

Strange Islands Opened to Travel by Canal

(Copyright, 1914, by Frank G. Carpenter.)
VALPARAISO, Chile.—I dined the other night on the shores of the island where Alexander Selkirk, the real Robinson Crusoe, was cast away. They were large, tender and juicy, and I doubt if better can be found in the world. Robinson Crusoe's island is becoming a great fishing grounds. It has fine cod in its waters, and it is noted for its lobsters and other shellfish. It has also a large Chilean fishing colony, and the Japanese, who are organizing a fishing industry in northern Chile, are considering the exploitation of that territory.

Robinson Crusoe's island is known on the maps as Juan Fernandez. It belongs to Chile, and it lies about 400 miles west of this port of Valparaiso and 2,600 miles south of the Panama canal. It is reached by government steamers, which go there to supply the colony at certain times of the year, and it is ruled by officers of the Chilean government. During my stay here I have met men who know the island well.

They describe it as a paradise. It has plenty of rain and is covered with a luxuriant vegetation. It is affected by the antarctic current, which keeps it perpetually cool, and the northern half on which the rains fall is covered with green.

Island Not Very Large.
 The island is only twelve miles long by seven miles wide. It consists of a great mass of rocks rising out of the sea to a height of more than four thousand feet. It is made up of hills and mountains, with many ravines and short valleys. The most of the shores are inaccessible, but at Cumberland Bay there is an excellent landing place. Behind this is a settlement of cottages and huts made of cane, thatched with straw. The houses have gardens about them, and at one time there was an attempt to start a stock-raising industry. One settler is said to have had as many as 30,000 cattle and an equal number of sheep. In time, however, his business fell off and the cattle ran wild. The island now has wild sheep, wild goats and wild horses, and the animals thrive without human care. The grass is excellent and covers every open spot on the northern side of the island. There are wild oats on some of the hills and also wild vegetables. There are wild fruits which have reproduced themselves from the trees planted by Alexander Selkirk, and from the same source there are wild grapes as delicious as those which Robinson Crusoe dried for raisins.

Original Robinson Crusoe.
 Alexander Selkirk was the hero of Defoe's story and the real Robinson Crusoe. He was cast away on this island more than 200 years ago, and there is a monument to him, consisting of a marble tablet set in the rocks on one of the higher parts of the island. The place is known as Robinson Crusoe's Lookout, and it is where he is supposed to have kept watches burning to attract the attention of any ship that might pass. The monument was erected in 1858 by some English naval officers. I have a photograph of it. The inscription reads as follows:

**IN MEMORY OF
 ALEXANDER SELKIRK, MARINER.**
 A native of Largo, in the County of Fife, Scotland, who lived on this island, in complete solitude, four years and four months.

He was landed from the "Cinco Ports" sloop, 95 tons, 18 guns, A. D. 1704, and was taken off in the "Duke's" privateer 12th of February 1709.

He died Lieutenant of H. M. S. "Weymouth" A. D. 1722, aged 47 years.

This tablet is the work of Selkirk's Lookout by Commodore Powell and the officers of H. M. S. "Topaz".

A. D. 1868.

Alexander Selkirk was rescued in 1709, just a little more than 200 years ago. He went to London and there met Defoe, who had many talks with him and therefrom got the idea and background of his story. The work of Robinson Crusoe was published in 1719, and it has since then had four editions in as many months and was the best seller of its time. It is one of the biggest sellers of today, and it ranks with the Bible and John Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" as the greatest sellers of history. "Robinson Crusoe" has been translated into nearly every known language. It has been printed in Spanish, German, Russian, Italian, Greek and Arabic. It is one of the boys' books of Japan, and a Chinese edition has been recently issued which is having an enormous sale.

Excursions to Place.
 Now that the Panama canal is completed there will probably be some special steamship excursions to Robinson Crusoe's island. The round trip from Valparaiso can be made in three or four days, and it might include a look at the cave in which Alexander Selkirk lived, at the Lookout, which for four long years he scanned the sea for ships, and I doubt not, at vestiges of Crusoe's man Friday, and perhaps a petrified footprint of that which the savage made upon the sand.

