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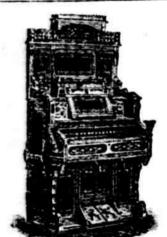
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COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA.

BRIGANDS OF CUBA.

BOLD BANDITS THAT INFEST THE QUEEN OF THE ANTILLES.

A Strange State of Things Within & Day's Journey of the United States - Half Wild Peasants and Town Roughs Taking to

Tales of brigandage in Cuba during the

from time to time, but the true situation is not known save to those who live on the island itself, and it has become so familiar to these as to have little novelty. It is largely the result of the present almost bankrupt condition of the once proud and wealthy Queen of the Antilles. Poverty is now almost universal save among the planters and merchants in the cities, and, unable to obtain a livelihood save by the precarious and scarcely remunerative occupations of cock fighting and lottery ticket selling, which appear to the tourist to be the main occupations of the Cubans, many of the half wild peasants of the interior and roughs of the towns have taken to brigandage. They are most numerous in the central part of the island, between Matauzas on the north and Cienfuegos on the south, making their lairs in the woods and hills of the center of the island and operating on the roads every place where there is any chance of wealthy persons

The eastern end of the island has been singularly free from bandits, and travel through its still virgin forests and lofty volcanic mountains is comparatively safe. The Guardia Civile, as the Spanish soldiery is called, make periodical incur-sions from Matanzas and other cities against the bandits, but as a rule these raids have little result. It is more than hinted that there is an understanding between the soldiers and the bandits. The Spanish government is always behind-hand in its payment of its Cuban soldiers' wages, and there is a general impression that the soldiers make up for deferred or unpaid wages by a share in the ransom paid by some wealthy planter for his re-lease from captivity. Not that the Guardia Civile are always unfaithful! A DREADED BANDIT CHIEF.

"Matagas," said our informant, "is a mulatto and rules his followers absolutely. He changes his location constantly and has been rather quiet of late, but we may hear of him at any time. He has placed a price of \$50,000 on the persons of the Messrs. Stewart, who own the well known sugar plantation, 'La Carolina,' near this city, and these gentlemen have been obliged to use much caution in going to and from their plantation on their visits to the city."

"Tell us about Senor Casanova," we "Well, Senor Casanova was driving through the back country one afternoou in a volante, over a rough and lonely road, when the bandits suddenly appeared from the chapparal. They surrounded the volante so quickly that he could do nothing but surrender at once. They ordered him to mount a mule and at his protestations that he was suffering from a bladder complaint and that it would kill him to ride they only laughed. They carried him off to a little hut in the mountain and kept him there a week. The old gentleman, from the complaint above described, could only subsist on milk, and

as the bandits could not furnish this he nearly died before he was ransomed." "How did they ransom him?" "The bandits had a note conveyed secretly to his friends demanding \$8,000 for his ransom within a week. This his friends raised and sent by a trusted messenger to a place agreed upon. Senor Casanova was produced, the money paid over and the bandit who received it disappeared as suddenly as if the earth had swallowed him. Casanova says that he was not treated badly during his short

captivity, but imagine his state of mind and suspense during the days he was a "Has no concerted action been taken to apprehend these bandits throughout the

"No. It is a sort of local option with different places whether they can drive them away or not. We're all growing so poor, however, that unless your good and great Uncle Sam will pity and annex us the bandits will soon suppress themselves for want of prey. BEAD THEM A LECTURE.

"One place, however, has rid itself of the pest, and in this way. You know it is very rarely that a Cuban becomes an officer in the Spanish army. The position is not considered worthy of ambition by a Cuban, and will not be as long as the two peoples dislike each o'her as they do now. But in this place a son of a well known Cuban family was an officer in the Guardia Civile. He pursued and caught a body of

bandits. Cubans like himself. Then he read them a lecture in this wise: "'You know me and you know I under stand your position. I sympathize with your poverty and know the wretched government has made your calling possible, but I do not sympathize with your lawlessness. I'll release you now only on your solemn oath that you'll leave this district at once. If I hear of any of you here again I'll show you no mercy.' He meant what he said, and that district was troubled no more."

