TRAVEL IN PATAGONIA.

A BOOK FULL OF INTEREST.

IDLE DAYS IN PATAGONIA. By W. H. Hudson, C. M. Z. S. Illustrated by Alfred Hartley and J. Tuiet. 8vo, pp. 250. D. Appleton & Co.

This is not a volume to be taken up, read through at headlong speed, and then thrown aside. It is a book to be savored. The reader, if he wishes truly to apprehend its scope and purpose, to appreciate its best qualities, to understand its peculiarities, must begin by putting himself, as far as possible, in the place of the writer. Thus only can the real significance of the work be perceived and measured. But, treated thus, the book will be found full of interest in many ways. The author passed some years in Patagonia, in the valley watered by its one large river, and he came entirely under the influences—and strange influences they are—of those vast plains so little stirred with life, either human or animal. Upon those who live in Patagonia it seems that a spell falls. They cease to care for or to think about the things of the busy world which they have left behind. The unbounded plain, the unbroken forest, come to furnish them with all the varied interest life demands. Now and then, indeed, some purely city-bred man finds himself quite lost in "this new world which is the old," and languishes for the fleshpots of Egypt. But the great majority swiftly accommodate themselves to the return to primeval ways, and find tranquillity and happiness in the change.

In the part of Patagonia where Mr. Hudson lived the society was, to say the least, scanty. He himself could discover but one book, and that an antiquated copy of Spanish devotions. For dissipation all he could do was to play cards with an old Indian who did not know much to begin with and had recounted it all long ago. But company was never missed. The traveller would rise in the morning, eat his breakfast—a meal reduced to the very simplest proportions—saddle his horse, and plunge at once into the immense plain, where he could wander purposeless, willless, ideally idle, the livelong day. Never was or could be idling so systematically and extensively carried on as in this valley. The weather was as a rule simply perfect. Sleep could be had out of doors quite as comfortably and securely as within. There were no formidable wild beats to be in fear of. Such creatures as existed were, with one or two reptilian exceptions, both harmless and timid.

Provided that enough could be had to eat and drink—and there seems to have been no real difficulty about this, though the bill of fare was short enough—there was nothing to be concerned about. Our author is a trained naturalist, and therefore found constant int rest in studying the beasts and birds of the country; and he could lie on his back for hours under the equable sun and lazily ponder the problems which exercised his mind in this Lotos Land, and these problems which beset him in his Patagonian solitude he has taken away from the great plains where they were engendered, and has dealt with them in his book in a curious, unliterary fashion, which to the observant reader will strongly recall the peculiarities of the conditions amid which he worked. Such questions as the effect of white in large masses upon the human mind; of the optical powers of savage races; of the effect of color in the eyes of birds, and next, of men and women, are the matters which engage his attention and develop his reasoning tendencies.

Is there, for instance, something uncanny about a snow-covered landscape, or about the snowy fur or plumage of arctic birds and beasts? Is a white bear, for example, more dreadful to encounter than a brown or a black one? Mr. Herman Melville says he is, but Mr. Hudson criticises Mr. Melville's hypothesis, and would discover some other explanation of the mysterious effect of whiteness—which effect he admits to be real and not imaginary. His own imagination travels far and swiftly enough when he suggests that in by-gone ages man, fighting against resistless advance of snow and ice, may have left in his blood, to be transmitted to his distant descendants, an unconscious recognition of that protracted and terrible struggle. No doubt this is possible. So many things for which no evidence can be adduced are possible; but certainly it does not sound very probable.

On another subject, namely, the eyesight of savages, Mr. Hudson has something to say which deserves more serious attention. After long and careful observation he has become convinced that savages do not possess exceptionally strong and keen eyesight; that, in effect, their eyesight is in no essential respect better than that of the civilized peoples; that their eyes are subject to all the defects which civilized eyesight suffers from, but that, inasmuch as they have no opticians or oculists, their complaints are not attended to. They can see things which they have been accustomed all their lives to see, at great distances and quite clearly; but if an object which is new to them comes within the range of their vision at the same distance they are quite as likely to make mistakes about it as are civilized observers. These and many other observations upon the habits and ways of the Gauchos, together with all those upon the fauna of the country, are remarkable for vigor and independence of thought and the ingenious collocation of unfamiliar ideas in various relations.