Selkirk was found by a ship that had seen the fire on the Lookout. According to the narrative of the captain who took him to England, he was clad in goatskins and was running about as though crazy. When he reached London his talk was the wonder of the coffee houses and his adventures were discussed by everyone. Sir Richard Steele told of them in one of his papers, and Selkirk published a little pamphlet of twelve pages describing his wanderings.

The Robinson Crusoe cave, where Selkirk lived, lies in a ridge of volcanic rock. It is easily identified. It is about thirty feet deep, and its roof is from ten to fifteen feet from the floor. The entrance is about fifteen feet high, and is almost hidden in ferns. The cave shows signs of having been lived in, and it is like the description of that in "Robinson Crusoe." There are holes and pockets scooped out of the walls and here and there is a rusty nail that had been driven in between the stones. The cave is said to have been the resort of the buccaners, who once ravaged the west coast of South America. There are other caves upon the island, and these also were occupied when the island was used for criminals. Some of the cells were far underground, and the prisoners could not stand upright within them. History records that the convicts once mutinied and murdered their guards. They captured the boats in the harbor, and 300 of them made their way to Chile and landed there.

Chilean Building Prison.
 Within the last year or so the Chilean government has decided to make Juan Fernandez a penal colony. The officials have visited it, and they find it well fitted for the purpose. They have sent a number of convicts there, and are now erecting a model prison upon it.

Another group of islands that will be important, now that the canal is com-



Cumberland Bay, Juan Fernandez, where Robinson Crusoe landed



Plantation in the Galapagos Islands

pleted, is the Archipelago de Colon. The name on the maps is the Galapagos Islands. These islands belong to Ecuador. They are situated about as far from Panama as New York is distant from Chicago, and in such a location that they might form an important coaling station for the ships on their way north and south between the two continents. They are about 500 miles from Ecuador and 2,000 miles north of Valparaiso.

These islands were for a long time uninhabited, and not long ago they had a sort of a Robinson Crusoe, who lived there for years upon fruits and roots and upon the wild cattle and pigs which he was able to kill. He caught the animals in traps and killed them with a spear made of a pocket knife tied to a stick. He had a hut with a roof of cowhairs and pigskins. When found he was naked and was carrying a pig on his back. He had been on the islands for years, having been left there by some ship. He had almost lost the power of speech, and it took some time for him to grow accustomed to civilized ways.

Unleash Sam May Bay Island.
 At several times during our history the United States has considered the getting possession of the Galapagos Islands. In 1851 preliminaries of transfer were arranged with Ecuador, and at that time \$3,000,000 was offered for the right of collecting the guano on the islands. The sale fell through, however, and so far none of the subsequent negotiations has succeeded. Now that we have the canal the sale may again come up in connection with our Pacific coast trade.

It is claimed that the islands are fertile. Some parts of them are now being settled. The Ecuadorians have established several plantations, and say that they have enough grazing ground to feed thousands of cattle. The islands have excellent cod fisheries along the shore, and are also famous for turtles of enormous size, which are found nowhere else. These turtles when full grown measure about three feet thick and weigh as much as 600 pounds. They are valuable for their oil, which can be used in place of lard. An ordinary turtle will yield about six gallons of oil, and this will sell for 75 cents a gallon. The islands have also seals and wild dogs, as well as wild donkeys and cattle, all of which are the descendants of those brought by a colony from Ecuador, which once attempted to settle the island, but failed.

Valuable for Fertilizer.
 There are other islands lying off the west coast of South America that have yielded more money than any other spots upon earth of a similar size. I refer to the guano islands, which have produced more than \$1,000,000,000 worth of fertilizer, and which, if the present movement for their renovation succeeds, will produce hundreds of millions of dollars more. This movement is backed by the Peruvian government, and is based upon scientific investigations. I will describe it further on in this letter.

The guano islands begin at the northern part of Peru, and they run here and there through the sea off the west coast of the South American desert far down into Chile. They are so situated that they have no rain, and they are absolutely barren except for the vast flocks of birds which use them for their breeding places. I saw many of these islands on my way southward through the Pacific. At first they seemed to be rocks of white chalk. The white, however, was made by the droppings of birds, which come there by the tens of millions every year to nest and raise their young.