"How are these bandits armed? "Very poorly as a rule. They have old fashioned muskets and now and then a rifle. It is not their weapons, but their familiarity with the country and its hiding places and the fact that they have relatives and friends and sympathizers in most of the villages, and even in the cities, that make them at all formidable with the wretched soldiery we have. A squad of United States cavalry could probably rid the island of them in two

"Does not their presence make it unsafe for Americans to visit Cuba?" "Not in the least. These bandits do which a squad of soldiers always travel. power to escape, and the taking of a more as a matter of form than anything else, and the bandits are not to be feared on the beaten lines of travel. Besides, they do not lie in wait for a tourist. They generally learn or know all about their man, his wealth and whether his friends will or will not be likely to ransom him, before they prepare to capture him. They would not be likely to attack a traveler simply on the chance of securing a roll of bills and a watch. They have also, remarked McSwilligen, "or even to see strange to say, a high regard for Americans. Like all Cubans, they look to the United States as a possible protector and ruler some day, and, perhaps, too, they've heard of six shooters and Yankee pluck. end. Its appropriateness is very doubte announced his position they released

him immediately and apologized for what

they said was a mistake."-Cuba Cor. New York World. Making Proper Allowance Th Sikhs a Stalwart Race. The people from Benares to north el Delhi are much more stalwart and manly | needle to the pole. than are the Bengalese, but they in their turn are greatly inferior to the men of to make proper allowance for magnetic the Punjab. This wood means and ex- variations.—Town Topics.

presses the country lying between the five great branches of the Indus. In this A Square Minister country is a magnificent race of men. The Sikh soldiers in the army are the handsomest body of men I have ever seen, and indeed I have never seen any European or American who came anything like being a perfect model of manly beauty as several officers I have seen in

at company target shooting.

The officers on horseback are simply superb; afoot all show one universal defact among the entire people of India—an almost total absence of calf to the leg. Even in Punjab men and women have none. I can say this of the women because up here there are two things quite antipodal to our customs. Men wear what seem to be skirts and the women all wear trousers—and very tight ones, too, below the knee. The other singular thing is one sees hundreds of men with beards past few years have reached New York | dyed a brilliant red. A gray bearded man is rarely seen from Lahore to Peshawer, for they take on a bright vermillion, evidently not for the purpose of concealing age, but as a sort of beautifier. The men of Punjab proved themselves brave by giving England more trouble to subdue them than perhaps all the balance of India. But when once they acknowledged the supremacy of their new rulers, like brave men they have shown themselves true. They have none of the ser-

vile demeanor of the Bengalee. They

look a foreigner straight in the face-re-

spectfully, but with an apparent con-

sciousness of their own dignity.-Carter

the native Sign cavairy. Today we wit-

nessed the practice of a native regiment

Harrison's Letter in Chicago Mail. Fascinating but Dangerous Sport. The most intensely fascinating and by far the most dangerous way of hunting the Bengal tigers is the way most of the natives do it. They collect in throngs of hundreds and go to the woods, with half bred bull and terrier dogs, rifles of 40caliber and innumerable spears, and drive the tigers out of their jungles. The vicious dogs go in and bound them and snarl and howl threateningly. The tigers are gradually driven from point to point by the howling dogs and shricking natives, and are finally worked into a gigantic and strong netting nine or ten feet high and with interstices seven or eight inches square. Then the chetties, as these queer natives are called, range themselves along the sides, and when the tigers lunge at them they are met at every point by gleaming spears. Such howling and snarling, combined with the shouts of the natives, sounds like the wailing of the damned. The native women are on hand, too, and lend their aid, and when the government officers join in the European ladies are perched conveniently in trees, to lend a bit of life to the scene.—San

Francisco Examiner. A Card or a Photograph? "Would you rather have my card or my

photograph?' Two young men who had been discuss ing a bottle of wine in an uptown picture gallery were preparing to part. "Your card will do; I dont want to put you to so much trouble.

