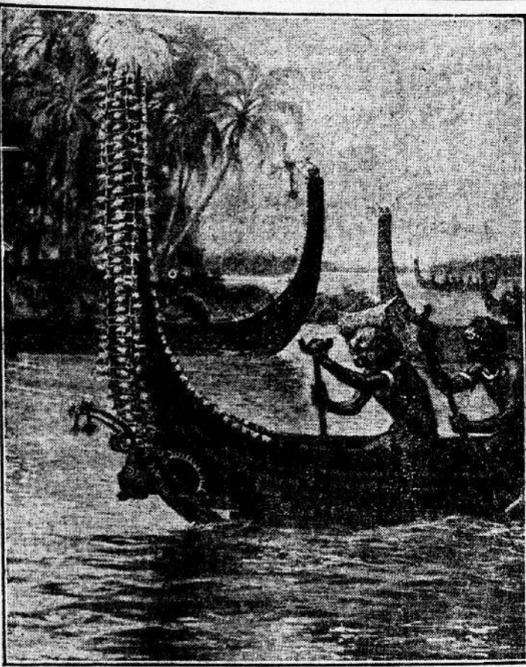


MARVELS OF THE EARTH

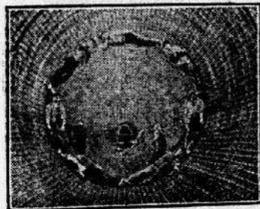
□□□□□ CURIOUS, ODD AND □□□□□
INTERESTING OBJECTS AND PLACES □

Returning From Head-Hunt



The canoes constructed by the natives of the Solomon Islands are not dug-outs, but are built of planks about half an inch thick. They are of all sizes, from the eight-foot-long craft to the tomako for war or head-hunting, a fine example of which may measure 44 feet in length, have a beam of four feet eight inches, and carry five-and-thirty men. The picture is of a tomako in New Georgia. It shows the decoration of the bow, and the one behind it depicts the stern of a similar one. Fixed on the top of the bow is a large bunch of white feathers, and down the front on a slight frame of woodwork is a row of large cowrie shells. In between each of these is a short stick with a tuft of feathers at the end. At the lower part of the bow, and just above the water-line, is a small carved human head resting on its two closed fists; this is a very important little god and is named Totihua. He is there to keep off the evil spirits of the water and of storms—the Kesoko. He must also look out for an enemy, or a dangerous reef. The sides of the canoes are covered with a vegetable putty, that turns black soon after it is put on. Into this are inlaid small circles of mother-of-pearl. The inlaid semicircle just behind the little carved head is the natives' representation of the form rainbow that appears at the bow of the canoe when passing swiftly through the water. Just below the second figure in the canoe is a white arm and hand, marked in lime; it is to show that heads have been taken at the last successful raid.

WORLD BIGGEST WATER PIPE



This extraordinary photograph gives some idea of the great size of the water conduit just constructed at Albeda, Spain, on the Aragon and Catalan canal. The workmen are seen demonstrating its huge dimensions by holding on to its ribs, to show that the circumference equals the height of seven men. The length of the water pipe is about 823 yards. It is the work of a Spanish engineer, Senor Mariano Luina, of Gijon.

FORGOTTEN FOR 32 YEARS

The trustees of the Alexandra palace, London, have received from a man living in Melbourne, Australia, a money order for \$8. This amount, he writes, is "double the cost of three little books I borrowed from the Alexandra palace reading room about the year 1878 and failed to return—a thing which I suddenly remembered about a week ago."

LOVER'S AWKWARD ESCAPE

The strange story of a soldier's adventure was told the other day at a Brentford (Eng.) court. Late at night a constable found a man lying in the front garden of a house in Twickenham with his leg jammed in the window. Examinations revealed that he had entered the premises by forcing

MAN WHO HAS SILVER RIBS

The story of a wonderful operation, in which silver ribs have been supplied to a man, was told by Maj. A. T. Craig at a gathering of Soldiers' and Sailors' Help society in London. The occasion was the distribution of Christmas hampers subscribed for by public school boys and others. There was a box of delicacies for a man who was badly wounded in South Africa, and got practically all his ribs broken. He had been working in a sort of steel jacket since, until in a hospital in London a very wonderful operation had been recently performed. The man had been supplied with practically a new set of silver ribs.