After reading Mr. Hudson's book with due care, one feels that Patagonia ought to be a magnificent recourse for the world-wearied souls who are exhausted by the excitement of life at high pressure. In the bosom of that great plain, in the silence of those primeval forests, in the peace of that passionless region, in the entire absence of all the forms of activity developed by civilization, man has an opportunity to renew himself by plunging into the elements of the beginnings. This is the real story and secret of the book, and it is told in a manner to carry with it a certain attraction and even fascination. Of all modern books of travel it is certainly one of the most original, and many we are sure will also find it one of the most interesting and suggestive.

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Proposals.

OFFICE OF LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD, Washington, D. C., February 24, 1893.—Sealed proposals will be received at this Office until 2 o'clock p. m. on Tuesday, the 14th day of March, 1893, for furnishing all the materials and labor of all kinds necessary for the construction and delivery of Light-Vessels Nos. 58, 60, 61, 62, and 63, for service on the Great Lakes, for a fixed sum for one or more vessels, or for an aggregate sum for all five vessels. The vessels are to be built of wood and are to be delivered to the Light-House Inspector at the Buoy Depot at Detroit, Mich., or at St. Joseph, Mich., as may be directed. Forms of proposal, plans and specifications showing what is required can be had or seen by applying to the Office or to the Light-House Inspectors at Portland, Me., Boston, Mass.; Tompkinsville, N. Y.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Baltimore, Md.; Buffalo, N. Y.; Detroit, Mich., or Chicago, Ill. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects. JAMES A. GREER, Rear-Admiral, U. S. N., Chairman.

PROPOSALS FOR DREDGING.—U. S. Engineer Office, Room 1-8, Army Building, 39 Whitehall-st., New-York, N. Y., February 18, 1893. Sealed proposals for improving Shewsbury River, Shoal Harbor and Compton Creek, Keyport Harbor, Mattawan Creek, Elizabeth River, Passaic River, N. J., and Cheansing Bay, N. Y., by dredging, will be received at this office until twelve (12) o'clock, M., March 29, 1893, and then publicly opened. Specifications, blank forms and all available information will be furnished on application to this office. THOS. L. CASEY, Captain, Corps of Engineers.

PROPOSALS for New Sinks and Bath Rooms for Cadets. Office of the Quartermaster, U. S. Military Academy, West Point, N. Y., March 3, 1893. Sealed proposals, in triplicate, subject to the usual conditions, will be received at this office until 12 o'clock noon, on the 3d day of April, 1893, for the erection of New Sinks and Bath Rooms for Cadets, at West Point, N. Y., as per plans and specifications to be seen at this office. Deliver proposals in envelope marked "Proposals for New Sinks and Bath Rooms for Cadets" and addressed to the undersigned. W. H. MILLER, Captain & A. Q. M., U. S. A.

U. S. ENGINEER OFFICE, Army Building, New-York, January 25, 1893.—Sealed proposals, in triplicate, will be received at this office until 12 o'clock, noon, Monday, March 6, 1893, at which place and time they will be publicly opened in the presence of bidders, for the delivery at Fort Hamilton, N. Y., of sand, broken stone, and cement; and for furnishing all labor and materials, and constructing a concrete plant, consisting of a wharf, pile and framed trestle for inclined cable railway, sand and stone bin, cement shed, and storehouse, at Fort Hamilton, N. Y., in accordance with specifications and drawings which may be seen on application to this office. The attention of bidders is invited to acts of Congress approved February 26, 1885, and February 23, 1887, vol. 23, page 332, and vol. 24, page 414. Statutes at Large. G. L. GILLESPIE, Lieut. Colonel, Corps of Engineers.

Steamboats.

NORWICH LINE.

Fares reduced, TO NEW-LONDON, $1.00, NORWICH, $1.25; WORCESTER, $2.00; BOSTON, $3.00. Corresponding reduction to all points East. Steamers leave Pier 40, North River (next pier above Desbrosses Street Ferry), daily, Sundays excepted, at 5:00 P. M.