"No trouble at all. If you like I'll put my portrait on the back of the card." He thereupon drew from his pocket a small rubber stamp and imprinted on the back of his card a very creditable likeness

of himself. An inquisitive reporter, who overheard the dialogue, took pains the next day to learn to what extent the fad had gone. He found that there are several concerns n the city where portrait stamps are made, similar in style to the rubber stamps, containing one's name and appended to it a pocket lead pencil. These stamps cost from \$2 to \$5 each, and are rom one to three inches square. All the tamp makers require is a tintype porrait of the customer and a money order. The stamps wear well and are much afected by young clerks and East side business men. - New York Mail and Express.

A Once Noted Cavalryman A small man, with a gray mustache, slouch hat over his blue eyes, and a walk no longer as chipper as it once was, is recognized by few people here when he ngton. He is Gen. Pleasonton, whom many think one of the greatest cavalry commanders of the war, and who unloubtedly fought and won, perhaps, the greatest cavalry engagement of the contest between the states. It was at Brandy Station, where eighty regiments of horsemen contended on one field with no infautry or artillery nearer than ten miles away. Sometimes the battle flags of the contending generals were not further separated than the two sides of Broadway. Pleasonton, Kilpatrick and Custer were in a single group. Detecting a crucial point in the opposing line, Pleasonton cried: "Custer, go right in there!" Custer's mounted band at once struck up 'The Star Spangled Banner," and in ten minutes he had carried the position. Custer and Kilpatrick are dead. Pleasonton. barely 50 years of age, seems to be out of gear with the world.—Cor. New York

The Burman and His Food. The Burman is a rather peculiar feeder, not being very nice in his selection or preparation of food. He is not, however, so varied a caterer, nor does he take in such a large selection, as his near relation the Chinaman. The Burman draws the line at rats and mice, which delicacies form no portion of his daily fare. He is forbidden by his religion to shed the blood of any animal for food purposes alone, although he may and does catch fish, and eats them. His conscience finds a salve in the fact that after the fish are caught they are left to die; he will not bleed them, although he may often give them a sly knock on the head to accelerate their decease. He may keep cattle, hogs, chickens, etc., and, being of a kind and humane disposition, he feeds them well, keeping them in good condition, but he does not do so to replenish his larder. He

eggs of fowls. - San Francisco Chronicle. The Burglar Is a Gentleman. "The popular idea of the average burglar is all wrong," said a detective to a reporter. "He isn't a man with a dark lantern any more—a rough and ready brute who delights in killing people. The burglar of today will do everything in his man's life is his last resort. I have known many burglars in my time, and they were the most gentlemanly men I ever met. Nervy? You could bet on that. They have to be, but they will not

uses the milk of the cows, often of the

tame long horned buffalo or of goats, for

his family or for sale; he will also eat the

take human life."-Chicago Tribune. Origin of a Phrase. "It is difficult to account for the origin of a great many phrases in current use,"

their relevancy.
"Yes," replied Suildig. "Now there's that expression, 'on its last legs,' meaning something about to An American consular agent was caught by bandits some time ago, and as soon as always on its last legs, but where can you find a more striking example of vitality?" -Pittsburg Chronicle.

Mr. Holworthy-Believe me, Clara, you have no reason to be jealous; I have been devotedly true to you-true as-as-the

After one or two gentle efforts on the part of the collector to awaken Deacon Jones, the minister said from the pulpits "Never mind, Brother Layman, as Deacon Jones has not heard the sermon, perhaps it would not be right to expect him to pay anything for it."-The Epoch.

NAVAJO TRADITION.

FINED IN A CAVERN. Freedom First Found by a Locust-The Badger Follows-Prisoners Free at Last.

Dispute Concerning the Use of Night

The Navajo Indians of Arizona have a tradition to the effect that while the earth was young and destitute of animal life the Great Spirit created twelve peoplesix men and six women-together with many species of animals, and confined them in a cavern of the San Francisco mountain, where they lived as a great, happy family for many years. But in course of time a restlessness possessed the prisoners. Though they had known nothing of freedom, all felt the oppression of their narrow limits, and vaguely yearned for a greater fulfillment of the dream or reality of living. But what could they do? All speculated on the situation to no purpose. Daily they jos-tled each other, little and big, clumsy and nimble, bipeds and quadrupeds, feathered and furred, winged and wingless, timid and bold. Every successive period of

time was but a repetition of the past. OPENING THE WAY OUT. None of the many puzzled brains could offer means of breaking the monotony, till a happy thought struck one of the most insignificant of the living mass. For want of other occupation a locust bored a hole in the wall and thereby opened the way for the enthusiasm and progress of the host of its comrades throughout the length and breadth of their underground world. The Great Spirit had so decreed it. They were there only for a time of incubation. At the destined hour, as the eaglet bursts the shell that imprisons it, so the locust's tiny burrow should lead to the escape of all into the open world, where each could follow his inclinations unhampered.

