worthy example for every Christian worker?

Call attention to a few of the brief and suggestive commands in this address: "Take heed," "Watch," "Remember," etc. Notice, too, the rewards which are promised for faithful service: 1. Building up (verse 32); 2. Inheritance (verse 32); 3. Blessedness (verse 35).

When the train stopped at Larned, Kan., I heard a voice say, in a tone of command: 'Come out of there!' I looked out of the car window and saw an old man holding a tramp who was just crawling out from the trucks under a car. I supposed it was the sheriff of the county, and that he had caught a criminal.

"I want you," said the old man, as the tramp stood on his feet. 'I'll give you \$1.50 a day' "Then it dawned on me. The old man was out catching farm-labors for the harvest field. A moment later a younger man came up and tried to hire the tramp, but the older farmer drove him away, saying the tramp was his by right of discovery, and he proposed to keep him or fight. The conductor told me such occurrences are common at present, and that there are few stations along the line in the grain belt but have a crowd of farmers around them at train time, hoping to be able to catch a tramp for the harvest fields. It is work or jail with a tramp when he falls into such hands."

### His by Right of Discovery.

From the Chicago Inter Ocean: Chief Clerk W. T. Treleven, of the Santa Fe freight office, brings the following story with him from his western trip: "When the train stopped at Larned, Kan., I heard a voice say, in a tone of command: 'Come out of there!' I looked out of the car window and saw an old man holding a tramp who was just crawling out from the trucks under a car. I supposed it was the sheriff of the county, and that he had caught a criminal. 'I want you,' said the old man, as the tramp stood on his feet. 'I'll give you \$1.50 a day' "Then it dawned on me. The old man was out catching farm-labors for the harvest field. A moment later a younger man came up and tried to hire the tramp, but the older farmer drove him away, saying the tramp was his by right of discovery, and he proposed to keep him or fight. The conductor told me such occurrences are common at present, and that there are few stations along the line in the grain belt but have a crowd of farmers around them at train time, hoping to be able to catch a tramp for the harvest fields. It is work or jail with a tramp when he falls into such hands."

### The Dingoes of Australia.

The dingo is the wild dog of Australia. It is a strong, fierce, ugly, clumsy looking creature, which can run very quickly and which can hardly be tamed. The dingoes often combine into packs, for the purpose of hunting, and by helping each other this way they can often seize and kill even such very swift runners as the emu. The emu is a curious bird that can outstrip the quickest greyhound, but by dividing themselves into groups, the dingoes can tire it out, and then they all feast on its big body. The chase often lasts a whole day, and both hunters and hunted may travel thirty or forty miles. Some years ago the dingoes used to do great damage to sheep and other live stock belonging to the settlers, but they are now reduced in numbers, and do not appear to be so fierce and wild as they once were. But they have nearly hunted the poor emu out of existence.

### Bicycle Inventions.

Nearly one-fourth of the patents granted at this time relate to the bicycle. There are all kinds of devices from small tools to the whole wheel, so many kinds of wheels are made and the wheels are used for so many purposes that patents concerning the various parts are very numerous. Almost every use to which a wheel is put will point the way to a patent to improve the service. Then there are constant experiments in chains, handle-bars, spokes, tires, frames, pedals, and in fact, every part of the machine. It would seem that with so many patents issued every week the bicycle would soon become perfect.—Washington Post.

# A BICYCLE TRAGEDY.

## A Rash Youth Who Did Not Respect His Sweetheart's Preferences.

He was full of joy, and why shouldn't he be? Wasn't he riding a brand-new wheel, and in another moment wouldn't he be by the side of the creature he adored above all else in the world? asks the Ohio State Journal. Yea, at times he was even constrained to believe he thought more of this beautiful girl that he did of his bike. He dismounted, opened the gate and with a proud step came up the gravelled walk, leading his wheel. On the porch stood the girl who was his promised wife. A happy light shone from her eyes and the glad smile of welcome she gave him made the young man feel at peace with the world. Suddenly the girl cast a swift glance at the new wheel. She trembled and then grew pale. The happy look fled from her eyes and a sudden flush of indignation swept over her beautiful features. Drawing herself up proudly she cast a withering glance upon the young man and said in a choked voice:

"Henceforth, Wheeler Sprocket, we meet as strangers. Our engagement is at an end. You have shown yourself in your true colors. A man who will not respect the feelings of his sweetheart will not love his wife. Go, I say, and never let me look upon your false face again. Oh, I hate you!" and she stamped her tiny foot upon the floor. To say young Sprocket was thunder-struck at this unlooked-for and unaccountable outburst of passion from the girl he adored would put it mildly. Indeed, what had he done? he asked himself. Was the girl temporarily insane or was she only rehearsing her part in some private theatrical, where-in she had the role of the innocent victim of man's perfidy? Bracing himself up to the occasion, he managed to explain:

"Marguerite, I can't understand your strange actions. Have I really offended you in any way?"

"Offended me, Wheeler Sprocket? You have grossly insulted me. Oh, how thankful I am that I discovered your true nature before it was too late!" and the look of scorn she gave him almost crushed him.

"But, dearest," pleaded the young man, "you will at least tell me what I have done to offend you?"

"Yes," exclaimed the girl, in a mocking tone, "I would play the innocent if I were you. Buy a different make of wheel from mine, parade it before my very eyes and then ask me what you have done!"

Whereupon Marguerite Hamilton whirled upon her heel, entered her home and Wheeler Sprocket, realizing there was no hope for a reconciliation, mounted his new wheel and rode away.

### Stub Ends.

Some men want to show how smart they are every minute, and become Alecks.

The inmates of English prisons who cannot read or write receive compulsory education twice a week.

The greatest events of an age are its best thoughts; it is the nature of thought to find its way into action.—Bovee.

Human experience, like the stern-light of a ship at sea, illumines only the part which we have passed over.—Coleridge.

London has added to its parks until they occupy a fourth of the city's area. They have added to the health and prosperity of the metropolis, and the Londoners could not be persuaded to part with any of them.

### VARITIES.

It is estimated that the number of the Mississippi and tributaries, Canada, will this season amount to 112,600,000 feet.

Frogs have been raining down in thick showers on Bizerta, in Tunis. The largest were the size of a man's thumb.

In England and Wales the death-rate from typhoid fever has declined from 277 per million in 1876-80 to 135 in 1891-94.