STONINGTON LINE.

FARES REDUCED, BOSTON, ONLY $3; PROVIDENCE, $2.25, WORCESTER and all Eastern Points. INSIDE ROUTE—New Steel Steamers MAINE and NEW HAMPSHIRE leave new Pier 36, N. R., one block above Canal-st., at 5:30 P. M. daily, except Sunday.

FALL RIVER LINE.

FARES REDUCED TO BOSTON, FALL RIVER, PROVIDENCE and all Principal Eastern Points. Steamers PLYMOUTH and PILGRIM in commission from PIER 28, N. R., foot of Murray-st., week days and Sundays at 5:00 p. m. Connecting Annex boat leaves Jersey City at 4. Brooklyn, 4:30 p. m. ORCHESTRA ON EACH STEAMER. Two connecting vestibuled express trains from Fall River, due Boston 7.00 and 9.00 a. m., respectively.

NEW-HAVEN—FARE 75c.—Excursion (good 6 days), $1.25. Magnificent new twin-screw steel steamer "Richard Peck," the Fastest, fastest steamer on Long Island Sound, and steamer "Continental," leaves Pier 25, E. R., daily (Sunday excepted) at 3 p. m. and 11:30 p. m., arriving in time for trains for Meriden, Hartford, Springfield and the North. Through tickets and baggage checked at 944 Broadway, N. Y., and 4 Court-st., Brooklyn.

REAL ESTATE.

BUSINESS AT THE EXCHANGES.

All the sales at No. 111 Broadway yesterday were under order of the court. Bernard Smyth offered under partition two lots in Grove-st., south of Waverley Place, in the Twenty-fourth Ward. One vacant plot, 30x120, brought $1,850 from Agnes K. Mulligan; and all the right, title and interest in another lot, 25x120, brought $225 from S. Jackson.

William Kennelly offered No. 1,111 Second-ave., north of Fifty-eighth-st., a four-story stone front tenement house, with store. It brought $13,100 from Alexander Haft. The same auctioneer offered No. 154 West One-hundred-and-twenty-third-st., a three-story stone front dwelling, on a lot 16x100. It was sold for $15,550 to John Farrell.

At the Liberty Street Exchange R. V. Harnett & Co. offered No. 119 East Sixty-ninth-st., a four-story brownstone house, on a lot 22x100. It rents for $1,600 a year. The bidding ran from $15,000 up to $16,150. Rosanna Waxelbaum was the buyer.

The following sales at private contract were reported at the Exchange yesterday:

John R. Foley has sold Nos. 21 and 31 West Twenty-fourth-st., two five-story English basement houses, 16.8x60 each, for Rachel Dunham and Mandelbaum & Lewine, to John W. Condit, of Acker, Merrall & Condit, for $60,000. John R. Foley has also sold No. 306 East Twenty-first-st., a three-story little-stoop brick dwelling, 20x50x100, for $15,000 to Mrs. Rosina Scanlan.

RECORDED REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS—N. Y. CITY.

