

SCIENTIFIC WEDLOCK.

THE PHYSICAL AND MORAL EFFECTS OF UNWISE MARRIAGES.

Among Savages—A Law in Brazil. Prioritization of Royal Blood in Europe—Germany's Peril—Physical Culture Should Be Looked After—Results.

It is both interesting and instructive to study the people and races of the earth, as their methods of contracting marriages influence their deterioration or advancement. Among the Esquimaux, who rank very low on the scale of humanity, marriage is a mere matter of convenience.

In various parts of South America there is an ample field to study the effects of judicious alliances. There exists there almost every variety of cross between the native Indians, the resident and indolent Spaniards, and other more active, vigorous and intellectual Europeans.

The ruling families of many of the small European states have their range in marriage selection so restricted by their social code as to furnish noteworthy examples of the disobedience of the laws of scientific wedlock.

In many countries the poorer classes marry early and have large families. They are too ignorant to know anything of the scientific laws which should govern marriages and procreation.

The day when true sanitary marriage will become the rule is a long way off. The need must be made more plainly evident in this country by the advent of the new strains from the immigration of many strains, a race wholly new to the world.

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THE HUMAN VOICE.

What It Is in Which the Soul of the Organ Consists.

The individual peculiarities and delicate expressions of the human voice have been looked upon as almost belonging to the soul, and as, therefore, incapable of reproduction.

The first question to be answered is, what is the difference in the sounds of different voices and of different musical instruments by which we distinguish them, if it is difference neither in the loudness nor in the pitch of the tone produced?

In talking, the sounds of the voice are made nearly all in one note, and articulation is simply the effect of rapid and decided variations in the quality or the timbre of the note.

Kind friends had warned us, ere we retired to sleep the first night in Calcutta, not to suppose that there was anything the matter if we should hear the cry of the jackals.

But though the cat has undeniable power he can never hope to reach the tenor notes of the jackal. This latter, indeed, lacks the conversational variety of the more domestic animal.

The surveillance of parents over daughters renders the matter of courtship a serious affair in Cuba. Many young men actually become dour objects from persistent serenading before so much as civil recognition by the family is granted.

All this may seem ridiculous to us, but it is far from that to those who thus pour out their souls upon the night. Nobody pays any attention to it. The parents, who are used to it, simply turn in their beds with thanks to the angels that their doors are massive and the windows are of iron bars.

In a German chart, published in 1870 by Dr. Gleuss, a line dividing places keeping Sunday and Monday respectively passes through Behring straits, leaving the Alaskan islands on the east, curves sharply in between the Philippines on the west and Caroline on the east, then curves again sharply, sweeping north of Guinea and leaving the Chatham islands on the west.

DANGERS OF THE DEEP.

DERELICTS WHICH DRIFT AT THE WILL OF WIND AND CURRENT.

Travels of an Abandoned Vessel—Danger of Striking a Water-Logged Wreck—The Great Raft—A Whistling Buoy Adrift—The Superstitious Sailor.

A derelict is anything that has been forsaken or abandoned, and, as applied to the sea, it is a vessel that has been abandoned by her crew and left floating on the ocean.

The most interesting wreck that has been reported for some years is doubtless that of the derelict schooner Twenty-one Friends. She was abandoned on March 24, 1885 about one hundred and seventy-five miles east of Cape Henry.

Fogs and icebergs are encountered only at a particular period of the year, and within certain limits of the ocean, but derelicts are liable to be met anywhere and at any time.

A word on the subject of buoys which have gone adrift may not be amiss. While most buoys are small and insignificant, a few are large and heavy, and might do considerable damage to a ship if run into at full speed.

One of these enormous buoys was driven from its moorings off Cape Hatteras, in December, 1883, and, after taking an involuntary journey of about twelve hundred miles, it was, on the 25th of the following May, captured and towed into Bermuda by an English steamer.

Imagine the dismay of some superstitious mariner whose ears should be greeted by a hollow voice in the small hours of the night, when he comfortably believed that no object was within miles of the ship.

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A new method of punishing dishonest bank clerks is now being tried in a certain institution of that kind in New York. Some time ago a clerk's accounts were investigated and he was found to be several thousand dollars short.

