

LAND OF THE BLACKS.

NATIVE TRIBES OF AFRICA DYING BY SWORD.

The Good Christian Nations of Europe Making Quick Work of Exterminating God's Creatures—A Disgrace to Century—Congress Still.



AFRICA HAS LONG been picturequely named the "Dark Continent," but it might now be more appropriately called the "Bloody Continent." A few years ago it was dark in the sense that Europeans know little about it. Since they have shed their light upon its remotest places it has been turned into a land of bloody strife and turmoil from end to end.

A number of bloody outbreaks, of such a character as to interest even Americans unconcerned with European policy, help to call attention at this moment to the perpetual condition of Africa. It is hardly to be doubted that this condition will continue until all the warlike races of Africa are exterminated or reduced to the condition of hopeless subjection.

There are three great regions of Africa which are of supreme interest at this moment. They are the Egyptian Soudan, Abyssinia and South Africa. To the first two places belong the distinction that Europeans have suffered there about as much as the natives.

A strong Egyptian expedition, under British officers, has started to attempt to reclaim the Soudan from the Mahdi.

beyond their country. The Matabeles were moved down in thousands by Dr. Jameson and his troopers and machine guns before their land was finally conquered by the British South Africa Company. The remnant of them will possibly make a hard fight now.

Another element of trouble lies in the Delagoa Bay situation. Under a treaty England has the first right to purchase this portion of Portuguese East Africa, if it should be offered for sale. It lies between the Transvaal and the ocean, and its possession would enable the British to surround the Boers. The German Emperor, it is believed, is prepared to resist by force this advance of the British.

To the north of Portuguese East Africa is German East Africa. Dr. Peters, the late administrator of that territory, is now being tried in Berlin for cruelties to the natives. He hanged men and women for petty thefts.

In the Indian Ocean, off the east coast of Africa is the great island of Madagascar, which the French have just conquered after a campaign very deadly to themselves. Lately the natives revolted and burned a religious mission house and killed several of its occupants.

A punitive military expedition has just done its work near Mombasa in British East Africa.

The British are now occupying Ashanti, in the interior of Africa, behind the Gold Coast Colony, and hold King Promeah a prisoner.

The French have occupied Timbuctoo, the capital of Eastern Soudan, a mysterious city hitherto known to us chiefly on account of its comic-opera name.

The Sultan of Morocco is slaughtering his subjects.

This is but a glimpse of the bloody work that is going on in Africa.

Putting a crown on the head, puts nothing kingly in the heart.

IT LOOKS BEHIND.

A Telescope Which is Said to Double the Usefulness of Ordinary Glasses.

Mankind once had an extra eye in the back of his head. Scientists say that they can still find traces of this eye in a certain irregular formation of the skull at the point where the ancient eye-socket used to be, says the New York World. These irregular places are called rudimentary eyes, but they are not to be found in all people. In fact, a man who can boast of a rudimentary eye is quite a superior person. Of course, these rudimentary eyes are of no real use to anybody, not even to the owner of them, but they serve to show us that at a certain stage in our career nature thought it was a wise thing to enable us to keep a watch in the rear. A foreign firm of opticians have very considerably endeavored to supply, as far as may be done by mechanical means, the loss of this rear-view eye. They have constructed a telescope which enables the eye to look around a corner. By its means you may see and remain unseen. A circumstance which possesses obvious advantages. They call the invention the stereo-telescope. Stereo comes from a Greek word meaning solid, and in this connection it is used as indicating that the image, as seen through the stereo-telescope seems an exact counterpart of the object and not a mere picture of it. The two tubes that extend horizontally carry an object glass at either end. The eye pieces are placed on an axis at right angles to that of the object or oblong tubes. When the observer looks through the small peep-holes he sees a different field with each eye. The rays of light from the objects that lie in the field of vision are reflected by means of prisms, so that they turn the corner of the right angle. Thus you may leisurely study an ob-

AT GEN. GRANT'S TOMB

END OF POLICEMAN FAGAN'S LONG VIGIL.

Has Stood Guard Over the Remains for Ten Years—Has Met All Sorts of Pilgrims, Including Princes, Dukes and Ladies.