The laboring locust had but a solitary vitness. A badger watched with growing amusement the diminutive tunnel making. His eyes sparkled with interest as the ocust labored energetically. He lay resting with his head between his fore paws in a most lazy attitude, but his face expressed animation and eagerness not much cust disappeared the time for exertion had come. To follow the locust's movements further necessitated like energy. The ocust's hole was too small for the badger's access, so he started a tunnel making of his own. By the time he reached the locust he was in no mood to give up the chase, so he passed on scratching his way through the solid earth until he broke through the outer crust of the mountain, and in the joy and excitement of the moment he sprang into the ample space before him. The mountain side was steep, and he "landed" in the shallow edge of the lake in Montezuma valley. As he fell his fore feet struck deep into the mire, and his progeny even unto today have inherited black fore paws because of this incident of the world's first peopling.

The Navajoes within the cavern, noting the departure of the badger, began a prospect. Finding the hole large enough for exit, they crept out, one after the other, and a train of all sizes and species of animals followed in their wake, as from Noah's ark.

FRIGHTENED THEM AWAY. As soon as all the prisoners were free, fire and smoke began to issue from the hole that had delivered them. This frightened them far away into the valley, and there they prepared to make themselves comfortable and live as their new advantages permitted. Food was plentiful needed heat to make them good. At least the Navajoes thought so, but they had no means of kindling a fire. This difficulty was soon overcome by sending a bat, a wolf and a squirrel after the needed element, fire. Going to a hole in the mountain, the wolf tied some pitchy splinters to his tail, then turned and held it over the little volcano till it began to smoke and ignite. The bat then fanned it into flames with its wings and the squirrel carried it away to the Navajoes. The people were delighted at getting the one missing essential to a happy life in the open world, and when, long after, a time came when the world's plenty had pampered their wills and fostered their greed and selfishness to the point of preying upon their fellow creatures for food, they still had the honor to vow never to eat wolf or squirrel flesh. Neither would they move camp without a live coal among their possessions. And even today the Navajoes' gratitude to the trio is observed as the promise made to the fire getters of the tradition. Between the Navajoes and different ani-

mals there sprang up a dispute over the Great Spirit's intended use for night and day. All agreed that one should be spent sleep and one in action, but which should serve the one and which the other? It was settled at last. Those that wished to roam at night should do so and sleep by day, and vice versa. The heroic badger was among those who chose the mysteries of the darkness or the immediate dawn and dusk for thought and action and the bright and sunny hours as fit to be slept away in his cool underground nest. As the sun sank in the west upon their business meeting, the owl, bat, moth, and many other animals scattered out into the valley borders on their foraging exploits. while many kinds of birds flew to roost in he trees. Other animals lay down to leep in sheltered parts of the forest, and the Navajoes spread their waterproof blankets, the trophies of the women's industry, and enjoyed their couches under the starry sky in peaceful dreams.-Overland Monthly.

VANDERBIL'I'S MAJOR DOMO.

His Theory of Dining as a Fine Art-The Advantage He Claims, Joseph Dugniol, the cook to whom it is said Mr. W. K. Vauderbilt is to give \$10,-000 a year, is a well built little man only about five feet tall. He was born in Birmingham, England. He looks like an Englishman, and speaks the language with a strong cockney accent, and he has an Englishman's love for boxing, and uses the slang of the ring. His parents, he says, were French.

