

SOMEWHAT STRANGE.

ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS OF EVERY-DAY LIFE.

Queer Episodes and Thrilling Adventures Which Show That Truth is Stranger Than Fiction.

At Tilden, McMullen county, Tex., recently Ignacio Flores and Sebastian Garcia, Mexican stockmen, quarrelled about Dolores Villareal, a very handsome maiden, whom both were counting and to whom Garcia was engaged. Both men were of the Mexican blood, well-to-do, high tempered and brave. They agreed to settle the matter with machetes, the sword-like knife which is the common tool and weapon of their country, and to whose use they were accustomed from childhood. There were several witnesses of their own race. They were on hand, however, to see fair play and not to interfere. The combat lasted ten minutes. The men were thoroughly accomplished, and no duel with rapiers could have been more scientific. Flores was forced backward and struck his heel against the root of a tree, and his opponent rushed and delivered a stroke which severed a finger from the right hand of his foe. Flores thrust back with a sweeping motion and Garcia was cut across the abdomen, completely disemboweling him. He died almost instantly. Flores fled, but has since been apprehended.

A New York toper, badly muddled, at midnight got into the horse adjoining that in which he lived, and being somewhat thirsty, descended to the dining-room where a pitcher of ice-water usually stood on the table. The house is occupied as a "freak" boarding house, where some of the living attractions of dime museums find rest and food. A supper is nightly served to the "freaks" after their return from the various halls on the Bowery, where they are exhibited. This meal was in progress when the toper started in, and he was somewhat startled on beholding the strange guests. The double-headed woman was ogling the living skeleton; the giantess and the dwarf, having refreshed themselves, were playing eubree for nickels; the India-rubber man was engaged, between mouthfuls of food, in an angry dispute with the muscular Samson, who holds thousands of pounds suspended from his iron jaw. "What is this?" exclaimed the inebriate, looking around. He imagined that he had stumbled into Dante's Inferno, and was glad when he had made a hasty exit.

A PARIS correspondent mentions the existence of a survivor of the retreat from Moscow, whose arrival at the Finance Ministry on Tuesday to draw money due to him excited much curiosity. His name is Thomas. He is the son of an officer of Napoleon's Guard, whose wife followed him in the Russian campaign, and he was born on the Russian side of the Beresina as the French army was crossing it. The father was killed on the day of Thomas's birth and the mother also; but some Russian soldiers, taking pity on the infant, had his birth regularly certified and got the Government to adopt it. When Thomas was of age he claimed the nationality of his parents, came back to France, discovered his grandparents in a village of the Nièvre, inherited a property, and, as a survivor of the retreat from Moscow, was entitled to a pension to which he could not until quit recently establish his right. The amount is £100. Thomas is well educated, and speaks French still with a Russian accent.

The greatest curiosity of late years, according to the statement of a Texas paper, lives at Oak Hill, a post village. She is a blind girl, who has from a few acres of land, cultivated by herself, cleared about two hundred dollars each season by the sale of vegetables. She began, we are told, without capital on an unfenced piece of uncultivated land. There is now a neat fence around her domain, a well and pump in the center, and in addition to purchasing these, she has paid for a piano and a back in which to take her vegetables to market, twenty miles away. Every evening during the dry season she waters a certain number of plants, until she has gone over the entire piece, when she begins again and goes over it in the same way. She detects insect life, we are told, by her acute sense of hearing, and grass and weeds are easily distinguished by the sensitive fingers of the blind gardener.

A STRANGE occurrence is reported from Busina, near Messina, in Sicily. A crowd of farm laborers went into the pasture lands held in common by the inhabitants of the village. They had long ropes and began measuring the land, marking the lengths with sticks and stones. When the whole was measured they commenced taking votes for making a division of the land. At that moment a great earthquake occurred, and a great uproar and much resistance, which did not, however, lead to bloodshed, succeeded in stopping the proceedings and sending the poor fellows home. They had been persuaded by socialists that the people need only go and demand an equal partition of the land and all of them when it would surely be accomplished. They went away grumbling and will not so soon again believe what socialists tell them.