1st-ave, w s, 100 ft s of 25th-st, 25x98.9; Max Cohen to John J Feehan	$18,000
3d-ave, w s, 150 ft s of 27th-st, 20x98.9; Mary V Mott and another to Elsie L Breese	15,000
16th-st, n s, 125 ft e of Amsterdam-ave, 150x100.4; Henry L Hand and wife to the Amsterdam Improvement Co	90,000
Same property; Frederick J Lancaster and wife to Henry L Hand	72,000
52d-st, n s, 275 ft e of 11th-ave, 25x100.5; Ellen Morse et al to Catharine Hollywood	7,500
89th-st, s s, 80 ft e of Amsterdam-ave, 75x100.8; Charles F Havemeyer and wife to William B Duncan, jr, and another, trustees	90,000
85th-st, No 324 West; Charles G Judson and wife to Emma S McCord	20,500
89th-st, n s, 80 ft e of Amsterdam-ave, 75x100.8; Edward W Bedell to Charles F Havemeyer	90,000
82d-st, s s, 375 ft w of 8th-ave, 25x102.2; Richard Deeves and wife to M Freedman	56,250
Boulevard, s e corner West 76th-st, 100.5x145.8; C T Smith et al to J M Newman	92,600
Water-st, No 164; Mathias Liechenbuch and wife to Siegfried W Mayer	30,000
Princess-st, No 26; Abraham Michalesky and Abraham Michalesky et al to Henry Kraus	19,000
Madison-st, No 346; Joseph Loeb and another to Harris Schlinsky et al	27,000
Baxter-st, Nos 10 and 12; Isedore Abrahams and wife to Wolf Rosenthal	32,000
69th-st, No 217; Clara S Von Der Goltz and another to August Sexauer	19,000
St Marks Place, No 108; James Nealis and wife to Charles Hoffmann	29,250
4th-st, s s, 250 ft w of Avenue D, 22x96; Samuel Greenfield and wife to Moritz Rosett	14,500
Essex-st, No 118; Bernhard Zeller and wife to Samuel Weisenfeld	12,000
41st-st, n s, 124 ft w of 1st-ave, 40x98.9; Frank C Balocco to Oscar S Veit	29,000
82d-st, No 137 East; Mary L Campbell and another to Edward Kehl	14,000
70th-st, No 229 East; Alexander Jordan and wife to Arthur A Stalwell	29,000
80th-st, s s, 100 ft w of 2d-ave, 50x100.8½; John J Feehan and wife to Max Cohen	52,000
93d-st, n s, 111.4 ft w of Madison-ave, 19.5x100.8½; P Barender and wife to Josephine Kessel	31,500
95th-st, s s, 100 ft w of 1st-ave, 25x100.8; Lambert Suydam to Thomas Kerrigan	6,000
125th-st, n s, 275 ft w of 2d-ave, 25x100.11; Cornelius Weblinger and husband to Annie L Fitz Gibbon	26,000
Broome-st, n e corner Willett-st, 25x87.6; Phoebe Lowenfeld and wife to Herman Wertheim	27,500
Ludlow-st, Nos 141 and 143; Edward Welckens and wife to Thomas Jacobs	32,200
82d-st, s s, 250 ft w of 9th-ave, 16.8x92.9; Archer Wolfstein and wife to Harris Mandelbaum	12,000
25th-st, s s, 245 ft w of 7th-ave, 15.8x9; Archer Wolfstein and wife to Harris Mandelbaum	11,000
129th-st, No 52 West; Patrick Hogan and wife to Maria Weddebrock	23,000
3d-ave, s e corner of Josephine, 75x75; James Wallace and wife to Louis Cohen	56,250
104th-st, s s, 125 ft w of 1st-ave, 125x100.9; Lambert Suydam to Wm S Lozier	25,000
111th-st, n s, 90 ft e of Madison-ave, 120x100.11; The Amsterdam Improvement Co to Henry L Hand	43,500
8th-ave, w s, 49.11 ft n of 13th-st, 50x100; F Kurzman and wife to John W Leeth	27,000
132d-st, n s, 250 ft e of 7th-ave, 25x99.11; Enoch J Bell and wife to Edward F Rothwell	1,700
124th-st, s s, 161 ft e of 7th-ave, 16x99.11; Wm Cummings, jr, and wife to Wm Reading	11,500
107th-st, s s, 175 ft e of Vanderbilt-ave, 40x100; Mary E Sherwood to H Hartung	4,625
156th-st, s s, 132 ft w of Mott-ave, 50x100; Emma S McCord and husband to Chas G Judson	10,000
Willis-ave, w s, 104 ft n of 142d-st, 22x100; Bennington Whitehead, referee, to H Overing Roth and another	9,800
Pine and A B, nwc of Mott Haven, 231 Ward; Gustav A Ehlers and wife to Lehrain C Gates	5,750
Clifton-ave, w s, 75 ft n of 145th-st, 25x100; P V Rogers et al to John Finn	11,000
Fordham-ave, n s, 25 ft w of 3d-ave, 25x100; Mortimer, 231 Ward; Louis Polizer to John C Dacie	13,300
120th-st, No 20 West; Thomas J Robinson and wife to Allen F Nye	25,000
130th-st, n s, 260 ft e of 8th-ave, 19.4x99.11; William A Martin and wife to Benjamin F Hunter	5,600
118th-st, n s, 90 ft e of Madison-ave, 120x100.11; Henry L Hand and wife to Frederick J Lancaster	49,500
Lenox-ave, e s, 50.7 ft n 113th-st, 50.4x75; Benjamin F Barnes, jr, and wife to Nancy L Shepherd and another	32,200
103d-st, s s, 231.3 ft w of 1st-ave, 18.9x100.9; Mary Noonan to Herman Rothenberg	3,000
102d-st, s s, 62 ft w of 2d-ave, 18x50; Lizzie A Gorman to Alice D Fanning et al	11,250
Eagle-ave, e s, 38 ft n of Westchester-ave, 25x115; Jacob Riehl and wife, et al, to John J Fitzsimmons	2,000
Valentine-ave, w s, 810 ft n of junction of said avenue and lands of Thomas Rossford, 50x irregular; Ella C Browne and husband to Edwin Bennett	3,000
100th-ave, e s, 74.11 ft s of 146th-st, 35x100; Mona Nagel to John Schenk	25,000
8th-ave, w s, 49.11 ft n of 131st-st, 50x100; Chas Flynn and wife to Ferdinand Kurzman	23,000
103d-st, s s, 180 ft e of 2d-ave, 19x97; Henry M. Alexander, jr, referee, to Archibald C White	17,000