"If I were rich enough not to have to work," he said, "I should still do my business for the love of it. I am an artist, and I have invented a new school of dining. Because a man is rich he cannot eat more than a poor man, and yet the idea of a fine dinner has been to give a great number of courses. It is a mistake. When a man has eaten his oysters, his soup, his entrees, his fish, what chance has he to enjoy his mutton or fowl? When he has eaten all, his stomach is so!" and he raised his hat with both hands slowly above his head to indicate the effect of the fullness.

"I make him want to eat. First he must be hungry, and then I put things before him so that he wants them. If I want him to eat oranges, for instance, I offer them to his neighbor. He sees them and asks for them.' He comes from the Maison Paillard, in the Chaussee d'Antin. "It is only a little place," he said, "with only sixteen tables. When I went there the business was all

run down. I built it up by treating each person as if he were my guest, and studying his tastes." The little director is an autocrat at the table. He does not let his guests have whatever they like, for fear it may clog their appetites. "I make them ask for things and keep them waiting. Suppose I have served a dinner like this today: A soup, some fish, and a woodcock, with coffee and fruit. To morrow my customer asks for woodcock. 'I am sorry, sir, but I cannot prepare it.' But in a day or two he will ask for it again, and then I let him have it. If I let him tire of anything,

then my art would be gone."

A great advantage which Mr. Dugniol claims for his system is that it leaves him so much greater variety of food to offer on different days. "Suppose," he said, "I cook everything that is to be had for one great dinner, what is there for to-mor

guage that Joseph is going to cook any-thing with his own hands. He does not even profess to be able to do this, although his father was a restaurateur and Joseph grew up in the business. "I can cook many things," he said

and I can carve as few men can, but I

can tell the cook how to prepare his food and warn him if he has failed to secure the proper flavor." it may be interesting to know how oseph will serve a woodcock to Mr. Vanderbilt. It will be cooked only ten minutes before it is brought on the table. "I will bring it on while the fish is being eaten, and I have an alcohol brasier on the table. It has a sauce of red wine and gravy in it. I carve the bird and put all the bones and back into the sauce. The odor and appearance of the bird excites the appetite. It takes twenty-five minutes to cook a woodcock. The bird has only been cooked ten minutes when I carve it. Now I send the meat back to the oven for fifteen minutes, and the back and the bones, in which the richest flavor is found, are left to stew. When the meat

comes back it is on a hot plate, and I strain the rich sauce over it."—New York

Following a Slight Mistake. It is surprising to know that a great failure of a business house will sometimes follow the very slight mistake of a clerk. Only a short time ago I feared we would have to record an unpleasant occurrence of this kind in St. Louis. Two young men are doing a prosperous wholesale business here, in whose house a small error happened recently, which might have caused collapse of the firm. According to custom a list of notes falling due at foreign banks each month is given to the bookoffice, who is expected to go to the home bank with which the firm deals and have all the notes paid. The bookkeeper of this particular house was given a list of the notes for one month, but inadvertently failed to report one of the bills due in New York, and, of course, it was not settled by the home bank. The note went to protest before the firm knew that it had not been paid, but when the error was discovered a settlement promptly followed. Suppose that the creditors of the firm had heard that the note had gone to protest, they would have jumped to the conclusion that the firm was financially embarrassed All the creditors would have rushed in at once, probably, and under the immense pressure a disastrous failure might have been precipitated. The genius of a successful mercantile man lies in his accurate knowledge and careful supervision of the details of his business .- J. B. Young in

Globe-Democrat. Ostrich Farming in Africa.

The chicken feathers are first plucked at nine months old, and look only fit to be made into dusting brushes. In the second year they are a little like the ostrich feathers of commerce, but stiff and narrow, and it is not till the third year that they have attained their full width and softness. During the first two years the male and female birds are alike; but at each molting the male becomes darker, until the plumage is all black, except the wings and tail, which are white. In each wing there are twenty-four long feathers. During the breeding season the bill of the male bird, the large scales on the fore part of the leg, and sometimes the skin of the head and neck, assume a deep rose color. After a good rain ostriches begin to make nests. At this time the male becomes savage and their booming is heard in all directions. The bird inflates its neck like a cobra, and gives three deep roars, the two first short and staccato, the third prolonged .- Saturday Review.