The Chicago market supplies an outlet in one way or another for some remarkable industries. Somebody has been telling "The Chicago Mail" of some he saw near Grand Rapids. It is just in the height of the fishing season in the upper lake region, and a farmer boy has taken advantage of it to start a cricket catch. He is raising crickets by thousands and sells them to amateur anglers and bait. He has only just started upon

this novel undertaking, but says that "there's millions in it," and that he is sure it will prove a profitable and successful line of business. In the winter time he proposes to convert his cricket ranch into a skunk farm and raise skunks for their skins. For several years past he has raised a colony of cats every season, and says that he finds a ready sale for all of the pelts that he can deliver to the Chicago market.

MISS MARCOLINI was singing a solo on the stage of the Grand theater at Rotterdam, Holland, when a bunch of artificial flowers caught fire. The flames almost touched the light waving draperies when Miss Marcolini, without interrupting her song, ran up to the place, seized the flaming bunch and extinguished the fire by trampling on it. She had not ceased singing, but now there was such a storm of applause that both she and the orchestra had to stop. A few days after the association of insurance societies presented the brave lady with a splendid gold bracelet set with diamonds, and an album containing the names of those who gave her the bracelet in recognition, it stated, of the heroism displayed by the fair songstress.

A VIRGINIA paper relates that a gentleman named J. O. Mason killed a bull by main strength while protecting a woman from the infuriated animal. Mr. Mason says the bull weighed 1,500 pounds and was seven or eight years old. He saw that the woman was in imminent danger and ran to her relief. He seized the bull by the horns and gave a tremendous jerk and twist, which he supposed pulled the neck out of the socket, and the bull tumbled over and was soon dead. The woman was on the ground, and would doubtless soon have been killed. Mr. Mason is a man of powerful physique and of equal courage. He is probably the only man in America who ever killed an infuriated bull with his naked hands.

JACK IRVIN of the Glover's Mill country bears the distinction of being probably the only living man in the United States who has not swallowed a drop of water for thirty-six years. Mr. Irvin is now in his eighties, and for more than an average lifetime has rigorously abstained from the use of the liquor that fills but does not inebriate. Neither does he drink intoxicating liquors, although living quite convenient to a distillery. At his meals Mr. Irvin drinks coffee, or tea, or milk, as the notion takes him. Between meals, when Mr. Irvin feels his thirst growing, he gets out his pipe and smokes it. While Mr. Irvin is in pretty fair health, his neighbors say that his locks would indicate that he is pretty well dried up.

WHITE husbands are fashionable just at present among the Indian maidens in Washington State, and the noble red man is the worst kind of a callover, much to his disgust. In one camp on the Grand Ronde River there are seven teen marriageable Indian girls, and they all want white men for husbands, and shun their would-be lovers in the camp. The father of one of the girls makes an offer of 200 head of good horses to the young white man who will marry his daughter. The old Indian says, however, that he will not accept any kind of a hoodlum for a son-in-law; the man must be of good character and address, and able to give his Indian bride a good home.

A MAINE lady relates a curious experience in regard to a dream, that both she and her father had dreamed several times. She would wake in the morning with the memory of hideous, snarling cats. This happened occasionally for some time and the same was true of her father. Finally, while traveling a long way from home, she entered a picture gallery and there were the cats of her dream. She recognized the picture immediately, though she had never seen it before and did not know that it existed. Soon after her father saw it and exclaimed, "There are the cats of my dream."

GEORGE HANZER, of Kiowa, Kan., is the father of a five-year-old boy who is an electrical wonder. The little fellow's body seems to be surcharged of electricity at all times and he takes great delight in shocking those who come near him. He can greatly increase the force of the shock by rubbing his feet on the carpet, and after dark the electrical discharge is so strong that sparks are emitted when he slides across the floor and touches a piece of metal. He amuses himself by touching all the dogs and cats about the place, and the result is that they all flee at his approach.