NOVEL "PARCELS."

Two girls, aged six and five years respectively, the daughters of English parents residing in Strathcona, Alberta, traveled recently all the way from England unattended. They were put on the train at Sbef-

ture he should call on his sweetheart earlier in the evening, and be quite sure as to her place of residence.

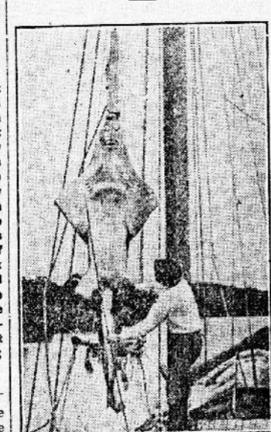
LEARN TO CHOP OFF HEADS

The French executioner, the famous M. Diebler, figured in an excited capacity the other week when he lectured and gave demonstrations on the fine art of head-chopping to a Japanese mission which is making inquiries in Europe and America into the easiest and most humane method of executing criminals. M. Diebler escorted the mission to the shed in Paris, where the "Red Widow" waits, and after a long description of each detail of the grim machine, gave a performance of an execution, cutting off the head of a dummy figure for the instruction of the visitors. They were most interested, and before leaving asked M. Diebler to make an estimate of the price of a guillotine complete with all its fittings, and to include in his estimate his charge for a dozen lessons to a Japanese to be appointed for the purpose.

RED SHIRTS MAKE HENS LAY.

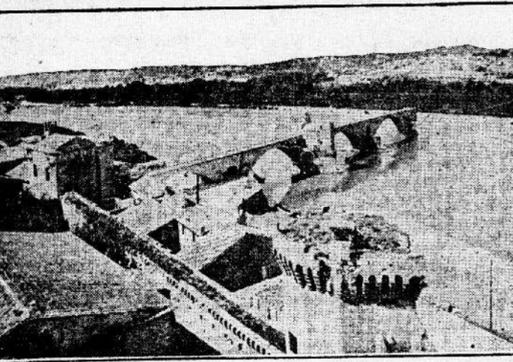
Frank A. Goodman of Whitesville, Mass., has discovered the charm that makes a hen lay eggs during the frigid days of winter. "If the man who owns a flock of hens," says Mr. Goodman, "will only wear a red flannel shirt whenever he comes within sight of the hens, the hens will lay prodigiously."

MONSTER CAUGHT WITH ROD



Off one of the Florida keys recently was caught a giant saw-fish that is supposed to be the largest fish ever taken by an angler with light tackle. The huge fish weighed 850 pounds and his captor had a long, hard fight to land him. The photograph shows the angler with the rod and line he used.

Old Bridge of Saint Benezet



The old French town of Avignon has no more interesting or picturesque feature than the bridge of Saint Benezet, which is centuries old. According to the legend, Benezet was a shepherd lad who appeared before the bishop of Avignon and said Christ had told him to build a bridge across the Rhone. The bishop promptly ordered the boy to be fayed alive, but Benezet showed his supernatural power by moving a stone 13 feet long and 7 feet broad, and all the people, including the bishop, believed in his divine mission. So Benezet built the bridge as it stands today, and almost in its center was constructed a chapel, in which were interred the remains of the saint after his death.

field labeled like parcels of merchandise. A broad leather belt surrounded the waist of each, with painted letters reading, "To Mr. M. H. Strathcona, Alberta, per S.S. Empress of Britain, care of Canadian Pacific railway."

The little pilgrims arrived safely with a cartload of toys given to them by the passengers on the boat, with whom they became great favorites.

