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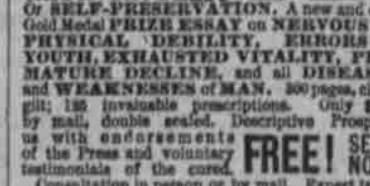

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Death of an ... Pitcairn Islander.

A Norfolk island correspondent reports the death, at the age of ninety-four, of Mr. Buffett, an aged and much respected member of the island community. He had been connected with the Pitcairn community for the long period of nearly seventy years.

Early in the twenties (1822) the English whaler Cyprus, on her way home after an extended and successful cruise, and before starting on the then lonely and perilous passage around the Horn, called at Pitcairn island for fresh provisions and to recruit. Just at that time the island elders began to feel the want of a school teacher for the young community fast growing up, and expressed their wishes to that effect to the captain of the Cyprus, who, without hesitation, willingly agreed to help them, if possible.

The result was that Buffett, then a young man on board, of fair education, was sounded, and he gladly fell in with the wishes of his captain and the community, went ashore with all his belongings and thenceforward threw in his lot with the islanders. He was not long, however, a schoolmaster, as on the advent of Mr. Nobbs, some few years later, a majority of the parents wished for a change, and of course Buffett had to acquiesce.

Mr. Buffett's residence, even on peaceful Pitcairn, was not without its exciting episodes. In 1831 occurred, at the instance of the English government, the exodus to Tahiti, and the community's return some months later curtailed through sickness of many of its members. Then again, in 1836, during the "reign" of Mr. Joshua Hill, Buffett and his two compatriots, Nobbs and Evans, together with their families, were for a short period banished to the Gambier islands by this arbitrary gentleman, where the exiles were kindly treated, and remained until the storm blew over. Lastly, the final departure from loved old Pitcairn to the new home at Norfolk island, 3,000 miles away.

Buffett was an ingenious worker in wood, and his handiworks in the shape of cabinets and such like are widely distributed, the old familiar legend, "made from the wood of John Adams' house," being always kept up and no doubt adding attraction to the goods. Until three or four years ago Mr. Buffett had the full use of all his faculties, but for the last eighteen months he has been totally oblivious to passing events.—Chilian Times.

A Soldier's Bible.

While Miss Winter, of Emmittsburg, was overlooking her childhood's treasures, she came across an old Testament which she found on the site of a soldier's camp near there during the war, after the soldiers had left for the field of Gettysburg. On examining the book her eyes fell on the name "Samuel Wolcott, Griffin's Mills, Erie county, N. Y.," and Miss Winter decided to write to the address, thinking the owner would like to recover the book.

In a few days she received a reply from Mrs. Weaden, of Clifton, N. J., stating that she was a sister of the soldier and the only living member of a large family. She said her brother had returned home from the army in 1863, and died in 1864, and Miss Winter's letter had been forwarded to her as his nearest of kin. Mrs. Weaden seemed much pleased at the idea of recovering this long lost memento of her dead brother, and Miss Winter sent the Testament to her.—Baltimore Sun.

A Chapter on Oysters.

"Oysters are fatter this year than I ever saw them before," said a restaurant oyster opener. "I don't know why, but usually the fatter an oyster is the poorer the flavor. This is because the fat oyster has generally been out of the water too long and has been fed. That is not wholly the reason this year. They are fatter anyhow.

"An oyster is best on the half shell, about twenty-four to forty-eight hours after he is out of salt water. Eaten before that time they are apt to give cramps. Yes, the male oyster is the best, but we don't come across a male more than an average of once in fifty times."—New York Herald.

Why the Opening Was Delayed.

The opening of the recent church congress at Rhylin, Wales, was delayed for half an hour by the nonappearance of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and everybody wondered what had happened. The archbishop had lost his crozier. This emblem was locked up in a leathern case, and was carried off by a servant, who thought it was a gun, and locked it up in a room full of breechloaders and cartridges. Whether the congress would have been adjourned if it had not been discovered is a question which does not call for immediate reply.—Christian World.

Bruin Boarded a Hand Car.

A section man was coming into Columbus, Ind., on a hand car on the Pennsylvania road, when he was attacked by a large bear. A terrible storm was in progress at the time. The man and bear had a terrific struggle, but the man finally struck the bear over the head with an iron crowbar, and as the animal rolled from the car the man got it in motion and escaped. He was badly scratched and bruised, but not seriously injured.—Cor. Philadelphia Record.

Blew Open an Unlocked Safe.

Cracksmen played a singular joke on themselves in blowing open the safe in L. G. Blair's store, Rio, Ills. Mr. Blair has been the victim of so many robberies that he has been leaving the safe open and sending the money to Galesburg. The burglars drilled into and blew open the empty unlocked safe.—Cor. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Raising Tea in North Carolina.

The result of the recent attempt to raise tea in North Carolina indicates that the soil and climate are favorable to such an industry, but that, owing to the expense of picking and curing, none but the highest grades could be produced profitably.—New York Times.

One Way of Advertising.