CAPTAIN S. S. Stowe, who owns a large farm above Marietta, W. Va., had a peculiar experience during a recent heavy thunderstorm which prevailed along the valley. A very large potato field in which the rows of hills were very long was struck by lightning. The electric fluid ran from hill to hill, completely withering and destroying over 400 hills, killing vines and tubers. The ground all about the hills looked as the Captain expressed it, "as if it had been all splattered out."

Eccentricities of the Stomach.

There is nothing on earth so puzzling in its action as the human stomach, says a physician. No doctor can foretell what will agree with a dyspeptic. One case is cited of a chronic dyspeptic who abhorred toast and all light articles of food and was never so easy as when he had eaten a monstrous dose of corned beef and cabbage. Another is mentioned who revealed in pork and so the best doctors, understanding the contradictory nature of the human digestion, generally let the patient try anything he has a craving for, even if it is green cheese covered with mustard and sprinkled with horse-radish.

England possesses 1,900,453 square miles of African territory.

THE BODY AND ITS HEALTH.

INFLUENCE OF COLOR ON THE OPTIC NERVES.—M. Chauveau has stabled to the Paris Academy of Sciences that he finds that the excitation of the retina of one eye by colored light influences the optic nerves of the other eye as well, in such a manner, too, that while the eye acted upon indirectly sees the color, the retina actually excited sees the complementary color. On observing a white surface with one eye for a short time through a bit of colored glass, then, when the glass is removed, the white surface appears to be tinted with the complementary color of the glass—a comparatively well known fact, of course, but what M. Chauveau points out is that if the eye first used to be closed and the white surface examined with the other, it appears to be of the same color as is the glass. This being the case, the interesting fact would appear to be shown that the optic nerves of the closed eye are acted upon by those of the examining eye.

MOUTH BREATHING CHILDREN.—The dangers to children accustomed to breathing through the mouth instead of the nose have been quite seriously treated of late, in papers on the subject by physicians in Germany, France, England, etc., the principal disturbance accompanying the habit being described as inability to fix the attention on any more or less serious subject, and with this impairment of the attention goes feebleness of memory and tendency to headache, while in some cases the organs of sight and hearing are successively affected, conjunctivitis and hardness of hearing being the results. In Germany, some times since, Dr. Max Bresgen placed before the Minister of Public Instruction a request that a regular medical supervision should take place in schools, especially with regard to the state of the upper respiratory organs of the school children. In France, also Dr. Raulin has published the same views, laying great stress on the necessity of regular medical inspection not only of the schools, but also of the school children, especially with respect to the state of their nasal respiration. Dr. Guye of London also declares that, so long as medical school inspectors are wanting, teachers should be impressed with the importance of giving attention to the question of mouth-breathing, especially in children intellectually backward.

EFFECTS OF EXERCISE. Muscular contraction exerts a pressure upon the veins and lymphatics, thus pushing forward and facilitating the flow of venous blood to the heart. In this manner the excretion of the products of tissue waste is enhanced. These matters are washed out of the tissues by the blood and lymph and after their return to the heart pass through the lungs, where the carbonic acid is given off, then through the general circulation, the remaining substances being eliminated by the skin and kidneys. When these matters, some of which are highly poisonous, collect in abnormal quantities in the system, they become more or less dangerous; even such mild symptoms as headache, drowsiness and general lassitude in those who lead a sedentary life may probably in many instances be traced to their toxic effects. By muscular exercise, which hastens the elimination of these substances, therefore, many slight ailments, which, however, are sufficient to make labor burdensome and rob life of many of its pleasures, may be avoided.

The circulation is controlled mainly by the action of the heart. When the activity of this organ is increased, therefore, the general circulation will be improved. Now, the heart is stimulated in action by the presence of blood in its cavity, and muscular exercise, by hastening the flow of venous blood, will be instrumental in sending more fluid through them in a given period of time, and consequently in stimulating the organ to increased activity. As many diseases, prominent among which are those of the abdominal and pelvic organs, are the consequences of congestion, and as good circulation does much for the prevention of such congestion, muscular exercise, by improving the general circulation both by increasing the activity of the heart and aiding in the venous return, will do much to prevent a large class of diseases.—(Dr. J. M. Rice, in the Popular Science Monthly.)

Lost Mines in Arizona.

