

BEST PHOTOGRAPHIC METHOD OF THEM ALL

Genius Who Combines Exploration, Hunting and Photography With a Life of Adventure



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There will be no peace for anything that crawls, creeps, crouches or flies in the African jungles this year. About the time that Theodore Roosevelt and his caravan train their guns in the greatest hunt of modern times another will be there with his cameras and guns to add interest to the invasion. This one is James Ricalton of South Orange, N. J., who is the dean of the camera kingdom of the world. This reads like an extract from Colonel Tody Hamilton's circus posters, but no ordinary phrases or sentences can give an adequate description of Ricalton's exploits.

Professor Ricalton has been in Africa before. He has been everywhere where there was anything doing. He has met and "taken" nearly every potentate, ruler, general and admiral of earth and the file of all nations. He has been on the firing line of great contests, in the midst of the carnage, inside and outside of the breastworks on the mountain tops, in the valleys and on the sea.

An interesting character is this little, wiry Jerseyman—sixty years of age, slender in physique, modest in manner, with kindly blue eyes peeping through gold rimmed spectacles, speaking to quote his own words, "no large guage but English, and very little of that." All distances are alike to him. He tramps as many miles in a day as a horse walks, carrying a thirty pound camera and tripod, for he scorns the snapshot apparatus. On the march he wears out young soldiers. He takes his place with the gunners in perilous artillery positions, lounges with the reserves waiting for battle and is in the dash of the onslaught when he is allowed. When the positions have been carried he sits down with the living and the dead with as much insouciance as he would sit at a dinner in his Jersey home.

When Edison wanted the right vegetable fiber to serve as a filament for his perfected incandescent lamp he sent Ricalton around the world to find the remotest parts of Burma, China and India, and on this tour he experimented with more than 140 varieties of the bamboo. These travels made him the wonderful photographer that he is. It was Ricalton who made the pictures for the Stoddard lectures. They tell the story when Stoddard's descriptive vocabulary gave out.

Ricalton sailed from Australia March 17 for Africa. He took his camera and gun, for as a hunter he is in the same category as Roosevelt, and in the opinion of some he is the more expert of the two. One object of Ricalton's mission is to stalk the fly which incubates those whom it bites with the fatal sleeping sickness. He has a camera with a lens especially arranged for photographing the fly in action. Ricalton is a faunal naturalist as well as an entomologist. The stalking of this fly is a feat well calculated to test the hunter's skill and endurance. If anybody can do it Ricalton can. While in the dark continent Ricalton will be within reach of Roosevelt and when not catching the tsetse fly on the wing he will take hand in the hunt for game and train his camera on any brought down as well as on much that will get away.

Ricalton was at the front and on the flanks and in the rear during the Boer war, and he is familiar with the geography and topography of the country. There will be new stories and strange experiences and wonderful pictures when Ricalton has finished his dash into Africa on the heels of Roosevelt.

Every reader will recall the great Delhi furthest. "Eliot" was there. Undaunted by his pomp and threat, he erected a scaffold in the center of the throng of jeweled princes and barbaric warriors and calmly took his pictures of the bewildering pageant. The story written of that event may have been overcolored, but the pictures of Ricalton were from life. People who saw these pictures knew exactly what the Delhi was. The lens was mightier than the pen.

He was the first foreigner to travel on foot through northern Russia. He walked 1,500 miles from Archangel to St. Petersburg. In all his travels, in all countries, he estimates that he has exposed 75,000 negatives. He believes that he has photographed every celebrity of his generation.

An photographer, war Ricalton did with the lens what McKinley did with the brush. In the Philippines he was the only one in his business to get into actually firing on the enemy. At the battle of Calocan a soldier near him was shot down. Ricalton seized the rifle, picked up the cartridge belt and joined the skirmishers. At the siege of Tientsin he stood on the walls and photographed Americans who were dropped by Chinese bullets.

In the war between Russia and Japan Ricalton became a well known

figure wherever there was danger and suffering.

Favored by Negi.

When General Negi's chief of staff answered by telephone the complaints of his perplexed commanders who had arrested "an indefatigable little man with a camera," he said, "If it is the American photographer Ricalton let him take photographs wherever he likes." General Negi himself was friendly to the little man from Jersey, often sent him presents of fruit and frequently humorous messages. All the war correspondents were friends and admirers of the "little fanatic," as they dubbed Ricalton.

Writing to a friend in this country while he was watching the shells from the great siege guns in Manchuria, Ricalton said: "I have been trying to photograph the flying shells. They can be seen in flight, and I must make a stereograph to show one."

He kept at it until he had secured what he wanted. It was a marvelous picture, showing a 500 pound projectile thrown by an eleven inch coast defense mortar over the hills at the invisible Russian fleet. In order to get the proper range he was compelled to stuff his ears with cotton wool. Gunners who had neglected to take this precaution became deaf.

Camera is King.

