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My husband had Eczema on the face for ten years. He couldn't get any relief until he tried Hale's Eczema Cure, and one box almost cured him. I shall use your preparation in my practice.

My little boy had a form of Eczema for five years. He had seven of the best doctors and none of them helped him. One box of Hale's Eczema Cure relieved him wonderfully. Five boxes have cured him.

I have been a sufferer with Eczema for forty years. Tried many doctors and various kinds of medicine, but could not get any relief. Have used one box of your Eczema Ointment and I am now entirely cured.

I have used two boxes of your preparation, and it has cured me of Eczema.

My wife tried most everything to relieve her of Eczema but was unsuccessful until I procured a box of your wonderful Ointment, which has cured her entirely. I shall take pleasure in recommending it to anyone having skin trouble.

I had Eczema very bad. My body was covered. With one box of your preparation I was cured in a few days.

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With all my heart I thank you for the good your wonderful remedy has done for me. Cured my skin disease in less than a week when all other medicines failed. I take pleasure in recommending your name.

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A HANDSOME APOLOGY.

Mark Twain's Story of Sweet Tooth Long Delayed Revenge.

My experience as an author began early in 1867. I came to New York from San Francisco in the first month of that year, and presently Charles H. Webb, whom I had known in San Francisco as a reporter on the Bulletin and afterward editor of the Californian, suggested that I publish a volume of sketches. I had but a slender reputation to publish it on, but I was charmed and excited by the suggestion and quite willing to venture it if some industrious person would save me the trouble of gathering the sketches together. I was loath to do it myself, for from the beginning of my sojourn in this world there was a persistent vacancy in me where the industry ought to be. ("Ought to was" is better perhaps, though the most of the authorities differ as to this.)

Webb said I had some reputation in the Atlantic states, but I knew quite well that it must be of a very attenuated sort. What there was of it rested upon the story of "The Jumping Frog." When Artemus Ward passed through California on a lecturing tour in 1865 or '66 I told him the "Jumping Frog" story in San Francisco, and he asked me to write it out and send it to his publisher, Carleton, in New York, to be used in padding out a small book which Artemus had prepared for the press and which needed some more stuffing to make it big enough for the price which was to be charged for it.

Webb had made an appointment for me with Carleton. Otherwise I never should have got over that frontier. Carleton rose and said brusquely and aggressively:

"Well, what can I do for you?" I reminded him that I was there by appointment to offer him my book for publication. He began to swell and went on swelling and swelling and swelling until he had reached the dimensions of a god of about the second or third degree. Then the fountains of his great deep were broken up, and for two or three minutes I couldn't see him for the rain. It was words, only words, but they fell so densely that they darkened the atmosphere. Finally he made an imposing sweep with his right hand, which comprehended the whole room, and said:

"Books—look at those shelves! Every one of them is loaded with books that are waiting for publication. Do I want any more? Excuse me, I don't. Good morning."

Twenty-one years elapsed before I saw Carleton again. I was then sojourning with my family at the Schweitzerhof, in Luzerne. He called on me, shook hands cordially and said at once without any preliminaries:

"I am substantially an obscure person, but I have at least one distinction to my credit of such colossal dimensions that it entitles me to immortality—to wit, I refused a book of yours, and for this I stand without competitor as the prize ass of the nineteenth century."

It was a most handsome apology, and I told him so, and said it was a long delayed revenge, but was sweeter to me than any other that could be devised; that during the lapsed twenty-one years I had in fancy taken his life several times every year and always in new and increasingly cruel and inhuman ways, but that now I was pacified, appeased, happy, even jubilant, and that thenceforth I should hold him my true and valued friend and never kill him again.—North American Review.

Precipices in the Himalayas.

There is one remarkable peculiarity of the series of Himalayan ranges between the vale of Kashmir and the central Asian watershed. They are one after another cut right across by ridges. The reason for this is that the rivers were there before the ranges were formed, and as by the crinkling of the earth's crust the ranges were raised the rivers cut gorges through them and maintained their flow. Nanga Parbat is part of the true and principal Himalayan range, and its summit rises to the stupendous altitude above sea level of 26,630 feet. Close to its foot, not more than ten miles in horizontal distance from the peak, the Indus flows through a desert gorge, and here the height above sea level of the river bed is not much above 3,000 feet. It is easy to conceive from these figures on how vast a scale nature's architecture is here set up. The path along the side of the gorge is in places perilously narrow and carried across precipices of such appalling character that at one point a man who lost his footing fell a mile in vertical height and was of course smashed to atoms.

A Wreck in the Potato Field.