The legends of lost mines of fabulous wealth in Pima county are almost numberless, and it might be truthfully said generally mythical. The old timers can tell them by the hour, and a few have been shown glittering evidences in confirmation of their superstitious dread of the results of their peridy by almost superannuated Indians and Mexicans. That the precious metals were smelted on a large scale in the dim past, says the Arizona Enterprise, the many remaining evidences already discovered fully verify, yet the investigation of those that chance has revealed has seldom proved financially successful. Old azarstas, covered with the decay of centuries, and crude smelting furnaces that have almost returned to the dusty destiny of all matter speak of industries once in active operation that history, and even aboriginal tradition, fails to mention. It would seem that if the crude and primitive methods then in vogue could profitably recover the precious metals from their rocky matrices modern machinery would find it an easy task to reap fortunes from the old mines, yet, as before stated, the hopeful promises have seldom been fulfilled in pursuing their development.

Nearly all the coconuts used in the United States come from Florida.

RELIABLE RECIPES.

PICKLE SANDWICHES.—Cut bread in thin, even slices with a sharp knife, butter lightly and spread with chopped ham, tongue, veal, chicken or lamb that has been mixed with a dressing. Cut in small, fancy shapes and wrap in a wet towel to prevent their drying. Many enjoy sweet sandwiches, which are made by spreading with raspberry, strawberry, currant or grape jelly or jam. Nut sandwiches are particularly nice and are extremely simple. Chop very fine any nice fresh nuts and add enough melted butter or sweet cream to make them spread easily over the buttered bread.

KIDNEY STEW.—The reason why many people do not relish kidney stew is that they do not know how to make it properly. As a rule the kidney is not cooked long enough. It should be cut into pieces of a suitable size, placed in a covered saucepan, with water enough to cover, and then allowed to simmer slowly for three hours. About twenty minutes before the kidney is done a sliced onion should be added, which has been fried to a delicate brown in a little butter. A glass of Madeira wine is a great improvement. When prepared in this way a beef kidney stew is a dish to set before the king.

BLUEFISH.—The very best way to cook bluefish is undoubtedly to bake it. Score the fish well, rub it with butter on the outside, but do not stuff it. Lay it in the bottom of a porcelain-lined baking dish, which should be kept for the purpose of baking fish. Lard the bluefish, if you wish, with a few lardoons of pork. Rub it inside and outside with salt and pepper. Throw two or three chopped mushrooms over it, if you have them. Bake the fish in well-beated oven till it is thoroughly crisp and brown. Serve it with Hollandaise or tomato sauce. French cooks always pour half a glass of white wine over their fish, when they put it in to bake; a chopped onion or a tomato, cut in bits may be sprinkled over this by way of variety. The sauce served with baked fish is usually poured around it on the platter instead of served in a bowl.

AN ERRONEOUS NOTION.

Wrecks and the Drowned Sink to the Bottom of the Ocean. There is a rather common, but erroneous notion, to the effect that a human body, or even a ship, will not sink to the bottom of the profound abysses of the oceans, but will, on account of the density of the vapors at great depth, remain suspended at some distance above the surface of the earth. This is an error. No other fate awaits the drowned sailor or his ship than that which comes to the marine creatures who die on the bottom of the sea; in time their dust all passes into the great storehouse of the earth even as those who receive burial on the land.

However deep the sea, it is but a few hours before the body of a man who finds his grave in the ocean is at rest upon the bottom; it there receives the same swift service from the agents which, in the order of nature, are appointed to care for the dead, as comes to those who are reverently inhumed in blessed ground. All save the hardest parts of the skeleton are quickly taken again into the realm of the living, and even those more resisting portions of the body, in time are, in large part, appropriated by the creatures of the sea-floor, so that before the dust returns in the accumulating water to the firm set earth it may pass through an extended cycle of living forms.