NEW DISCOVERY IN POMPEII

In some excavations in a private house at Pompeii the petrified corpse of a woman has just been found, with numerous jewels of high value in her hands. It is supposed that the woman was surprised and stifled by the rain of cinders from Vesuvius, when Pompeii was destroyed, at the moment when she was feeling with all her fortune. That was in the year 79 A. D. How little could this grand dame imagine that by any freak of fate or circumstance, she and her jewels would be laid bare to the prying eyes of the archaeologist of the twentieth

century. The gems include two earrings, each composed of 21 pearls. These are the finest jewelry ever found at Pompeii.

AMBITION OF OLD HUNTER

A unique character, whose life in many respects was a parallel to that of Cooper's famous Leatherstocking, passed away when James Stephenson died in the house in Summit township, Washington county, Pa., where he was born 74 years ago. He never left his home without his old rifle, and hunting was a mania with him. Early in life he formed an ambition to find 100 bee trees before he died. He found his ninety-ninth tree several weeks ago and before he succumbed to heart failure he was trying to locate the tree that would crown his record.

Stephenson was a pioneer of Washington county. His father was born in Berkeley county, Virginia, on a plantation adjoining that of George Washington. The elder Stephenson and George Washington were friends.

NEW NEWS OF YESTERDAY

by E. J. Edwards

Hurry Costly to Vanderbilt

Usually Cautious, He Hastily Bought the Nickel Plate Because It Was Going to Be Sold to Jay Gould.

"I wish you could have seen William H. Vanderbilt upon one occasion when he thought he was compelled to decide whether he would spend several millions in the purchase of a railroad or let it go," said the late Charles C. Clarke, who was for many years one of the most intimate personal friends of Mr. Vanderbilt and a vice-president of the Vanderbilt lines.

"In order the better to understand the description, I am going to give you, I ought to remind you," continued Mr. Clarke, "of the manner in which the Nickel Plate railroad was built. It was promoted chiefly by Gen. Sam Thomas and Cal Brice—we always called them Cal—and we suspected from the beginning that he was built with the intent, by a sort of genteel blackmail, to compel Vanderbilt to buy it. It ran from Buffalo to Chicago and practically paralleled the Lake Shore railroad. There did not appear to be the slightest necessity for building a railroad there, since the Lake Shore could take care of all the business that was offered. That was the reason why we suspected that the chief object Brice and Thomas had in promoting the railroad was to unload it at a fat profit upon the Vanderbilts.

"Just about that time Mr. Vanderbilt was having a good deal of perplexity on account of the building of the West Shore railroad, which practically parallels the New York Central from New York city to Buffalo; and he was accustomed to declare that he'd be hanged if he'd buy the West Shore, and he'd be d—d if he'd buy the Nickel Plate. Yet he bought the Nickel Plate, almost in the twinkling of an eye; and I'll tell you exactly how it happened, although a part of the anecdote has already been published.

"One day I was with Mr. Vanderbilt in his office when some one brought to him a telegram that had come over the company's wires from Buffalo. He opened it and read it, and then handed it to me. As nearly as I can recollect, the telegram stated that Gen. Thomas and Cal Brice had just said Mr. Vanderbilt had just bought Buffalo in a private car with Jay Gould as a guest, and that they were going to take him on a tour of inspection over the Nickel Plate.

"What do you think of that, Charles?" asked Mr. Vanderbilt, excitedly. "I don't know what to think of it," I replied. "Well, I know," Mr. Vanderbilt cried, as he jumped out of his chair

and began walking excitedly back and forth. "They've got tired fishing for me and they're going to have Gould make an offer to buy the Nickel Plate and do what he wants to with it. That must be stopped."

