



If you are young, you naturally appear so. If you are old, why appear so? Ayer's Hair Vigor will surely restore color to your gray hair, and will give to it all the wealth and gloss of early life. It will stop falling of the hair also; and will keep the scalp clean and healthy, entirely free from dandruff.

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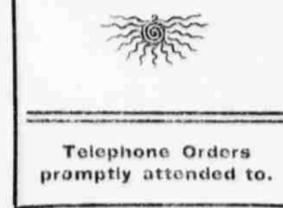
Plumber, Tinner, Metal Worker.  
Mr. Cameron is prepared to give estimates on all kinds of Plumbing Work and to guarantee all work done.

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Serrao Cabinet Shop.  
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## Oceanic S.S. Company

### Time Table

The steamers of this line will arrive and leave this port as hereunder:

#### FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

|         |          |
|---------|----------|
| Alameda | Feb. 21  |
| Sonoma  | March 5  |
| Alameda | March 14 |
| Ventura | March 26 |
| Alameda | April 4  |
| Sierra  | April 16 |
| Alameda | April 25 |
| Sonoma  | May 7    |
| Alameda | May 16   |
| Ventura | May 28   |
| Alameda | June 6   |
| Sierra  | June 18  |

#### FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

|         |          |
|---------|----------|
| Alameda | Feb. 26  |
| Sonoma  | March 4  |
| Alameda | March 19 |
| Ventura | March 25 |
| Alameda | April 9  |
| Sierra  | April 15 |
| Alameda | April 30 |
| Sonoma  | May 6    |
| Alameda | May 21   |
| Ventura | May 27   |
| Alameda | June 11  |
| Sierra  | June 17  |

In connection with the sailing of the above steamers the agents are prepared to issue, to intending passengers **Coupon Through Tickets** by any railroad from San Francisco to all points in the United States, and from New York by any steamship line to all European ports. For further particulars apply to

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CHAS. M. LEBLOND.

### WHY ARE SEA BIRDS WHITE?

John Isabell, in the April Longman's Magazine, London.

There are five possible explanations of that whiteness which is so characteristic of sea birds—namely, first, that it is given them as a protection from their enemies; secondly, that it is due to that absence of elimination to which land birds dressed in an eccentric garb are subjected; thirdly, that it enables them more easily to procure their food; fourthly, that it is due to sexual selection; and, lastly, that it forms, in combination with dark wings or tail markings, a badge by which they may be recognized by their friends. The first explanation, which finds most favor with naturalists, the writer ventures to dispute altogether. Color may be either a screen, behind which its owner can safely live and freely move, or a signal of danger, like the warning red flag above a powder magazine. The tawny hue of the lion and of the gazelle, which assimilates them to their surroundings, and aids the pursuer and the pursued in turn, is an example of the first. As an example of the second we have the gaudy colors of many butterflies, and the black, white, and yellow of the magpie moth, which advertise the paradoxical fact that the insects are unfit for consumption. Sea birds live under totally different conditions. They have no snow as a background; they do not swim in milk, or fly in an atmosphere resembling that of a flour mill, and the supposed analogy between their circumstances and those of Arctic birds is a poetic figment. The normal hues of the ocean are blue, green and gray. White upon blue is one of the most striking contrasts possible, and white upon green is little less distinctive. If gray in itself does not excite attention, while on a background of gray is thrown into instant relief. Upon the supposition that whiteness confers invisibility on sea birds, we are driven to the strange conclusion that the young, which are often gray or brown, are left without protection, although they need it most. Before coming to the conclusion that whiteness makes sea birds invisible to super-aquatic eyes it surely is desirable to face the question, Is protection needed? Protection against what? We can quite understand why white land birds are so rare. A white vegetable feeder would not long escape the talons and beaks of birds of prey, and birds of prey which called attention to their presence by obtrusive raiment would soon find their larder bare. But what have sea birds to fear? They are clamorous, greedy, fierce, and pugnacious; capable of defending their own interests, and feeding almost entirely on fish.

It is a suggestive circumstance that the colors of sea birds correspond in one important respect with those of the fishes on which they feed. Almost invariably a fish is dark above and light beneath, this distribution of colors helping it to escape observation. Now, nearly all sea birds are black and white, or gray and white, the darker tints being found on the wings and back, and the white feathers on the breast and abdomen. It may be, and probably is, an advantage to aquatic birds to have their white feathers turned seawards, so that they may be less easily seen by the fishes they are in quest of, and the fact that the eagles which have taken to fishing are colored like their nautical colleagues lends weight to this consideration. The tendency to whiteness once encouraged, whether by absence of danger or as an aid to the procuring of food, might well be intensified by sexual selection. Lastly, there can be little doubt that a potent influence in the decoration of birds is the necessity for marks whereby members of a species may recognize each other. These "banner colors," as they have been called, are shown in the wings and tails of many sea birds, black bars crossing the outer feathers of the gray or white pinions and of the expanded fans.

Such are the considerations which lead to the conclusion that the usual explanation of the whiteness of sea birds—namely, that it is a device to make them invisible to aerial enemies—is entirely erroneous. Why, then, are sea birds white? The answer is, for four cumulative reasons. First, they are white because flesh-eating enemies powerful enough to weed out whiteness are absent from the element which they frequent; secondly, because whiteness, and especially a white under-surface, facilitates their approach to the fishes which form their food; thirdly, because the preference of the sexes for each other, taking the line of least resistance, has accentuated the tendency to whiteness; and, lastly, because a white plumage forms, in combination with black markings, an excellent signal by which friend can recognize friend, and the whereabouts of food be quickly indicated.

#### TOLEANCE.

A Writer in Harpers Moralizes on a Dry Sunday.

Religious toleration is greatly in the ascendant in America in our day. It is not universal, but it is dominant. In the early years of the magazine, when Dr. Holland was enthusiastically preaching from this pulpit a liberal orthodoxy, he was assailed by the then representatives of institutions which since that time have themselves been under criticism for that very lack of firmness in the faith of which he was accused. Doubtless Dr. Holland's own writings, so clear, so devout, so humane, were themselves largely instrumental in bringing about the very toleration which now exists.

Tolerance in religious matters is further advanced than toleration in some other matters. Take, for instance, the liquor question: that is today more of a firebrand than the question of fire everlasting itself. There are many persons—very good and in many directions very tolerant persons—who are able to tolerate no difference of opinion whatever on the question of spirituous liquor. They are addicted to totality—to total abstinence for themselves, and total abstinence, by law and compulsion, for every other person. They especially are attached to the idea that the law should be "total," even if the practice does not conform to the law. Those who are troubled by the blackmail and other evil effects of trying to stop by law the consumption of alcoholic beverages on Sunday in a community like New York, where a very large portion of the population refuses to consent to the prohibition,—those who are so troubled, we say, are apt to charge the upholders of Sunday prohibition with being more anxious about the facts. On the other side of the question, certain clergymen and other "reformers," who, in certain circumstances, would consent to some modification of the severity of the law, maintain that they are not in favor of more drinking on Sunday, but of less, and that less under stricter regulations and oversight.

It is not of the question directly at issue that we wish to speak, but of the unfortunate circumstance that so many good men refuse to consider the matter coolly and sensibly and in relation to the actual facts and conditions, and approach it with preconceived notions and in a spirit of inflexible intolerance. And yet, even in this field, we see a growth of tolerance on the part of men who are among the strictest advocates of temperance. Nor is all the tolerance monopolized by those who object to intolerance.

#### Sciatic Rheumatism Cured After Fourteen Years of Suffering.

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