The fate of animal bodies of the sea-floor is well illustrated by the fact that beneath the waters of the Gulf Stream, where it passes by southern Florida, there are, in some places, quantities of bones, apparently those of the manatee, or sea cows, a large herbivorous mammal, which, like the seal, has become adapted to aquatic life; these creatures plentifully inhabit the tropical rivers which flow into the Caribbean Sea, and are though rarely, found in streams of Southern Florida. At their death they drift out into the open water and are swept away to the northward by the ocean current. For some weeks, perhaps, the carcasses are buoyed up by the gases of decomposition which are retained by their thick, oily skins; as these decay and break the bodies fall to the bottom.

Ants That Destroy Houses.

A report of the British Consul at New Rochelle, France, makes some startling statements about the ravages of the white ants in that city. These ants cut out the heart of woodwork, leaving nothing but the hollow shell, and their mischief is generally not known until something gives way. They were somehow introduced into New Rochelle in the end of the last century, and have gradually spread all over the city, working their customary ruin. The creatures have invaded the Prefecture, and destroyed part of the archives before their presence was discovered. Supporting beams and woodwork have been replaced by iron, to prevent threatened collapse, and no one can say where the mischief may end. Nobody supposes that it will be possible to keep the pest confined very long within the boundaries of New Rochelle.

A BILL is now before Congress to refund to settlers on lands adjacent to forfeited railroad land grants the \$1.25 extra per acre they had to pay because of their proximity to railroad lands the grants for which have since been withdrawn by the government. Such a demand is absolutely fair and should be promptly conceded to a deserving class of settlers.

Writing with the Left Hand.

The number of men who can write legibly with the left hand is very small in this country, where the habit of being ambidextrous is not appreciated at its full worth, says a St. Louis exchange. Sir Edwin Arden remarked while in St. Louis that in Japan every child is taught to write with either and both hands, and he hinted that this was not the only evidence of sound common sense he met with while in the kingdom of the Mikado.

I learned to write with my left hand some years ago, in consequence of the impression created in my mind by reading the arguments of Charles Reade on the subject, and now I change my pen from hand to hand on the first impression of weariness.

There have been many remedies suggested for what is known as writer's cramp, and many writers alternate between the pen and the typewriter, but the simplest plan of all is to acquire the art of writing with either hand, and change from one to the other on the first suspicion of fatigue.


It is quite easy for a child to learn to write with the left hand, and although after the muscles have got set with age it is more difficult, almost any man can learn to write with his left hand in a week and to write as well with one hand as the other in less than a year.

Deacon Bloodroot.—The number of saloons in New York is simply appalling. Why, if you should walk up Broadway from Union Square to 23d street how many dram-shops do you think you would pass?—**Dick Rounder.**—None.—**Life.**



As Large
As a dollar were the soreful sores on my poor little boy, sickening and disgusting. They were especially severe on his legs, back of his ears and on his head. I gave him Hood's Sarsaparilla, in two weeks the sores were healed up and all over his body new and healthy flesh and skin formed. When he had taken 2 bottles of HOOD'S SARSAPARILLA, he was free from sores. HARRY E. REEDY, Box 336, Columbia, Penn.

HOOD'S PILLS are a mild, gentle, painless, safe and efficient cathartic.



DR. KILMER'S SWAMP ROOT
Kidney, Liver and Bladder Cure.
Rheumatism,
Lumbago, pain in joints or back, brick dust in urine, frequent calls, irritation, inflammation, gravel, ulceration or catarrh of bladder.
Disordered Liver,
Impaired digestion, gout, bilious headache, SWAMP-ROOT cures kidney difficulties, La Grippe, urinary trouble, bright's disease.
Impure Blood,
scrofula, malarial, general weakness or debility. Guarantee—Use contents of one Bottle. If not benefited, Druggists will refund to you the price paid. At Druggists, 50c. Size, \$1.00. Size, \$2.00. "Traveler's Guide to Health"—Free—Consistent with Dr. KILMER & CO., BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

CHILD BIRTH MADE EASY!
"MOTHERS' FRIEND" is a scientifically prepared Liniment, every ingredient of recognized value and in constant use by the medical profession. These ingredients are combined in a manner hitherto unknown.

"MOTHERS' FRIEND"
WILL DO all that is claimed for it AND MORE. It Shortens Labor, Lessens Pain, Diminishes Danger to Life of Mother and Child. Book to "MOTHERS" mailed FREE, containing valuable information and voluntary testimonials.