Ricalton's success with the camera brings to mind the important work done by his profession. The pictures of epoch making events are necessary in this age to complete the best descriptive work of the pen of great battles, splendid festivals, glittering pageants and the catastrophes of land and water. Without the aid of the camera the terrors of the earthquake at Messina could not have been adequately realized. It was the camera that focused the attention of the world on the awful flood of lava that destroyed the life about Vesuvius.

Only those who have made the subject a study have any conception of the manner in which great events are pictured, and only those engaged in the work know what dangers are frequently faced in order to obtain the results. The skilled photographer is a born explorer and an adventurer in the best sense of the word. The distances from Sahara to the polar circle, from Patagonia to Tibet, are all the same to him. To be stoned in China, arrested



RICALTON WITH TWO OF HIS FRIENDS, CASHMIRE GIANTS

in the Forbidden Land, imprisoned in Siberia, captured in savage jungles, detained as a spy in times of war and turned about by officious underlings hodgepodge for a day with red tape—all of these, and more, are a part of his day's work. To accomplish his purpose he sleeps on the ground, in the cold or under drenching rains, faces disease from exposure and goes hungry. He wins his spurs on rocky roads.

Before the photographer became an essential in the collection of the great news events the correspondent had it all his way. Within less than a half century intelligent readers have learned that, while it is possible for the best trained correspondent to exaggerate now and then, the lens tells the truth always. The camera does not lie. Today the reliable correspondent and the photographer stand shoulder to shoulder.

The news photographer is an oddity. Nothing surprises him. Nothing makes him lose his nerve. His hand must be steady and his brain unclouded. He must be able to shoot, manage a caravan, adapt himself to perilous positions, eat and sleep wherever he falls, tramp and steal his way everywhere, ride anything that has four legs, barter and exchange goods, develop his plates on arid sands or in arctic ice and get the prints to the home office before the news becomes stale.

These are glittering generalities. Let us take some actual experience and adventures.

There was one of these knights of the camera who mounted an old elephant with his ladder camera under his arm and followed the governor of Cayton in an elephant hunt. Another followed a swarm of eastern pilgrims to the holy sepulcher at Jerusalem. There he balanced himself on a sway-

ing board slung from a balcony high above the heads of the crowds and made a picture of the populace and representatives from every Christian nation of the earth. One of the intrepid knights dashed four times up the side of Mont Pelee and took photographs of the volcano in action. Another crossed the boiling rapids of the Jhelum river by gliding along a cable made of a single rawhide rope, from which he was suspended by a loop of straps. Pictures of holy places in Palestine were taken by another, who rode through the country mounted on a mule. Yet another went with an exploring expedition to the farthest north and made photographs that no lens had ever recorded.

Triumphs of American Photographers.

It was an American photographer, E. R. Ross, who spent a fortnight in the Vatican, studying the revelations of papal life, from which he made pictures that were commended by artists and which gained for him a medal presented by his holiness to the Prince of Wales. Accompanying the medal was a message from the pope, thanking the photographer for his work and bestowing upon him the papal blessing.

Another American photographer, Henry A. Strohmeyer, made more than a thousand photographs of the late President McKinley. Strohmeyer has traveled in every state in the Union. He took over 2,500 photographs of President Roosevelt. He followed the president on his expeditions to Alaska and to the Hawaiian Islands. He was with the president when he was shot and he was the first to take a picture of the president's body as it lay in state.

Wherever there is a cyclone, wherever a city is wiped out by conflagration, wherever there is a naval or military review, wherever there is a political convention, a great trial, a balloon flight, a riot, a horror, anything that appeals to the public interest, there is the man with the camera!

One of the youngest and most daring American photographers is Horace D. Ashton, who succeeded in breaking into the offices (in a legitimate way) of magnates in the Wall street district, where he was permitted to take photographs of leading financiers, who consented to face his lens. This young man has just passed the majority mark of life, but he is now following the head of the Panama canal. Like all in his profession, his life is a varied one. One day he is photographing the members of a peace congress; the next he is pointing his camera at life in the slums. Then he is off to do a fashionable wedding; an hour later he is in a tunnel under one of the rivers of New York. One day he climbed the flagpole of a skyscraper, from which he made a birdseye view of the restless life of the great city beneath.

It is recalled that these knights sometimes pay their lives as a forfeit for their undertaking. H. F. MacKern did not long ago of jungle fever while taking photographs in the interior of Mexico. He was a famous photographer in the Boer war. He trod all over the scenes of the war with a wagon and two horses.

A well known millionaire has become infatuated with the business. He has a \$10,000 automobile in which he travels over Europe and in his own country as well, taking photographs, which are shipped to New York city and published throughout the world.

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FRANK H. BROOKS.



FACTS IN FLASHES.

It takes about ten weeks to build a railway engine.

Of the 5,000,000 inhabitants of London more than 1,000,000 have to live on less than \$8.25 a week for each family.

Among the longest lived trees are the olive and the yew, both evergreens. The maximum age of the former is 2,000 years and of the latter 2,500.

In Russia factory hands work from 5 a. m. to 8 p. m.

It is a curious point in our criminal law that to constitute murder the death of a victim must take place within a year and a day from the time of the offense.