The great value comes from the droppings of these birds. At the time they were discovered the deposits were so large that the Peruvians were two generations in developing them. They shipped the guano to the United States and Europe, and a fleet of vessels was engaged in carrying it. The receipts paid a large part of the expenses of the government, and they kept the country rich.

Lost as Result of War.
 Then Peru had its war with Chile and was conquered. The result was an enormous foreign debt in the settlement of which the best of the guano islands were given over to the foreign bondholders, and came under what is known as the Peruvian corporation, which corporation is still shipping from them thirty or more thousand tons every year.

The guano deposits are now almost exhausted. The most of the product had been consumed before the war with Chile, and a continual export has gone on since

then. The output now amounts to only a few thousand tons a year, but through the plans now making by the Peruvian government the islands may be renovated, and a continual supply received from them for all time to come. These plans are based upon the work of Dr. H. O. Forbes, a celebrated ornithologist, who has been sent by the president of Peru to report upon the islands and advise the government as to their future. Dr. Forbes has visited the whole coast in a motor boat, and has investigated all the islands and roosting rocks, studying the birds and their possibilities. He has caught some of the birds and kept them with a view to see how much guano each will produce. He finds that the amount of fish consumed by them is enormous. A single pelican will eat from eight to ten pounds a day and it deposits an enormous amount of guano in the course of a nesting season. A sea gull will drop from four to six ounces per day or something like twenty-eight pounds during the time it is breeding. Other birds produce more and the total amount is very great.

Deposits May Be Worked Again.
 Dr. Forbes has divided the guano archipelago into zones and it is his idea that each zone will be worked only once in four years, during which times the other zones will be accumulating guano. In this way the supply will be continuous and the islands may again be enormously profitable.

During my trip off the guano islands we had millions of pelicans flying over our steamer. There were also sea gulls, wild ducks and divers of many kinds. In places the sea was covered with birds, and a great flock of cormorants or pelicans would drop out of the sky on to the water, covering an acre or so at one time. The birds feed in the sea. The pelicans have pouches or bags of yellow skin under their necks, and they scoop the fish into these. They often gorge themselves to such an extent that they cannot rise from the water, but remain there until they have digested sufficient of their catch to lighten the weight. They always hunt in flocks, and when they settle on some place where the fish are abundant, they form islands on the sea a mile or so in diameter. Dr. Forbes says that they sit so close together that those on the outside have to rise first before the birds in the interior are able to get enough air under their wings to enable them to rise from the sea.

Dr. Forbes has found that the most of the guano comes from eight species of birds. The chief of these is Bougainville's cormorant, whose chief nesting place is the Chincha Islands. Last February Dr. Forbes found 10,000,000 of these birds nesting in the middle of one of these islands. The nests were close together, and the whole formed one of the most wonderful bird sights of the world. He watched them, and found that each nest had its male and female, and that one bird sat on the nest while the other was feeding, and that it, in turn, was relieved by its mate. The cormorants started for their fishing grounds at 5 or 6 in the morning, and flew in a broad stream perhaps 150 feet wide. This stream continued for hours.

Pelicans Come Next.
 The next bird in importance is the pelican. This also nests in great flocks and in the same neighborhood as the cormorants. When the pelicans are feeding 5,000 or 6,000 of them may be seen diving together. They fill the great pouches under their bills, and carry the fish away to eat them at their leisure.

Another bird is the gannet, whose young are beautiful little creatures covered with the purest white down. The gannets fly in flocks of from ten to twenty thousand, and they go down, like so many rockets, into the sea.

The guano of the Lobos Islands is found in pockets covered with layers of sand from two to fifteen feet deep. These are old deposits. The sand is shoveled off, and the guano is dug out. The stuff looks like fine sand. As it is dug up a strong smell of ammonia rises and the workmen wear iron masks over their faces to keep the ammonia dust out of their lungs. The guano is loaded upon trucks and carried on a trolley to the shore, where it is transferred to the ships for Europe or the United States. Such loading is now being done on the Chincha Islands as well, and upon the smaller islands still in the hands of the Peruvian government.

When these islands were first discovered they had guano deposits sixty feet

deep and Alexander Humboldt, who visited them 110 years ago, said that they then contained enough manure to enrich all of the wornout lands of the old world. They were not thought to be of value, however, until about fifty years later, when a Frenchman called attention to certain of the deposits, and claimed one-third of the product by right of discovery. The Peruvian congress voted him 5,000 tons, but it is said he never got it, and died in a poorhouse in Paris.