RECORDED MORTGAGES.

Banks, Henry W, and wife, to Seamen's Savings Bank, Frankfort-st, s w corner Depeyster-st, 3 years	$110,000
Borowchek, Wolf, to Isidor Abraham, Nos 10 and 12 Rutgers-st, 4 years	7,800
Bristol, Elias L R, to Daniel R Hall, s s 44th-st, w of 8th-ave, 3 years	10,000
Bennett, Edwin, and wife, to Ella C Brown, w s 2d-ave, n of lands of Thomas Rossford, 3 years	2,000
Bowen, Benjamin F, to William A Martin, n s 130th-st, w of 4th-ave, 3 years	3,600
Cohen, Max, to J J Feehan, s s 80th-st, w of 2d-ave, 2 years, 2 mortgages	10,000
Drucker, Max, and wife, to Hyman Nash and another, Cedar-st, s e cor. Maiden-st, 3 years	4,000
Dwyer, Andrew, and wife, to Dry Dock Savings Institution, lot 16, map of Hendrick Reiters, 1 year	12,000
Fives, John, to Publius V Rogers and another, w s Clifton-ave, s of 145th-st, 3 years	3,000
Gilson, Hanson C, and wife, to The Guarantee and Trust Company, n s 124th-st, e of 8th-ave, 1 year	9,000
Hofman, Charles, to James Neales, No 68 St Marks-Place, 5 years	10,000
Hand, Henry L, and wife to Citizens' Savings Bank, n s 66th-st, e of Amsterdam-ave, 1 year	125,000
Haseen, Todros, to Caroline Haight, Avenue C, s e corner 7th-st, 3 years	18,000
Hatzenrot, Jos F, to The Title Guarantee and Trust Company, n s 80th-st, e of 10th-ave, 3 years	37,500
Hanna, Robert, and wife to F J Middlebrook, n s 115th-st, w of Park-ave, 1 year	19,000
Holt, Robert, Catharine to Cornelius Keegan, guardian, n s 52d-st, e of 11th-ave, 2 years	3,000
Jacobs, Elias, to Samuel Kemmer, w s Ludlow-st, s of Stanton-st, 2 mortgages, 3 years	5,500
Judson, Chas G, and wife, to Carson C True, s s 57th-st, w of Madison-ave, 1 mortgage	4,000
Kennedy, Jane E, to the Title Guarantee and Trust Company, n s 24th-st, w of 7th-ave, 1 year	3,500
Kurzman, Ferdinand, to Charles Beringruber and wife, w s 8th-ave, n of 131st-st, 1 year	12,000
Hell, Edward, to M L Campbell, n s 82d-st, w of 1st-ave, 5 years	6,000
Lowe, William S, to L Suydam, s s 104th-st, w of 1st-ave, 6 months	25,000
Leeth, John H, to E Kurzman, w s 8th-ave, n of 131st-st, 2 mortgages, 1 year	23,291
Mayer, Siegfried, to the Title Guarantee and Trust Company, lot 100, map of part of McDonald's farm, 24th Ward, 1 year	15,000
McDonald, Jas, to F A Potts & Co, n s 27th-st, e of 11th-ave, 1 year	20,000
Montgomery, Thomas, to C Suydam, s s 95th-st, w of 1st-ave, 5 years	6,000
McCord, Emma S, to C G Judson, 324 ft w of 85th-st, 2 years	10,000
Meyer, Wm J, Moses, to S Elsner, w s 1st-ave, s of 112th-st, 5 years	7,000
Newman, Jacob M, to C T Smith, s e corner 70th-st and Boulevard, 1 year	55,000
Nye, Allen T, to G J Robinson, 36 West 120th-st, 1 year	7,000
Reading, William, to Wm Cummings, jr, s s 124th-st, w of 7th-ave, 1 year	1,000
Stolz-berger, Ambrose, to C Thyson, n s Houston-st, e of 1st-ave, 5 years	5,000
Schenk, Geo, to Delia Murphy, 153 East 57th-st, 3 years	7,000
Smith, Mary C, to German-American Real Estate Title Guarantee Company, n s 100th-st, w of Parkside, 1 year	2,500
Scheele, John, to Minna Nagel, w s 10th-ave, s of 146th-st, 1 year	8,500
Vance, Margaret, to Henry Schumacher, e s 3d-ave, s of 25th-st, 5 years	17,000
Wertheim, Hermann, to F Lowenfeld, w s Columbia-st, s of Rivington-st, and other property, 1 year	6,500
White, Archibald C, to David Mitchell, s s 103d-st, w of 10th-ave, 1 year, 2 mortgages	16,500
Zimiel, Joseph, and another, to the Henry Zeitner Brewing Company, lot 10, map of part of Hedges's farm, 24th Ward, 1 year	2,000