Taking the earth all over into consideration, the amount of rain that falls on its surface comes to about five feet annually.

The largest bell in the world, the famous giant of giants at Moscow, has a circumference of 68 feet, is 21 feet high and weighs 44,772 pounds.

The country that passes through from Athabasca Landing down to the Arctic Red river is full of vegetation and will one day be settled.

Two princesses, representatives of the only real American royalty, descendants of that Massachusetts whose word was law to thirty villages and 30,000 red men, are living in poverty on the shores of Lake Assawampsett, Mass. They are Teweesee and Wootenokanucke.

Women in the province of Shima, on the southern coast of Japan, are the sterner sex. They do most of the field work and are also employed as divers. They enter the water at all seasons except during the coldest months of the winter. They remain under water sometimes for more than a minute.

A French medical man advises people to drink buttermilk for long life. He says that the lactic acid attacks and dissolves every sort of earthly deposit in the blood vessels, keeping

the veins and arteries so supple and free running that there can be no clogging up, and hence there is no deposit of chaly matter around the joints or of poisonous waste in the muscles. It is the stiffening and hardening of the blood vessels which bring on old age.

Forests cover one-tenth of the surface of the world and one-quarter of Europe.

Two thousand yards was the utmost range of the fifty-two hundredweight guns used at the battle of Trafalgar.

The longest recorded hair from a man will be no coal left in Britain within 2,000 feet of the surface.

Seventy thousand tons of cork are used yearly for bottling beer and mineral waters in England.

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SCHOLARS WHO HAVE PLAYED POLITICS

And Politicians Who Went Into University Life.

Others who had been honored in halls of learning went to political honors. James Russell Lowell was twice ambassador. In 1877 he was sent to Spain and transferred three years later to the court of St. James. In 1885 he was sent to St. Petersburg as an attaché of the American legation, after which he was appointed minister to Germany from 1879 to 1881. At another time he was United States commissioner to Santo Domingo. Previous to these appointments he was a state senator from the Syracuse (N. Y.) district.

Carroll D. Wright was the first commissioner of the United States bureau of labor in 1885. He first appeared in political life as a Republican presidential elector in 1876. In 1879 he was lecturer on phases of the labor question, ethnically considered, at Lowell institute in Boston. In 1881 he was university lecturer on the factory system in Harvard. He was also president of the collegiate department of Clark university in Worcester, Mass.

William L. Wilson, who prepared the Mills tariff bill in 1884, was professor of Latin at Columbia university in 1885-71. At the time of his election to congress he was president of the West Virginia university.

Joseph Louis Schurman, professor of philosophy in Cornell in 1882 and president of that institution in 1892, went to the Philippines in 1899 as chairman of the Philippine commission, having been appointed by President McKinley.

Thomas Jonathan ("Stonewall")

Massachusetts in 1834. In 1841 he was appointed minister plenipotentiary to Great Britain. After his return he remained in that place from 1843 till 1849. He was in the cabinet of President Fillmore as secretary of state. In 1854 he was a United States senator from Massachusetts. In 1860 he was nominated for vice president on the Constitutional Union ticket.

David Jayne Hill of New Jersey was minister to Switzerland in 1903. Previous to his appointment to that post he was a professor and afterward president of Bucknell university. In 1888 he was president of Rochester



DR. CHARLES WILLIAM ELIOT.

university, and in 1898 he was appointed first assistant secretary of state.

Edward John Phelps of Vermont, who was sent by President Cleveland to the court of St. James, was president of the American Bar association in 1880 and at the time of his appointment as representative to Great Britain he was Kent professor of law in Yale, which place he held until his death, for while he was absent as minister the chair at Yale was kept vacant. In 1893 he was senior counsel for the United States in the Bering sea arbitration.

John Eaton of New Hampshire became president of Simon's college, at Salt Lake, in 1899. He had been commissioner of the United States bureau of education from 1871 to 1883.

Champ Clark, member of the lower house of congress from Missouri and now leader of the minority in the house, was president of Marshall college, West Virginia, in 1873-4.

The militant leader of the reform movement in Connecticut, Dr. Flavel Sweeten Luther, is president of Trinity college, Seth Low gave up the presidency of Columbia university to become mayor of New York city, and he is actively engaged in civic measures at the present time. He became Charles Hughes of New York was professor of law in Cornell university before he entered politics. The present mayor of Greater New York, George B. McClellan, was a member of the lower house of congress before he became mayor, and he is also a lecturer in Princeton.

George Bancroft was never a college president or a professor in a college, but his history is one of the best books of universities and colleges. In 1845 he was secretary of the navy in Polk's administration and was appointed minister to Great Britain in 1848. John Lothrop Motley is in the same class, but as a man of letters who became associated with public affairs he deserves mention in this connection. He was secretary of the American legation at St. Petersburg in 1841, United States minister to Austria in 1867 and to Great Britain in 1869.

James Monroe, J. Q. Adams, Martin Van Buren and James Buchanan were ministers to Great Britain. Moore was also minister to France, and Jefferson represented this country as minister to France. Each became president of the United States.

ABA JAY.