"It seemed to me that Mr. Vanderbilt was in a good deal of a hurry; so I said that if Gould bought it he would only get a roadbed and a streak of rust. "That doesn't make any difference," he retorted vehemently. "He mustn't have it. We don't want any more trouble with Gould. I am going to accept Thomas' offer instantly, and perhaps Gould will learn before he gets through the tour of inspection that Vanderbilt's got control of the road."

"Cautious a man as William H. Vanderbilt was, and though wonderful judgments as I almost always found him to be, he yet seemed to be carried away by this impulse to buy, and as he did not ask my advice, I did not give it. But I felt there was some

Layman Taught Head of Yale

M. C. D. Borden Showed Arthur Twining Hadley How to Raise the Bicentennial Alumni Fund of a Million Dollars.

When Arthur Twining Hadley became president of Yale university, being elected to that office at a younger age than any of his predecessors, he knew that one of the most important of the duties that lay immediately to hand was the raising of the bicentennial alumni fund of one million dollars. For it was hoped and expected that Yale would be able to celebrate its two hundredth anniversary not only with formal ceremonies, but by the announcement that a fund of one million dollars had been raised.

The young president started out to secure this fund. What was at first enthusiasm on his part was followed by something like despair, until at last he called upon one of the most enthusiastic of the alumni of Yale, M. C. D. Borden of Fall River, Mass., the largest cotton manufacturer in the United States. Mr. Borden heard patiently the young president's narrative of the difficulty he had met with in securing pledges from you.

"Arthur," he said, at last, "you are expert authority on economics and on railroad management and accounting. But you have got something to learn about the way to collect a big fund of money. You never will get your million dollars if you continue in the way you have begun."

President Who Was Forgiving

William McKinley's Unfailing Kindness and Tenderness of Heart Illustrated by an Incident at a Cabinet Meeting.

During the entire period that William McKinley was president of the United States, Lyman J. Gage was secretary of the treasury, and as such was brought into close official and personal relations with McKinley.

"With the exception of Abraham Lincoln, McKinley, in all probability, had a greater tenderness of heart than any man who has been president," said Mr. Gage, "and his nobility of mind was the equal of that of any of his predecessors. Let me illustrate by an incident that occurred in a cabinet meeting, and for the occurrence of which I was primarily responsible.

"After I had been in the treasury department for some time it was brought to my attention that one of the department's subordinate officials had dared to write for publication an article that, to my mind, breathed insubordination of the highest degree. Quite naturally, I was offended and indignant, so much so, in fact, that I took the first opportunity to call the attention of President McKinley and the cabinet to the breach of discipline. The president took no words in declaring to the president that pre-emptory removal of the official in question was justified by his insubordination and the studied insult he had placed in his communication. Then I read in full what the subordinate had written, observing all the while the president seemed greatly interested.

"When I had finished, the president was silent for a moment, then he said: "Mr. Secretary, it seems to me that if this communication is written in a

spirit of disloyalty, and if it contains a studied insult, as you believe and declare, then that disloyalty and that insult affects the president of the United States quite as much as they do the secretary of the treasury."

"That is precisely my view of the matter, Mr. President," I replied. "That is why I have brought this communication to the attention of yourself and the cabinet. I do not believe that it is right, nor for the best interests of the department, to retain in it anyone who is so disloyal and so insulting to the president of the United States. So I desire to receive from you authority for the prompt and pre-emptory removal of this insubordinate official."

"The president looked at me thoughtfully for perhaps half a minute, and then directed his glance at the other members of the cabinet, one after another. So far as I could fathom their opinions with respect to the situation, they accorded with mine, and it seemed to me that the president also reached that conclusion after he had looked searchingly at each of his advisers. At last he spoke: "Mr. Secretary," he said, slowly, "it appears to you that this communication involves the president as well as yourself, I wish you would let me take it. I will read it carefully, and then, if I find that your opinion of it is justified, I think I will keep it and forgive the official who wrote it."

"With that," concluded Mr. Gage, "I handed the letter to the president, who put it upon his desk, turned serenely to other affairs of government, and afterwards, to my own personal knowledge, actually forgave the man who had dared to be insubordinate and to insult him."