An old salt after sailing the sea for years thought he would try a life ashore for awhile. He looked around for a job and was engaged by a farmer, saying as he had plowed the deep for years he thought he could plow the land. He went home with the farmer and after a good night's rest and breakfast started out to plow. The farmer hitched up a yoke of oxen, with a horse on to lead. Taking two turns around the field and then turning the team over to Jack, he said he would go to the house for family prayers. It was plain sailing for a short time, but the team didn't like Jack's way of navigating. The oxen turned the yoke, and things became snarled up. Jack hove to and went to the house, asking for the deacon. He was told the family was at prayers, but pushed in and hailed the deacon: "Say, deacon, the starboard ox is on the port side, and the port ox is on the starboard side. The old mare is athwart the bows, and the whole thing is drifting to hades stern first. Belay your prayers and come down and clear away the wreck!"

SOME GIANTS OF OLD

NOTEWORTHY SPECIMENS THAT ARE TOLD OF IN HISTORY.

The Prodigious Strength of Polydamus, Who Rivalled Hercules—Feats of Maximinus, the Imperial Giant of the Third Century.

If there is one thing in the show business which can be depended on to draw it is a giant, provided always that he be big enough.

But giants existed long before this profitable business was invented, and the names of many of them have been handed down to posterity simply because they were of huge proportions and combined with their abnormal development a proportional amount of strength. Thus it is probable that had Goliath of Gath, whose height the obelisk place at over ten feet, not been the strongest as well as the biggest warrior among the Philistines we should never have heard of him. The same argument applies to Moab, king of the Amorites, and Og, king of Bashan. Orestes, too, was eleven and a half feet high, according to the Grecian legends, and he, together with Ajax the Greater, had they not been gifted with strength in proportion to their bulk would have been only ordinary soldiers of the Grecian army before Troy.

When history begins, however—that is, when Rome began to reach its highest point of civilization in the time of Augustus and learned men began to write about the times they lived in instead of the times that had gone by long before they were born—we get authentic records of giants. In Augustus' time, for instance, there were, according to the authority of Valerius, two giants in Rome who were over ten feet high. Their names were Idus and Secundilla, and they were keepers of the gates of the gardens of Salust.

Then again we have a record in Pliny of one Polydamus, the son of Nicas, who was over nine feet high and whose strength rivaled that of Hercules himself. Polydamus used, in fact, to boast his superiority to that Roman deity and perform his special tricks. For example, he once slew a lion with a blow of his fist and scattered its brains about the arena. He could with his hand stop the swiftest chariot dead and on one occasion seized a bull by the hoof in order to carry it away, but the animal struggled so violently that the hoof was left in his hand. In the end he was killed by the falling in of a cave. When his companions noticed that the roof was falling they left, but Polydamus was so vain about his strength that he thought he could not be killed. So he stayed and was finally crushed to death.

The Emperor Vitellius sent to Darius by way of a present a Jew named Eleazer, who was seven cubits high—that is, reckoning the cubits at eighteen inches, ten feet six inches—and a giant who is mentioned by the historian Tacitus was over nine feet. His name was Corbulo, and he lived in Nero's time and was a more than usually skillful general and soldier, besides being an enormously strong man. An account of the ancient giants would be incomplete without mentioning Maximinus, the Imperial giant of the third century. The most extraordinary stories are told of this emperor of Rome. His height was eight feet ten inches, he could draw unaided a loaded wagon which six oxen could not move, while his appetite was so great that his usual rations for the day consisted of forty pounds of meat and a whole amphora of wine, besides bread and dried and fresh fruits.

Medieval giants are plentiful, but strange to say, the records of them are not so authentic as those of the times of the emperors. Funnian, a Scottish giant who flourished in 1227, seems to be the most authentic of these, but as he is put down as being over eleven feet high the statement should not be criticized too closely. Still more startling, however, is the following, which is vouched for by a monastery full of monks: In 1599 some workmen, digging near Rouen, came across a cave in which were some human bones and a copper plate, bearing the words, "Here lie the remains of the great and mighty Chevalier Rieon de Vallemont." The skull was large enough to have held a bushel of wheat and the shinbone was over four feet long. It (the bone) was preserved by the above mentioned monks, and it was estimated that the height of the defunct knight must have exceeded eighteen feet. A stranger though somewhat similar legend comes from Ireland, but in this case the discoverers thought that they would, to use an expression popular some years ago, go "the whole hog or none." It happened in 1608. Some men were digging in Ireland when they came across a brick tomb which contained a human skeleton no less than 120 feet long. But there is a "raison d'etre" for all these legends. According to a German professor, these bones, which were supposed by ignorant persons to be those of human beings, were probably those of mastodons or some other fossilized remains which to the uninitiated would look exactly like those of a man.—London Standard.