One of the meanest and most heartless of advertising tricks consists in sending round to people's houses, and especially to ladies, advertisements in telegraph envelopes, or in envelopes which imitate them so closely that no one supposes that they are anything else until they are opened. Saturday evening—it was in the evening, let it be noted, when ordinary messages are hardly expected—a lady of the Listener's acquaintance, who had been very ill, received one of these missives. She is weak and broken, and being summoned to receive what she supposed to be a telegraphic message gave her a severe shock. A worse case than this is an actual one of a sea captain's wife who lives in an outlying portion of the city. The captain's ship has been long overdue, and all the people of the neighborhood sympathized with the wife in her agonizing suspense. There came a call to the door "for a message," and the lady answered it with her heart in her mouth.

She tore open the supposed telegraph envelope, only to read the message, "You are wanted immediately at — Tremont street to test the merits of the new — sewing machine." Naturally everybody in the neighborhood is indignant, and such an advertisement is certainly bad policy, for there is not a family thereabout who would purchase a sewing machine of the make advertised if any other kind was to be had. Perhaps a like feeling of indignation, stirred up in many neighborhoods, will have the effect to put an end to this offensive and mischievous kind of advertising, which no reputable firm, it would seem, would engage in.—Boston Transcript.

Cause of the Chinese Trouble.

Secret societies extend all over the Chinese empire, and their name is legion. They are semireligious, and have, as a rule, the power of life and death over their members. The Triad society is one of the strongest. It was the cause of a great rebellion in northwest and middle China at the beginning of this century, and its object then was to overthrow the government. This rebellion lasted eight years. It caused the devastation of the provinces in which it went on, and there was much bloodshed.

The secret societies were mixed up in the Tai-Ping rebellion, which very nearly resulted in the overthrow of the Manchu emperor. It is said that the present troubles are largely due to these secret societies. Some of them have their members in every province of the empire, and they embrace the Chinamen living at Singapore, San Francisco and all other parts of the world. Every one has heard of the Highbinders of San Francisco, who have their courts and punishments, and are the terror of the Celestial colony there.—Frank G. Carpenter in National Tribune.

A Heavy Blast.

One of the most terrific and effective blasts ever made in the extensive stone quarries at Glen Mills, West Chester, Pa., was made the other day. In the face of that portion of the quarries which is opened about eighty yards in length nine holes twenty-five feet in depth were drilled at equal distances apart. In these 500 pounds of dynamite were placed, and all responded to the touch of the electric button at the battery, several hundred yards distant.

Hundreds of thousands of tons of stone were raised and broken by the explosion, many of the pieces being as large as a freight car. The arrangements for the blast being generally known in that section hundreds of people assembled to see it. The amount of stone loosened by the explosion will be sufficient to keep busy the several large crushers for many weeks.—Cor. Philadelphia Ledger.

Rapid Transit for the Farmer.

A practical illustration of the benefit to the farmer of the proposed system of freight service will soon be given in Maryland, where an electric road eighteen miles long is being run through a first class farming country that the steam railroads have not touched. This road will not only be used for passenger traffic, but will be equipped with freight cars that will have a capacity of five tons. No matter how muddy the highways are or how stormy the weather, the motor trucks upon which the farm wagons are wheeled will always be ready to carry their loads to the nearest market, and to bring back their return load when required.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

His Trap Carried Off by a Buzzard.

A boy living at Lewes missed one of his muskrat traps, the chain of which was broken, indicating that the trap had been carried away by something stronger than a muskrat. Two weeks afterward he found the trap in Russell's woods, and caught in it was a large turkey buzzard fastened by the leg. The trap was opened and the vulture flew away. Alongside of the bird while it was in the trap were two eels, which are supposed to have been brought to the captive by other buzzards.—Wilmington News.

A Monumental Yarn.

Of all the Munchausenlike stories that are going the rounds, this one is by no means the most trifling: "Eight years ago H. H. Bowles, of Cherryfield, Me., planted in his garden a small flowering shrub. Near the strub grew a green gage and a cherry tree. Last year the shrub put forth cherry blossoms, but bore no fruit. This year it produced luscious fruit of the green gage variety."—Philadelphia Ledger.

The superintendent of the Pine Ridge agency in South Dakota was staggered the other day when a little Indian boy very timidly asked him if there was danger of another uprising of the white people soon.

In Camden one Sunday afternoon recently a two-year-old child sucked its father's old clay pipe and died within an hour in strong convulsions.

Two Englishmen have just returned to London after walking around Europe, a journey which occupied fourteen months.

A Husband's ...

Husbands too often ... and parents the suffering ... from headache, dizziness, sleeplessness, fits, nervous... when by the use of Dr. Miles' Restorative Nervine such serious results could easily be prevented. Druggists everywhere say it gives universal satisfaction and has an immense sale. Woodworth & Co., of Fort Wayne, Ind.; Snow & Co., Syracuse, N. Y.; J. C. Wolf, Hi... Mich.; and hundreds of others ... "It is the greatest seller they ... knew." It contains no opiates. ... bottles and fine book on Nervous diseases, free at F. G. Fricke & Co.

Wonderful.

E. W. Sawyer, of Rochester, Wis., a prominent dealer in general merchandise, and who runs several peddling wagons, had one of his horses badly cut and burned with a lariat. The wound refused to heal. The horse became lame and stiff nowwithstanding careful attention and the application of remedies. A friend handed Sawyer some of Haller's Barb Wire Linement, the most wonderful thing ever saw to heal such wounds. He applied it only three times and the sore was completed healed. Equally good for all sors, cuts, bruses, and wounds. For sale by all druggist

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