At the retirement of John Fagan, the public—or rather the Republic—loses a good and faithful servant, whose duties were as honorable as they were responsible. He was only a humble park policeman, but he guarded the tomb of General Grant. Similar services, in other countries, have been bestowed, as special marks of favor, on men of military rank or distinction, who have been retired with decorations and with titles of honor. John is content with a small pension, and with the recollection that he has met men of all ranks, and from all nations, and has treated them all on terms of absolute and impartial equality, while the highest among them would not have dreamed of addressing John other than as an equal. John Fagan for ten years had all sorts and conditions of pilgrims to deal with. He met queen and prince, soldier, sailor, tinker, tailor, poor man, rich man, plow boy and all the rest. He is a cheery Irishman, and he lives with a cheery little wife in a cheery little home.

Some of the World's Fair visitors to Riverside Park wondered why they found only a plain, gray-coated policeman at the tomb, instead of a gaudy commander and a showy guard from the "Regular Army, O!"

The authorities did try the "Regular Army, O," at the tomb for awhile, but when it was found that old John and his comrades did as well, the "regulars" were withdrawn.

Mr. Fagan sometimes talks about his experience at the Grant tomb, and this is the record of one conversation:

"Yes, sir; yes, sir, I was right by the tomb at all times of the night and at all times of the day and at all seasons. You see, there were three 'shifts' of duty, and I had my turn at each and all of them. They had a company of soldiers there from Fort Hamilton for the first ten or eleven months, but even while they were there, there were always some of my park policemen there with them. I was there with the soldiers from the beginning. The funeral was the 8th of August, 1885, and on June 30, 1886, the soldiers were withdrawn, and it was on that day that I was regularly assigned to duty at the tomb. I will never forget the night of the funeral. There had been lots of excitement all day, with the bands and the marches, but by 7 or 8 o'clock the crowd thinned away. Then the work of scaling in the steel casket into the inner place—far beyond the reach of robbers—began. The workmen were hammering away in there until 1 o'clock in the morning. You could look in and see their little forges blazing, and hear the bellows puffing. There were four or five workmen there and they were sometimes smoking their pipes as they worked, smoking and blowing up fires, and hammering and chatting. Well, well, I suppose it was all right, but it made the watchers outside feel queer. I don't mean only on account of the smoking and talking, but on account of all the things that you writing men would write about—the loneliness outside, and the river, and the recollections of the day, and knowing who the corpse had been, and the glimmering of the fires, and the clang of the hammers, and the hour of night. I do not believe that I ever felt as lonesome as I did at midnight, and that, mind you, with the workmen inside. They made me feel more lonesome than ever. They appeared to be so uncanny."

"My," continued John, "what crowds there were during that first year! For the first month and more we park police had to have extra men to help keep the crowds in line, particularly on Sundays, when the people would come by the—I was going to say by the million. Well, it looked like that, anyway. Nobody, either on the other side of the water or on this, ever saw anything like it before, and possibly nobody ever will again. The crowds used to keep pour-



ing along until 10 or 11 o'clock at night. The crowds kept well up in numbers for two or three years. Even now, in summer time, the crush is terrible. "I could not begin to tell you about the famous people I have met at the tomb from all parts of the world. I would treat them like anybody else, and I never made a point of asking their names, though I would hear some of them without the asking. I remember the Princess Eulalie or Infanta Eulalie, very well. You could not help knowing who she was. She was a very agreeable lady, but I do not know whether she appreciated the honor that

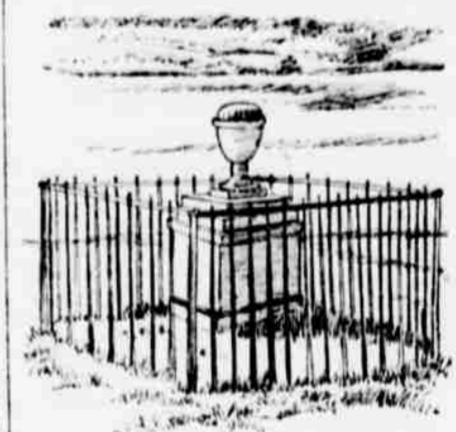
she was doing to herself and her country by making her visit. Perhaps she did. I think she would be just as well received if she were to come back here again. She is a lady, even if she is a Spaniard. I never allowed politics, nor nationalities nor anything of that sort to interfere with my conduct.