Forests and Rainfall. Forests are known to diminish evaporation and preserve moisture, and this has been explained by the lower temperature and greater humidity which exists under their shadows. The most important factor in the production of this state of affairs is, however, the resistance which is offered to the winds by the woods. The force of the winds being greatly reduced under the trees, the air is changed more slowly, and the moisture less readily carried away. The quantity of rain increases in the vicinity of a forest. During the rainy season the moss and herbage of woods store up the moisture for consumption during the dry season, and it is in this way that luxuriant forest growths are permitted to flourish in regions where it never rains except in the fall and winter, as is the case on the coast of the Caspian sea.—Globe Democrat.

When the Singer Chokes Down. It is related of a certain manager of variety theatre in Peorla, Ills., that every Monday night when a company of new performers open for the week he takes a seat near a large coal stove at the back of the theatre, and, when the serio-comic makes her appearance, listens attentively to learn how her singing pleases the audiênce. If she happens to turn out what is known as "queer" the manager gets up, seizes the shaker and proceeds to shake down the stove as briskly as possible until the serio-etc., has finished her turn. The It may be the cheapest for the paper, but reason for this is obvious. - Detroit Free it is neither fair to the writer nor the

The Great Actor's Methods. acting recently, said: "The really great off through a wearying eternity of veractor must be capable of doing something | biage, and who has the skill to write so more than to merely touch the biggest that it is difficult to cut his matter down. fool of the audience. He must make his | Thus the public, which pays for the paaudience absclutely forgetful of itself and | pers, frequently gets a minutely circumbe himself the direct and not the indirect | stantial and heavily padded account of cause of the emotional state into which it | some matter which might well be conis thrown. To do this the actor must be must for the time at least experience the emotion he is seeking to portray. Really great acting is a matter of feeling rather than of reasoning intelligence, and I doubt whether an actor who studies and puzzles over the subtleties of the author's meaning is not in danger of checking the manifestations of his own histrionic sense. No amount of art can make up the want of one real touch of nature."-New York

Gaming Introduced. According to Camden, gaming was introduced into England by the Saxons, and the loser was often made a slave to the winner, and sold in traffic, like other

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THE MILKY WAY.

ITS ORIGIN AS ACCOUNTED FOR IN VARIOUS LEGENDS.

The Story as Told in Greek Fable-The Sheaf of Straw-Saxon Tradition-The Bushmen's Belief-Meteorological Phenomens-Forecasts. The brilliant appearance and prominent color of the Milky Way have not failed to

give rise to many curious names and to nany legends as to its origin.

According to the Greek fable, it was roduced by the milk of Hera (Juno). Children born of Jupiter's illicit amours could only inherit divine honors if suckled by this lawful spouse of the great Olym-pian god. Hercules was thus introduced

to the goddess, who became so angered when she discovered the substitute infant that she threw him from her breast, and the milk flew across the sky, forming the galaxy. Ilyginus says the Latin legend substituted Ops, spouse of Saturn, for Juno, and the occasion was the presentation of a stone to her for the true child. A Sicilian legend says the milk was from the Madonna's breast, lost while she searched for Jesus.

A curious class of legends accounts for the creation of the bright band of stars across the heavens. One of these, from Wallachia, relates that Venus purloined a shenf of straw one night from St. Peter's mills, and in her hasty flight toward her celestial abode scattered it across the sky, where we see it now on cloudless nights. A Dalmatian tradition ascribes the loss of the straw to St. Peter himself, and calls the galaxy "the Straw of St. Peter." According to a Crotian legend, it was caused by a man who, having stolen a sheaf of straw from his foster father, was hastening away with his burden, when the bunbroke and the straw scattered about. To recall for ever the theft, God placed the straw in the heavens, where it still Straw" in the Magyar dialect. An Armenian appellation is "Stealer of Straw." and Persian titles are "Path of the Car-