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Anecdotes of French Court

Barristers Find Much Difficulty in Keeping Occupants of the Bench Awake.

The centenary of the Palais de Justice, as recalled the numerous anecdotes on the rumors of the law courts. Among others it is told how a well-known lawyer, M. Alem Rousseau, was pleading a rather tiresome case when he noticed that the judges were paying no attention to him said: "As the court is sleeping I will suspend my speech." But the judge had just woken up and cried: "And I suspend you from practicing for six months." Nothing daunted, the lawyer retorted: "Well, I suspend myself for ever and ever," and gathering up his brief and cap he left the court and never appeared again.

A Paris barrister, M. Clerly, however, was more vigorous. Seeing that the president and the assessors were asleep, he stopped and dealing a

tremendous blow on the desk in front of him that woke everybody up with a start, he cried: "Yesterday at this same hour I was saying—" and the whole bench rubbed their eyes and asked each other if they had really slept through twenty-four hours.

The same counsel was pleading at Versailles on a cold day and remarked that the judges were all turning more and more around toward a stove that gave out a welcome heat. "The tribunal behind which I have the honor of speaking" brought them all "right about face" at once.

On another occasion the judge asked him to cut his speech short, as the court had made up its mind. Assuming the air of a childlike native, M. Clerly retorted: "Me right, you good judges, him innocent," and sat down.

Though not intended humorously, the celebrated criminal advocate M. de Henri Robert made a hit when defending the matricide Wache de Roo-

trick about it all, and I was sure that if he waited, he would get the road for practically nothing.

"Well, that very day he bound the bargain—he was not his usual calm self until he had done so—and he chuckled not a little as he thought of the manner in which he had over-reached Gould. But a few days later he came to me with a woeful face.

"Charlie," he said, "that was all a trap. They set it for Gould and for me, and they caught us both. Gould had no intention of buying the road; he was perfectly innocent in the matter. Now that we have got it, we must make the best of it, but I am sure that if we had waited we could have got it on our terms, and saved several million dollars."

"Had Mr. Vanderbilt lived a few years longer than he did," concluded Mr. Clarke, whose death occurred a few months ago, "he would have been gratified to know that, after all, his purchase of the Nickel Plate was a wise venture, for it has proved a most valuable subsidiary to our Lake Shore system."

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THE SITUATION

"What, then, shall I do?" the president of Yale asked. "That's exactly what I am going to tell you," Mr. Borden replied. "There's a good deal of human nature to be studied if you're going to raise a large fund of money. Now, what you must do first is to get four or five or even six men to say they will contribute the larger part of the fund. When you have got pledges of that kind, you will be astonished to see how quickly other rich men will fall into line. That's the human nature of giving."

"But where am I to find four or five or six men?" Yale's president asked. "I'm going to show you. I will be one of six men to pledge in all six hundred thousand dollars. You shall have the other pledges within two or three days. Then, when you have them, you will see how quickly others will join the procession, and you shall get your million within a month."

Here was a new philosophy of life for the new president of Yale. But he knew from Mr. Borden's manner that it was a correct philosophy. On the day following Mr. Borden met Frederick W. Vanderbilt, an alumnus of Yale. "Fred," he said, "I'd like to have you be one of the six who are going to contribute six hundred thousand dollars for Arthur Hadley's bicentennial fund."

"It would give me the greatest pleasure," responded Mr. Vanderbilt. Mr. Borden next called upon three other graduates of Yale, and he had simply to repeat the request he had made to Mr. Vanderbilt to get their subscriptions. Then, within a few hours, he called upon James J. Hill, whose sons were graduates of Yale.

"I won't do it," said Mr. Hill, at first. "Oh, yes, you will," was the reply; and after some further conversation, Mr. Hill offered to give twenty-five thousand dollars. He was told that that wouldn't do. Then he offered to give fifty thousand dollars, but was told that that amount also was too small. Along in the small hours of the morning Mr. Hill yielded, so that within three days the fund of six hundred thousand was raised.