Other deposits were discovered by an American named Landreau, and he was treated in the same way, although our State department took up his case, and President Hayes referred to it in one of his messages to congress. The deposits Landreau discovered were worth \$600,000, and according to the Peruvian law he should have had \$183,000,000 from them. He received nothing.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

PRATTLE OF THE YOUNGSTERS

Mamma—Nette, what are you doing to baby that makes him cry so?

Small Nette—Oh, he got fussy because I tried to open his mouth wide with your glove strectcher.

"Oh, mamma," exclaimed small Willie, "I'm sure there is a great big mouse in my bedroom."

"Did you see it, dear?" she asked.

"No, I didn't see it," replied Willie, "but I heard it wagging its tail."

Drowsy and warm was the afternoon, and attention flagged considerably in the class room.

Grammar seemed such a dry old thing after the splendid battle that the boys had revelled in on the playground. The teacher's curt voice cut through their happy meditations, and the small lads pulled themselves together as best they were able.

"Two cows in the field," repeated the teacher, indicating the writing on the blackboard. "Now, that sentence is wrong. Can any boy tell me why?"

Wearily she looked over the apathetic little gathering.

"Come, come," she said encouragingly. One youngster, with a latent spark of chivalry, sought to help her out of the difficulty.

"Praps one of them are a calf, miss," he suggested innocently.

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MEND HAPPY HOLLOW COURSE

Two Rolling Greens Levelled, One the Famous Eleventh.

WATER SYSTEM INSTALLED

Between \$1,000 and \$1,200 Will Be Spent in the Installation of a Larger Main for Watering the Greens.

The Happy Hollow club is preparing to make extensive improvements on the golf links at the club. The new golf committee has been elected and will consist of C. E. Reed, Cliff Sadler and F. D. Wead.

Two of the greens, the eleventh and the

eighteenth, have been leveled already. The eleventh green has been regarded as the hardest in the city to make. On the side of the green runs the creek and the green slopes toward the creek. The distance is so long that the first approach is almost a drive and invariably, if the approach puts the ball over the creek on the green it will roll down the grade into the creek. That green has been leveled so that the ball will stick to the green and not roll back.

New Watering System.
 Plans are now being contemplated to spend between \$1,000 and \$1,200 on a watering system. Charley Johnson, professional at the club, has in the past found himself confronted with constant difficulties in maintaining his greens because of an inadequate water supply. He has asked for an extensive system with a large main

and the request has been granted.

At present a one-inch pipe furnishes water. It is planned to install a two-inch main or even a four-inch pipe in its stead. That will provide ample water to freshen the greens continuously and any golfer knows that perfect greens are made and maintained by liberal use of water on them.

Hope for Perfect Greens.
 Charley Johnson and his assistants hope to have as perfect greens as possible. While the Happy Hollow course is admittedly a very hard course the improvements made on the greens will aid materially. They will make it possible for the superior golfer to play a superior game without constantly encountering hard luck as was often the case with the peculiar roll of the eleventh and eighteenth greens and the extreme hardness when the water supply was insufficient.

HOW TO USE A DOCTOR

CHAPTER VI.

By HENRY S. MUNRO, M. D.

"Oh wad the power some giftie gie us, to see oursel as ithers see us."—Burns

In my last article I mentioned the great world movement toward a more efficient, more scientific, and more practical medical service in accord with "The New Era in Medicine" as outlined by the writer. Time did not permit me to catalog the scores of scientific physicians in all parts of the civilized world who have contributed their quota to the development of the high status of practical efficiency, which has been attained in all branches of medicine and surgery, all of which, have kept pace with the modern advancement in Scientific Psychotherapy, Clinical Medicine, or Psychiatry and Neurology, to which my work has been more especially devoted. Suffice it to say that these last mentioned branches (these correlated branches) have lingered longest in the darkness of ignorance, pretension and despair. It is fitting, therefore, that the beginning of the 20th century should have been marked by such marvelous therapeutic advancement in these related branches so as to almost completely eclipse the progress made in this particular field within the last half of the 19th century, so far as its scientific application to the amelioration and cure of many of the diseases of mankind are concerned, coming as the result of the practical employment of the theories of evolution, the conservation of human life, the prevention and cure of disease, and the achievement of health, sanity and efficiency.