riers of the Cut Straw" and "Way of Carrying Chaff." The peculiar whiteness of the Milky Way is also evidently referred to in it its Transylvanian name of the "Floury Way," | tell to what it may lead. -New York Mail and its Westphalian titles, the "Road to Mill" and the "Sandy Path." There are other legends to account for its appearance. A Saxon tradition relates that the world took fire some ages ago and burned until it was consumed. God gathered tocether the cinders and united them in a furrow. They went out little by little, leaving a whitish brilliancy, in the midst of which still burn some live coals. About the entire heavens are dispersed other burning embers. Sometimes a spark shoots from a hidden bunch of them, be-

coming a shooting star. Bushmen say the galaxy is formed of ashes cast there long ago by a young woman, so that her parents might be able to find their way home. Another legend assigns a different origin to it. A young woman, angry with her stingy mother because she would give her but a small quantity of a certain red nut to eat, cast quantities of it from her into the sky, where it became the stars and the Milky

Like the rainbow and other prominent

celestial appearances the Milky Way is

connected in popular tradition with meteorological phenomena. In West-phalia it is called the "Weather Stripe," "Weather Street" and "Weather Tree," and is also given the name of "Wind Tree." A Welsh name for it was "Road of the Wind," and in Picardy it is called Foot of the Wind." Tahitians call the bright band "Flying Cloud" and "Solid Cloud." It is "Band of the Aurora" in Maygar lands, and the "Evening Ray" in Westphalia. In the latter country the and sometimes unconsciously; and when galaxy is said to be in the middle of the once their residual stock of energy is conworld and the sun stops there regularly at meridian. It is also believed to turn with the sun, and hence first appears from the quarter in which the sun has set. Similar notions of the cosmographical importance of the Milky Way probably gave it its Arab name "Mother of Heaven." An old Arab poet alludes to it as the "Mother of the Confused Stars." Appearing only by night, prognostications drawn from the luminous way are to organize the army, Germans the schools not so numerous as in the case of the and English the navy, to Americans have rainbow. Esthonians judge by the more been given the supervision of the departor less brilliant appearance of the amount of snow that will fall during the coming railroads, telephones and lighting by winter. If by the end of September the northern end of the galaxy is very brilliant, snow will not fall until Christmas is past; but if the south end is more brilllant in appearance, snow will fall long before Christmas. If the whole band is zette. very bright, snow will fall before and after Christmas. Icelanders also prognesticate the winter weather from the appearance of the Milky Way in autumn. In our own country, many people believe that the edge of the Milky Way which s the brightest indicates the direction from which the approaching storm will come.-F. S. Bassett in Globe-Democrat.

"WORKING ON SPACE."

Results of Paying for Newspaper Work "by the Yard"-The Bohemian's Hope. One of the most demoralizing features of newspaper work is the space system as it is practiced in many newspaper offices. public. Under the space system the man who knows enough to stop when he gets through has no show. The successful Clara Morris, in speaking of actors and writer is the man who can reel his story densed into a few lines. Quality does not seem to enter into the question, and brains are sold, like calico, by the yard, and they do not bring much better prices in some markets, either. The supply of wordy writers has become so much in excess of the demand that space rates have steadily gone lower and lower. It is the conscientions men, too, who suffer most. The writer, honest to his

paper and himself, who writes his story for all it is worth-and no more-is handi. capped by the facile "fakir," who has the knack of writing columns and saying nothing. Again, the unfairness of the space rule is seen in the fact that in most offices the writer has no guarantee as to the size of type his matter may be set in. It may begin leaded and run down to solid, or a story may be finished in a smaller face of type if the exigencies of make up demand it. The Harper's system of \$10 a thousand words is fairer, and, in a weekly publication, is the only

But the great objection is the element of chance in the space system, which tends to demoralize the working newspaper man and keep him poor. His "string" may into the eighties or hundreds. As a mat-

as much money as the average young pro-fessional man. But his business makes him a gambler in spite of himself. He is always looking for a change in his luck. He may stumble on to a "big story" tomorrow, which will pay all his debts and enable him to take a vacation besides. It is not from choice that there are so many Bohemians in journalism. They are forced to Bohemia by the men who buy their work. The ambition to make large papers has been one cause of the space system. The value of a newspaper has

come to be judged, not by the amount of news it contains, but by the number of pages its news items are stretched out to cover. When news is beaten out to cover so much space, like gold leaf, it becomes very thin.—The Journalist.