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BY ORDER OF GEORGE G. WILLIAM AND JOHN S. KENNEDY, ESQRS., Executors of the Estate of
Mary Stuart, Deceased,
THE FOLLOWING
Choice and Valuable Improved Investment Properties.

The 5-story marble-front building with lot,
No. 123 Chambers Street.

3 five and 3 nine story brick buildings, with lots,
Nos. 303, 305, 307, 309, 311 and 313 Greenwich Street.

East Side, block between Chambers and Reade Streets.

The 3-story attic brick buildings, with one-story extension and lots,
Nos. 167 and 169 Chambers Street.

Four 5-story brick buildings, with lots,
Nos. 145, 147, 149, & 151 Reade St.

The 5-story brick buildings with plot of land,
Nos. 188 and 190 Chambers Street.

Three 5-story brick buildings, with lots,
Nos. 148, 150, and 152 Reade Street.

The 4-story brownstone building, with 2-story brick stable on rear, and plot of land (92x192),
Nos. 154, 156, and 158 Fifth Ave.,
Northwest Corner Twentieth Street.

The 3-story and mansard-roof brownstone dwelling, with plot of land (25x100),
Northeast Corner Fifth Avenue and 68th Street.

Two elegant lots, north side,
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200 Feet East of Fifth Avenue.

and the 2-story brick stable, with plot of land,
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FOR SALE.—The new and elegant four-story, high-stoop stone and terra-cotta front dwellings, Nos. 17, 21 AND 23 WEST 88TH STREET, built in the most substantial manner by day's work; hardwood finished, parquet flooring, open plumbing, tiled bathrooms. Terms to suit. Now open. Apply to Estate of H. D. ALDRICH, 29 Broadway.

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THE BLACK BUILDING,

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