In fact, so rapid has been the recent advancement in practical clinical medicine, scientific psychotherapy, or modern psychiatry, and neurology that few physicians of the present time have kept up with the vanguard of progress, as the papers presented at our recent Nebraska Medical Association clearly indicate, and as a comparison of these papers with the more advanced articles presented before the last meeting of the American Medical Association also, illustrate in no unmistakable manner.

The reader can well understand, then, why the writer felt cramped beyond further tolerance, with conditions as they are in Nebraska, since the medical schools had the local medical and state societies within their grasp, forcing them to conform to the financial interests of the medical school and hospital machines, while the interest of the larger professional and social organizations were being neglected, so gullible were the scarcely articulate mass constituting the rank and file of the profession. That the more enlightened minority outside the schools keenly felt the cramped position, from which they were unable to extricate themselves, I am more than glad to concede. Indeed, there is as high a quality of professional brains in the state of Nebraska as can be found in any state in the union and all that they require is the psycho-physiological stimulus of the light that I am now turning upon the situation, so as to evoke the reaction, that will set the entire herd aright,—in keeping with the advancement of the 20th century progress in medical science and art.

More yet, the rank and file of those constituting the faculty of the Medical Department of the Nebraska State University do not deserve the shame and humiliation to which they are subjected by the searchlight being thrown upon the body as a whole; but, since no machinery or organization, is stronger than its weakest point, they must take their part of the medicine. There are, on the other hand, in this faculty departments of medicine, surgery, obstetrics, gynecology, therapeutics, pharmacology, pathology, physiological chemistry, bacteriology, and other laboratory studies that have no superiors in the United States, to say nothing of the OTHER EFFICIENT SPECIALTY DEPARTMENTS, all of which are essential to a

well rounded medical institution. But, be these ever so efficient, the inefficiency of what has now become the most progressive and all inclusive branch of clinical medicine leaves the school defective at its most vital point, so far as the welfare of "the physician in the making" is concerned, as well as for the interest of the larger social organization. Respect for age and physical infirmity should not blind us to the recognition of incompetency, whether in reference to the teaching facilities of a medical school, or to the honors of a state medical association. SUCH DEPRECIATION CANNOT STOP THE PROGRESS OF MEDICAL SCIENCE. EVEN IF A DAILY NEWSPAPER MUST BE CONVERTED INTO A MEDICAL JOURNAL. The members of the medical faculty of a State University should be available to every advance in applied scientific knowledge in a profession whose avowed purpose is to conserve the lives, sanity and efficiency of our fellow citizens. They should be such men that, in their presence, even the humblest contributor to medical knowledge could feel at ease. At least, there should be no ungenerously outbursts of devotion against an advance in the application of science to the amelioration and cure of the diseases and weaknesses of mankind. As a citizen of the state supporting the medical department of a state university, the humblest has the right (IF HE HAS THE INTELLIGENCE TO DO SO) to demand that only such personalities as those that have attained the stature of completely developed manhood are to be found occupying such positions of prominence and responsibility.

AS A MEMBER OF ORGANIZED MEDICINE, AND AS A CITIZEN OF THE STATE OF NEBRASKA, I am far more loyal to my profession and to my country by speaking out upon such questions than I would be to complacently acquiesce in such manifest incompetency, or to condone such conduct on the ground of age, innocence or ignorance. By such an attitude ONLY could I maintain my own self-respect, which is a thousand times more valuable to me than the approval of one hundred thousand American physicians.

Not for the wealth of the combined banks of Nebraska, TOGETHER WITH THE GUARANTEE OF ETERNAL YOUTH, would I exchange the satisfaction that is mine as the result of a fifteen-year struggle, not for profit, but for service to my profession and for the welfare of my fellow.