We stopped one day at a pretty and rather modest temple shrine, where sat a clean polled, benevolent looking priest, with big rimmed spectacles astride his little nose. Before and above and about the shrine hung little children's frocks, their tiny shoes, pretty little belts, dolls, and other playthings.
"What is this?" we asked our guide.

"When little children come to die their mothers bring their dresses and playthings here, and put a little money in this box. Every day the priest offers prayers that the little ones may be made happy after death, and have nice things and pretty playthings when they go to stay up there with God."

As we talked, a heart stricken mother came and tossed her coin into the box, and as she placed the little bundle of her dear one's pretty clothes in the tender priestly hand, we thought there was but one thing better than this, the saying. "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not."-Japan Letter.

Muking an Artificial Silk. Chardonner recently announced to the French Academy of Sciences the results of his experiments in making an artificial silk, which are certainly of a remarkably ingenious nature. To a solution of nitro glitters. The name given to the galaxy in cellulose (gun cotton) in alcohol and Servia and Albania is "Godfather's ether is added a solution of ferr-Straw." Similar traditions must have nose chloride in alcohol and also some given rise to names bestowed upon it in alcoholic solution of tannin. The liquid ther countries. It is known as the thus obtained is ejected from fine ducts, "Strawy" in Boznia; as the "Straw like the apparatus in a silk worm. As the Road" in Sardinian, in Magyar, in Modern | thread comes from the duct it is received Hebrew, Coptic and Ethiopian; as the in water acidulated with nitric acid, from "Road of the Straw" in Arab, Rabyle and | which it is drawn out, dried rapidly and by coloring the mixture from which the thread is made. This new thread is transparent, pliable, cylindrical or flat, and in appearance and feel like silk. It is very strong. It burns, but the fire does not go beyond the place heated. In every way it is a remarkable invention, and no one can and Express.

Catching Runaway Slaves. I learned yesterday a historical canine fact, which will, I fancy, be as new to some of my readers as it was to me. A negro stevedore, as strapping and powerful a fellow as I have seen for a good while, fell into conversation in my presence with a bulldog, remarking that he had a great fondness for dumb animals He seemed to greet the dog as an old friend, and he displayed considerable familiarity with that kind of beast. Naturally I joined in the talk, and the man told me that down in North Car'lina. where he was a slave in slave days, bulldogs, sometimes white and sometimes brindle, were trained to catch runaway or refractory "niggers" by the neck. And they did it so nicely, he said, as not to break the skin or soil the captive's shirt collar; they would hang on until told by their masters to let go, but without doing

any injury.-Boston Post. Earthquakes Vorsus Nerves. Many persons who experienced the earthquake in the Riviera have since suffered seriously from nervous shock, although they did not at the time appear to be greatly disturbed. This indicates that more injury may be done to the nerves by an undue excitement than is perceived at the time. The nerve centers may, as an English medical journal suggests, be likened to batteries, and regarded as apt to be discharged suddenly sumed it can be restored only after a long time and by the exercise of extreme care.

-Public Opinion. Japan's Foreign Improvements. The regeneration which Japan has in recent years experienced, through the infroduction of foreign improvements, is credited to the United States. While eminent Frenchmen have been called in ments of finance, postoffice, telegraphs, electricity, embracing the newer and more progressive arts. American institutions are in high favor in Japan, with the possible exception of modern politics and baseball.—Cincinnati Commercial Ga-

Phase of the "Faith Cure." The blood of dying gladiators in the ancient amphitheatres was popularly believed to be a remedy for the "falling sickness," or epilepsy. It was eagerly drunk while still warm by the sufferers from the malady. The practice denounced by Celsus as a "miserum auxilium," has not died out even in the Nineteenth century. Des Etanges, in his edition of the Roman Hippocrates (Paris, 1846), mentions the then recent case of an old epileptic woman in Sweden who, on the occasion of a criminal being guillotined, was seen at the foot of the scaffold ready, when the head was severed from the body. to plunge into the blood yet reeking from the victim, a piece of bread she had destined for her cure.—Chicago News.

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