An Amiable Duel.

There was a duel in Edinburgh recently between two Italians over a girl with whom both were smitten. It took place at midnight in the presence of a party of friends. The duellists had but one revolver and drew lots for the first shot. The winner shot at forty paces and missed. Then he walked up to his opponent and politely handed the pistol over. When the man had walked back to his station the second shot was fired and also missed. So the two men rushed forward and embraced each other, and the feud ended.

THE BIRD OF FREEDOM.

Made of Life of the Famous Bald Headed Eagle.

Eagles are popularly supposed to be quite different from hawks; but, in a word, they are nothing more than large hawks. They reach sometimes the age of nearly 100 years. They live singly or in pairs and dwell in the wilder places in all kinds of country, from tropical deserts to the arctic regions. In their search for food, however, they often wander far and, emboldened by hunger, even approach the abodes of man. In story books and newspapers eagles have many times been accused of carrying off young children, but such tales are unreliable.

The bald eagle, white headed eagle, white headed sea eagle or bird of Washington is of particular interest to Americans as the national emblem of the United States, to which dignity it was elevated on June 20, 1782. The name "bald" eagle originated from the white head and the erroneous impression of baldness it gives at a distance.

This bird measures about three or three and a half feet in length, from six to eight feet in extent of wings and weighs from six to twelve pounds. Under most circumstances wary and difficult of approach, this eagle nevertheless is often surprisingly tame and unsuspecting. Unprovoked it rarely attacks man, although such instances have been reported. It prefers trees for watching and roosting, but in spring sometimes descends to ride the cakes of ice in the river, apparently looking for fish.

This species breeds throughout its range wherever suitable places exist, and it has been known to lay and hatch eggs in confinement. In the southern part of the United States, from Florida to Texas, it breeds very early, depositing its eggs usually during the first half of December; in the middle states and in California it lays in February or March, about the middle of April in southern Alaska, sometimes in May or even June in the arctic regions.

The nest is located nearly always in the vicinity of a stream or body of water. The favorite site is the top of a tall tree. Where there are no trees a rock or a niche in a cliff serves the purpose. The same nest is occupied year after year and annually repaired or augmented until it becomes an immense structure five, six or even eight feet high and as much in diameter, containing fully a carload or two of material. It usually forms a strong platform with only a slight depression in the center and easily sustains the weight of a man.

Ducks of various kinds fall regularly a prey to the bald eagle, and they are stolen from unwary sportsmen just as readily as larger birds. Wounded ducks, with those purloined from hunters, form at some seasons a good share of its food. At favorable opportunities this eagle preys upon fawns and, pressed by hunger, will sometimes attack a full grown deer, particularly if the latter be wounded.

In most of the states of the Union and in many of the Canadian provinces the bald eagle is protected by law, either specifically or by general enactment, but in a few it is still specially exempted from the provisions of the general nongame protection acts.—Bulletin by the United States Biological Survey.

Origin of a French Dish.

The names bestowed upon certain dishes have often an origin entirely distinct from technical consideration. This is true of the well known epigrammes d'agneau a la Michelet or a la Toulouse, as it is more frequently called. Michelet was the cook of a young French marquis of the century who was noted for her lack of education. On a certain occasion she gave a dinner to the officers of the regiment Choiseul-Cavalerie. During the function her guests spoke of a banquet that they had attended on the previous evening, at which the host had entertained them with many new and brilliant epigrams. The marquis supposed that "epigrams" referred to culinary surprises. Consequently she summoned Michelet, her cook, and ordered him to prepare some epigrams for dinner on the following day. Michelet was greatly troubled as to how he was to obey the order. He recollected, however, that he had in the larder some very superior lamb. He braised the breast, removed the bones, cut the meat into pieces and bread crumbed and fried them. He then cooked the cutlets, arranged them on a dish alternately with the braised breast and served them with a suitable garnish under the name of epigrammes d'agneau a la Michelet, by which name, or a la Toulouse, the concoction has ever since been known.

Do the Hard Thing First.

He who defers an unpleasant duty does it twice. Anticipation of it may become a continued torture. It is wise to be done with it in the first place, and then contemplation of it becomes a pleasure. The undone task, resting upon your head, weighs you down and holds you back. The well finished one, beneath your feet, raises you up and helps you forward. Somehow or other it seems that the hard things are the important things. Maybe it is because they are hard and sometimes left undone that their importance is realized. If you have not met with the success you think your efforts merit do not sit down to groan and rail against fate, but just quietly cast about for the disagreeable parts of your work from which you have shrunk. There you will find your point of weakness. You may not attach much importance to these things you shirk from, but you can never know how your neglect of them has changed the current of your life.

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