A news item states that "an umbrella has been made in Glasgow for a king in East Africa measuring twenty-one feet in diameter." The dimensions of the umbrella are not given, but we should think it would have to be pretty bulky to cover a king twenty-one feet in diameter.

Sporting Goods Dealer—Yes, my advertising reductions are in good faith, I'm selling standard baseballs to boys at five cents each.

PARAGRAPHS OF INTEREST.

A railroad will soon be built from Gibraltar to communicate with the rest of Spain. The new passport system in the Alsace-Lorraine districts is said to be very annoying to American tourists.

The secretary of the London Electric company reports that the stokers struck and stopped the lights because "a gratuitous meal of roast beef was served cold instead of hot."

At Hamilton, Ont., a man who borrowed an umbrella and did not return it has just been sentenced to jail for one year. A timely warning to the wise is sufficient.

The last French rifle, as described, has a ball so small that a soldier can carry 230 rounds, shoots with a new smokeless powder, and its bullet pierces a brick wall eight inches thick at 500 yards.

A disobedient schoolgirl at Portsmouth, Va., was made by her teacher to stand in one spot without moving for a long time. The strain made her sick, and she is now said to be dying of a fever.

Some hen's eggs that were accidentally covered up by some men plowing at Petaluma, Cal., last summer, were hatched by the heat of the sun upon the earth and the noise made by the chicks led to their discovery and release.

The first volume of the correspondence of Peter the Great, edited by Count Tolstoi, has been published. There will be ten very large volumes, containing upward of 30,000 letters, which have been gathered from archives all over Europe.

The Holmden farm, near Pithole, Pa., for which, in the days of the oil craze, the Garden City Petroleum company of Chicago, paid \$1,500,000, was sold a few days ago for taxes amounting to less than \$100.

The lumber from which the gallews was constructed on which John Brown was executed is owned by a resident of Harper's Ferry, who is waiting for some one to come and take it off his hands.

Recently at a Moscow sunset the rays of the sun were intercepted by a cloud, and through some peculiar property in the atmosphere the entire city was colored a vivid purple hue. This strange effect lasted for eight minutes.

The back of a gold watch, with a crown and the letter N engraved upon it, was recently returned to Dent & Co., of London, and they identified it as the back of a watch which the Empress Eugenie had given to her son, the Prince Eugene, in 1878.

There is now filed with a will in litigation in Monroe county, Ga., a silver dollar that was issued in 1775, and has been in possession of the same family for more than 100 years.

A Chinese lantern tied to a kite that was poised in midair caused a sensation among the negroes of Augusta, Ga., a few nights ago. The unnamy light dancing in the heavens terrified them, and their cries and prayers are said to have been woful to hear.

Something that pays better than a gold mine is a large ledge of mica located west of Moscow, Idaho. It was discovered a few years ago by an Indian, who sold it for a trifle to W. A. Woody. The ledge was next purchased by a Chicago firm, who paid \$135,000 for it, and have since taken a fortune out of it every year.

A great parrot show is to be held at Turin this summer. Prizes are to be given for the polly who can use the most phrases and for the oldest parrot. It is said that a polly who has seen 80 years will be present.

Girls Clad as Mummies. It seems curious that a fresh and all alive young creature should be clad in cloth copied exactly from the wrappings of the Egyptian dead.

Thrift and Frugality. A lawyer living in a town near Waterbury, Conn., states a fact which well illustrates the thrift and frugality which characterize many of the old families which have not been touched by modern extravagance and love of display.

Pasteur's Rabbit Destroyer a Failure. The South Australian Register, to hand by the latest mail, contains an account of some experiments at Sydney with M. Pasteur's microbes of chicken cholera.

Believed to Be a Witch. In the narrow valley where the Amazon takes its rise among the Peruvian Andes, a woman was recently burned to death because the populace believed her to be a witch.

No! I'm getting rich. You see I'm a silent partner in the firm of Painter & Glazier, dealers in window glass, etc.—Lincoln Journal.

The Plattsmouth Herald

Is enjoying a Boom in both its

DAILY AND WEEKLY

EDITIONS.

The Year 1888

Will be one during which the subjects of national interest and importance will be strongly agitated and the election of a President will take place.

Political, Commercial

and Social Transactions

of this year and would keep pace with the times should

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Daily or Weekly Herald.

Now while we have the subject before the people we will venture to speak of our

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