"German Syrup"
I simply state that I am Druggist and Postmaster here and am therefore in a position to judge. I have tried many Cough Syrups but for ten years have found nothing equal to Boschee's German Syrup. I have given it to my baby for Croup with the most satisfactory results. Every mother should have it. J. H. HOBBS, Druggist and Postmaster, Moffat, Tenn. See present facts, living from day Boschee's strength to the body.

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THE JOKER'S BUDGET.

ESTS AND YARNS BY EUNNY OF THE PRESS.

Very Queer—Up to His Motto—S Tautological—It is in the Foolish, Etc., Etc.

VERY QUEER.
Effie—Did (George play football) was at college?
Maude—No, I don't think he did.
Effie—Did he row on the crew?
Maude—I never heard anything.

Effie—Then he must have played ball.
Maude—He never said anything.
Effie—I'm pretty sure he didn't, though.
Maude—That's very queer.
Effie—Why?
Maude—Because I hear he was graduated with honors.—[Harvard Lamp.

UP TO HIS MOTTO.
Guest—I have been here a whole and have given you nothing.
"Yes, sir."
"And you have been very polite." "Yes, sir."
"How does that happen?"
"I'm living up to my motto, 'Up to his motto.'"
"What's that?"
"The patient waiter is no fool."—[Detroit Free Press.

SHE WAS TAUTOLOGICAL.
"I told you yesterday I was married," said she. "That I know it," said he. "That I ask you again to-day. You would be so lacking in originality, I had to repeat to-day what you said yesterday."—[Harper's Bazar.

IT IS IN THE FUTURE.
Hunker—Hello, Ricketts, when marriage to Miss Munn coming off?
Ricketts—It has been indefinitely postponed.
"What's the trouble?"
"Oh, she married another fellow."—[Foolish.

She—I think a girl is very free to marry a poor man.
He (piped)—Indeed she is; half so foolish as another person might name.
She—Whom?
He—The poor man who married a girl! (New York Herald.)

OUT IN THE WIDE WORLD.
Hostess—What has become of Smith, who stood so high in class?
Alumnus—Oh, he's taken orders.
Hostess—He's in the ministry.
Alumnus—No; in a restaurant. (Brooklyn Life.)

ALL THAT WAS LEFT.
He sat on a can of dynamite, Oh, horrible disaster! They could not find of him one particle. But they buried the porous pl—

A WEE WOMAN.
Little Daughter—Mamma, I would get me a—a—
Mamma—Well, what?
Little Daughter—Oh, I don't want anything Susie Stuckupp has.—[Good News.

FAMILIAR WITH BANQUETS.
Caterer—Have you finished the fare for the Millionaire Club banquet?
Assistant—Nearly. What's short with.

Caterer (wearily)—Cigars and chestnuts.—[New York Weekly.

PICNIC LEMONADE.
Corydon (at the picnic)—Let you a glass of lemonade, dearest Phyllis (blushing)—Lemons agree with me.
Corydon (brightly)—Oh, but isn't enough of lemon in this to any harm.—[New York Press.

LIKE THEIR PREDECESSOR.
Snoogress—There is one serial with the new silver coins.
Snively—What is it?
Snoogress—I can't get enough of them.

OPERATIC.
"Well, Tompkins, how do you opera?"
"Not very much—it's kind of musty."
"Yes. A little fresh air would do it."—[Harper's Bazar.

A FAVORITE.
Father—Why haven't you promoted to the higher grade yet?
Little Tommy—I guess it's because I've had so long doesn't lose me.

KNEW HER BROTHER.
Sister—I don't think that girl engaged to is very pretty.
Brother—She is beautiful with smiles.
Sister—Yes, but she won't smile after she marries you. (New York Weekly.)

TRUE WISDOM.
There is a man in our town And he is wondrous wise He never call a fellow down Who larger is in size.

VERY OLD.
Little Sister—Is Queen Victoria Little Brother—Old? Gee, yes, why, she's older than the of Wales!