"I have met other royalties that I knew by name. Queen Kapiolani, for instance, and she was a very much interested visitor. Liliuokalani was with her, and General Dominis, and a lot of other people. They all asked lots of questions. Then I had Japanese Princes and Hindoo princes and dukes—yes, I think I had both the old and the young duke of Marlborough. But if I remembered all the names, you would fill up the whole paper with them.

"About three years ago (this last summer I had something of a strange experience. Two old gentlemen came to the tomb. They looked to be well off. They had some talk among themselves, and then one of them said to me: 'Officer, I am going to ask you a question, and I suppose that after I have stated it you will think it a very foolish one.'

"I don't know," said I. "There are a great many questions started that way here, and I am used to them."

"I'll tell you, then," said he. "Very near a hundred years ago friends of ours came here on a visit from England. With them was one boy, about 5 years old. While here the boy died. Their friends had the place up there—the Claremont—and that is where they were visiting when the boy died. They



LITTLE TOMB NEAR GRANT'S.

buried him on the ground that belonged to the party that they were visiting, and at that time extended all about here. Now, this Claremont mansion and estate was away out of the city of New York at that time, and I suppose we'll never have any show of finding out exactly where that boy was buried, and we would like to find his grave, and, in fact, have come to America mostly for that purpose. And they could not have come for much else. They were both such old men.

"Well, I asked them what the name was, and one of them said 'Pollock,' so I said again 'Pollock?' in a surprised way, because I could not help being surprised; and he said again 'Pollock.' Then I said, 'Well, I think I can find that place for you.' 'The grave?' they said. 'I believe the very grave you are looking for,' said I, and then it was their turn to be quite moved, too. They both said, 'Well, if you can do that we will be very thankful to you.'

"I took them to a knoll about 500 feet away from the tomb. There, right on the brow of the river, is a tombstone—a nice little marble tombstone. The monument stands perhaps six or seven or eight feet high. That was the very thing the strangers were looking for. The one of them that talked the most said to me: 'The body of that boy was placed there in 1797. The folks that lived in the Claremont House at that time owned all the land around about here. We are two brothers, and if that child had been living now he would have been our uncle. We thank you very much for showing us the grave.'

"I never heard from or of the old gentlemen since. They were so anxious that it is easy to imagine that there might have been some law question—some question of the succession to an estate—involved.

"The little gravestone was in danger of being destroyed by relic hunters who picked away at it simply because it was near Grant's Tomb, and they thought that it had something to do with it. But a railing was put around it by the Park Board to keep them off. "Suicided? Yes, unfortunately there have been suicides in the neighborhood of the Grant Tomb. A good many shot themselves. They liked the place behind the little boy's grave. The hours that they generally chose and the hours that had to be looked out for were between 1 and 3 o'clock in the morning—and especially on a dark or stormy morning; and such mornings what was to be done? We could hear the report of the pistol and go to look for the body when it was light enough to see, and sometimes a body would be found when no one on duty in the neighborhood had heard or could have heard the report of a pistol.

"The people that are at the tomb now will miss Mrs. Grant. When she lived in New York she was very attentive. She would often be here three or four times a week, and often Col. Fred Grant would be with her. I met Gen. Sherman at the tomb two or three times outside of the formal times when he was here when something was going on. He never had much to say. I have met Gen. Horace Porter often. He is a very fine man. Oh, and what a lot of Southern visitors we used to have, and I have not noticed any people come there with more respect and better feeling than the Southern people. "Mrs. Cleveland used to be often there, and I have seen Mr. Cleveland driving around there, but it was when he was not President. A lot of ladies who attended the Claremont teas would visit the tomb. I used to take particular note of the Japanese visitors. They would come there in great num-

bers—and the Japanese seem to think everything of Gen. Grant.