"Take that, Arthur," said Mr. Borden the next day, "and we'll see if I was not correct."

The young president of Yale, going forth with the pledges of six men for six hundred thousand dollars, found that it was even as Mr. Borden had said. Other rich men stepped up quickly, so that they might be in time to join the procession; and almost before President Hadley realized it a million dollars was secured to the last dollar.

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Benefactor of Mankind. The man who invented the wheel did much for the convenience of mankind, but we know no more of his identity than did the ancient Egyptians who used his device just as we do. His labor-saving device must have astonished and pleased his fellows, and it may be that it amused them as a toy before they put it to practical use.

The Modern Warrior. "There goes a chap who has taken part in 50 battles." "Plainsman?" "No; filmsman."

He produced an act of renunciation signed by the prisoner of all benefit from the wife of the mother he had murdered and added to the jury: "So if you acquit him he will go forth miserable and poor, perhaps to Madagascar, to repent of an act which he may have committed in a moment of thoughtlessness."

And the verdict of the jury was typical. They found that he had committed murder, but that he had not killed his mother, although the unfortunate lady was the only person who had been killed. This was in order to save the prisoner from ten years' penal servitude, which is the maximum penalty for parricide, whereas manslaughter with extenuating circumstances can be let off with mere confinement.

Paradoxical Methods. "No other business in the world could possibly be conducted on the methods of the hen in the egg industry." "Why not?" "Because she lays down on the top."

Doctors Said Health Gone

Suffered with Throat Trouble

Mr. B. W. D. Barnes, ex-Sheriff of Warren County, Tennessee, in a letter from McMinnville, Tennessee, writes: "I had throat trouble and had three doctors treating me. All failed to do me any good, and pronounced my health gone. I com-



cluded to try Peruna, and after using four bottles can say I was entirely cured."

Unable to Work. Mr. Gustav Himmelreich, Hochheim, Texas, writes: "For a number of years I suffered whenever I took cold, with severe attacks of asthma, which usually yielded to the common home remedies."

"Last year, however, I suffered for eight months without interruption so that I could not do any work at all. The various medicines that were prescribed brought me no relief."

"After taking six bottles of Peruna, two of Lacupia, and two of Maminin, I am free of my trouble so that I can do all my farm work again. I can heartily recommend this medicine to any one who suffers with this annoying complaint and believe that they will obtain good results."



Katharine—He was to marry a telephone girl, but she broke the engagement. Kidder—Oh, I see! A case of "ring off."

England's Oldest School. A controversy has arisen in England as to which school has the right to claim greatest age. There are two schools which were founded in the early part of the seventh century—the King's school, Rochester, and the King's school, Canterbury. Justus, on his appointment to the see of Rochester in 604, made provision for a school in connection with the cathedral. Augustine established the Canterbury school about the same time. St. Peter's at York dates back to the eleventh century.

Education vs. Instinct. Jacob Wendell, Jr., who plays the part of the dog in Maturin's drama, was dining in a restaurant recently when a man, recognizing him as the actor, approached and said: "Pardon me, but you take the part of the dog in 'The Blue Bird,' do you not? Of course you don't know it, but I can really bark lots more like a dog than you." "Well, you see," answered Wendell, "I had to learn."—Success Magazine.

Simple, Rather. He—You are the only woman I ever loved. She—Do you expect me to believe that?

He—I do. I swear it is true. She—Then I believe you. Any man who would expect a woman to believe that cannot have been much in the company of women.

Scott's Renesca in "Ivanhoe." The character of Rebecca, in Scott's "Ivanhoe" was taken from a beautiful Jewess, Miss Rebecca Gratz of Philadelphia. Her steadfastness to Judaism, when lured by Washington Irving to Scott, won his admiration and caused the creation of one of his finest characters.

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