The melancholy whim that "he is untrue to the Medical Department of the Nebraska State University," is but THE WAIL OF INCOMPETENT AND UNTRUTHFUL WEAKLINGS. Without the assistance of the men who are as manhood true, in the members of this faculty, could I have made the successful fight which has secured a victory that is for the entire medical profession and for the whole of mankind, and far from it would I be unloyal to their confidence and friendship, BY ALL MEANS LET US HAVE A REAL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE NEBRASKA STATE UNIVERSITY, WITH ITS OWN GENERAL AND PSYCHOPATHIC HOSPITALS, RUN IN THE INTEREST OF THE ENTIRE STATE OF NEBRASKA, IN HARMONY WITH THE ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT OF THIS GREAT INSTITUTION, WHERE THE WORK OF ALL DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE CAN BE CONCENTRATED AND THEIR PRINCIPLES APPLIED FOR THE AMELIORATION AND CURE OF HUMAN SUFFERING, AND EVERY PARTICLE OF ENERGY AT MY COMMAND WILL BE READY FOR SUCH AN ALLIANCE. If the institution is to be maintained as an advertising machine, run in the interest of a few "clinical teachers," in competition with the larger professional and social

organizations, I WILL STAND ALONE. I will attempt, and fight these parasitic single handed, but I AM NOT ALONE. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE REAL PHYSICIAN AND THE COUNTERFEIT HERE FINDS THE LINE OF DEMARCATION. WE CHEERFULLY AWAIT THE RECKONING.

Nebraska is leading in Medical education, and the leadership will go on regardless of affiliation with organized medicine, or with a medical school.

We are going to have a REAL MEDICAL SCHOOL IN NEBRASKA, where the principles of scientific knowledge can be practically taught and applied to the alleviation of human suffering, for the conservation of human life and the promotion of efficiency—a school that will be neither Protestant nor Catholic, Jew nor Gentile, neither "high" nor "low," but above all these, AMERICAN; and run in the interest of our common Democracy, for the welfare of all the people. The men who ARE qualified to man such a school are here, and they are not inhospitable to a bearer of a torchlight of any branch of applied medical science, for they each have a torch of their own, that has been seen and recognized from near and far. THEY ARE MY FRIENDS, and they have helped to sustain me in my pioneer efforts in the most progressive branch of practical clinical medicine in such a manner that I GLADLY SURRENDER TO THEM THEIR DESERVED PART OF THE CREDIT OF MY VICTORY.

For one thing, I feel that the conduct of the entire herd deserves to be censured. The physician who put "Mamma's Little Hero" up to tell 'what the future of the Omaha-Douglas County Medical Society was going to be, AND TO SAY WHAT THE FUTURE MEMBERS OF THAT SOCIETY WERE NOT GOING TO DO, ought to be ashamed of his frank, and the bunch of gullibles who cheered him in his tyrannical and dictatorial slopover, deserve their part of the condemnation that such conduct deserves. The two College Professors, both State Medical Association Officials, who were boldest in their denunciation of scientific medical progress, or THE MOST PROGRESSIVE BRANCH OF CLINICAL MEDICINE, were either elected as a County Medical Society President, or loudly applauded by the HERD—SO EASILY DO MEN MAKE DUPES OF THEMSELVES, BY MISTAKING NOISE FOR KNOWLEDGE!

"THE LAUGHS BEST WHO LAUGHS LAST." I have not been supported by an "endowment fund," or a "State Supplied Advertising Machine," but I am up with the most advanced member of the entire herd, local or national, and I defy all of them to prove that what I say is not true.

Suppose we leave it to David star Jordan, J. Stanley Hall, Victor C. Vaughn, John B. Murphy and Simon Flexner to decide.

EITHER HAVE MY CLAIMS CONTESTED BY COMPETENT JUDGES OR BEHAVE YOURSELVES AS MEMBERS OF A CIVILIZED SOCIAL ORDER AND BE GOVERNED ACCORDINGLY.

Perhaps, also, it would be well for those posing as high examples of conventional morality to learn the "a, b, c" of ethics. Then such "samples" would have just complaint at the physician who chooses to use a daily newspaper as an instrument of enlightenment.

The cry of "unethical" has been heard, but to use a church audience as a medium by which to deride a branch of practical medical science, according to the report of a newspaper, is quite the polite thing to do. "LET HIM THAT IS GUILTYLESS CAST THE FIRST STONE."

With the debris removed, we will (next Sunday) proceed to the task at hand, i. e., tell "How to Use a Doctor."

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