"I have often been asked whether any one ever made an attempt to steal the body of Gen. Grant. I should say not. It would be crazy for even the boldest man to think of such a thing. Leaving aside the matter of the constant watch of the tomb, think of the task that would have to be faced. The outside casket weighs 3,860 pounds; the metallic casket weighs 6,700 pounds; the body is in a rear wood casket; there are only a few keys to the mausoleum, which is as strongly bolted and barred as a fortress, and the keys are held only by Mrs. Grant and the members of the General's family, and perhaps a privileged friend, and by the Park officials or police who have the direct guardianship of the tomb."

TENDERLOIN A DRAWING CARD

Newly Appointed Policemen All Anxious to Do Duty There.

The ambitious policeman no sooner secures an appointment on the force than he endeavors to get a transfer to the Tenderloin district, says the New York Herald. This district has the reputation in the police department of being the "promotion precinct" of the department and it is a well-authenticated fact that more promotions have been made from that station house than from any other in the city during the last fifteen years.

Patrolmen appointed on the force almost before they get accustomed to wearing the blue cloth and brass buttons, seek out their political backers and ask that influence shall be used to get them "sent to the Tenderloin." Former Inspector Williams, as is well known, was promoted to the rank of inspector while doing duty in the Tenderloin and he was followed by former Inspector William W. McLaughlin, who was the commander of the Tenderloin when the gold shield dropped his way.

The sergeants who have been made captains while doing desk and patrol duty in the Tenderloin are innumerable. They include Capt. Schmittberger, Westervelt, Price, Cross, Sheehan and Chapman. Among the roundsmen who have been promoted to the rank of sergeant from the Tenderloin can be cited Sergts. McNally, Kenny, Albertson, Gehegan, Linderman, Coughlan, Daly, Shibles, Norman, Westervelt, Norton and Kemp.

Roundsmen Halse, McCullough, Quilty, Graham and others did patrol duty in the Tenderloin before they were chosen for promotion. Detective Sergt. Grady, Carey (who was killed while arresting a "crook" in 24th avenue in 1892), Detective Price, "Cy" Rogers and others were taken from the ranks in the Tenderloin and sent downtown to do detective work at headquarters. The only appointment of a doorman to the police force was made in the Tenderloin, when Charles J. Meehan was appointed and detailed to the detective bureau. William H. Meehan, the present doorman of the West 39th street station, is a candidate for appointment on the force, and expects to get the good news any day.

There has been a steady and ever increasing application for transfer to the Tenderloin district for many years. The police are superstitious about doing duty in the district and believe that ways for them to distinguish themselves are thrown in their path in that district.

The Able Editor.

The village wag thought he would have some fun with the mild-mannered young man who had recently taken charge of the county paper.

"I say," he said, coming into the office excitedly, "there's a man on the street looking for you with a club."

"The young editor looked up pleasantly. "Is that so?" he inquired. "We make special reductions to clubs. How many subscribers has he got?"

"Whereupon the wag felt that he had barked up the wrong tree.—Truth.

CURIOUS FACTS.

The smallest egg is that of the tiny Mexican humming bird. It is scarcely larger than a pin's head.

Colored races never have blue eyes. Their eyes are always dark brown, brownish yellow or black.

If the entire population of the world is considered to be 1,400,000,000, the brains of this number of human beings would weigh 1,522,712 tons, or as much as ninety-six iron clads of the ordinary size.

A white object of any size may be seen in sunlight at a distance of 17,250 times its diameter; that is to say, if it is a white ball a foot in diameter, it can be perceived at a distance of 17,250 feet.

The whiskers of a cat are supposed by some naturalists to be provided with nerves down to the tip, while others believe that the base of the hair is better fitted out with nerves than most other parts of the skin.

The vital principle is strongest in the common tortoise. One of these animals has lived for six months after the removal of its brain, and the severed head has shown signs of life three days after being cut off.

It is announced in England that the finances of the Indian empire are in good condition, and that the railroad system of that country is to be expanded. The money to build these roads is to be raised in a different way than any hitherto borrowed. It has been the custom to get loans in Europe, but now that all payment of interest has to be in gold, the authorities of India will try to get their money at home and so remain independent of foreign banks and bankers.



MAP SHOWING THE DISTURBANCES IN AFRICA.

who rules in absolute despotism at Khartoum. The dervishes and Mahometan tribes who maintain the Mahdi's power, believe that he is the direct representative of Mahomet, and in fighting for him see their only hope of heaven.

While a British expedition is going to the Soudan, a Belgian expedition from the Congo Free State, which has an outlet on the West Coast of Africa, has started for the same region. This expedition has been re-inforced by Houssas, native troops, from the British colony of Sages, also on the west coast. The Belgians are probably now fighting in the heart of Africa.

The brutalizing occupation of the Europeans in Africa does not tend to make them humane and generous in their treatment of one another. The whole world has lately been reading about one illustration of this fact.

A body of Englishmen, supposed to be the pick of the pioneers of their race in Africa, being chiefly officers and men of the military police of the British South Africa company, has made a murderous raid into the Transvaal, one of the few colonies in Africa that have any claim to respectability. It is said that the Boers are pretty high handed with the natives, but the fact that there are so many of the latter left in the Transvaal after so long a period of colonization is in itself a tribute to their masters.

These Englishmen started out cheerfully with machine guns and other arms to enter the territory of a foreign and friendly state and slaughter the peaceful and unoffending people. Even the severe defeat they received did not make them realize that they had done wrong. Their African experience had destroyed their moral sense.

It had not been supposed that the defeat of Jameson's raiders and their shipment to England has ended the trouble in the more civilized parts of South Africa. There is intense and warlike hostility between the English and the Dutch elements in Cape Colony, the Orange Free State, and the Transvaal. Cable reports say that both sides are preparing to fight. There is always an abundance of armed men in those places. The reports also say that German officers are helping the Boers and that Germany has promised them material aid in a possible struggle with the British.

Besides this possibility of a general conflagration in South Africa, there is some hard actual fighting there. The Matabeles have risen again in the British South Africa Company's territory. They killed seven white men near Bulawayo, and since then a much larger number of the natives have been killed.

The Matabeles are a brave, strong and fierce race, allied to the Zulus, who fought so hard before the devastating British influence swept over and

A Mutual Fondness.

"Harold," said Mrs. Pulstiver, "when you talk in your sleep about the kitty it always wakes baby up. She just does on a kitty."

"So do I," answered Mr. P. gratefully for his escape.—Detroit Free Press.

SOME RECENT PATENTS.

A keyless bicycle lock. An improved sanitary corset. A bottle that cannot be refilled. A pipe for blowing soap bubbles. A combination sideboard and extension table.

A new alternating electric motor, by Nicola Tesla.

A machine for ornamenting glass dishes, by which the dish is both scalloped and crimped by one motion or operation.

A machine for the manufacture of "wire glass," by which a network of wire is imbedded in the glass, adding to its strength and flexibility.

A self-oller for journals on the principle of capillary attraction. A wick lays alongside the journal and extends down below into an oil receptacle.

A pineapple knife, with a tubular quill-pen-shaped point adapted to gouge out the eyes of the apple; a thumb-piece guide, which can be set so as to gauge the depth of the cut.

jest while under cover, the head being in such a position as not to admit of its being seen. When the tubes are thus extended, the observer may stand behind a tree or a wall and reconnoiter from his concealed position. There are also open points in favor of the instrument. The field of vision is enormously extended. You may study objects at opposite points of the compass with no more trouble than the winking of your eye. The stereo-telescope may be folded up, in which position, being held with the tubes upward, it enables the observer to look above an object obstructing his view, such as a hedge, wall or crowd of people.

Aluminum Coffins.

Aluminum coffins are the latest and the New York, Pittsburg and St. Louis undertakers carry them in stock. They are made of uniform width, square ends and vertical sides and ends, such being the accepted shape of the modern burial casket. They are finished with a heavy molding around the bottom and at the upper edge, and with pilasters at the corners and with a round molded top. They are provided with extension bar handles. Aluminum caskets are not covered, but finished with a metal surface burnished. They are lined in the same manner. The non-corrosive qualities of aluminum as well as the lightness of the caskets recommend them. A six-foot aluminum coffin weighs but 100 pounds, an oak casket of the same size 190 pounds, a cloth casket with metal lining about 175 pounds. Other metallic caskets weigh from 450 to 500 pounds. Aluminum coffins are not likely to become popular among the poor, as their cost ranges from \$400 to \$750.—New York World.

Ancient Indian temples at Ceylon are being illuminated by electricity.