

A HISTORIC CLOAK.

A Curious Relic in the National Museum at Washington.

In the vast collection of relics gathered by the government from every quarter of the world and deposited in the National Museum, there are few so interesting as the celebrated feather cloak, once the pride of Kamehameha, one of the mightiest war chiefs of the Sandwich Islands.

In 1819, after the abolition of slavery, that chief rebelled against the reigning king, and attempted to re-establish the ancient religious customs of the islands. He was slain, and upon his shoulders was a cloak made of red, black and yellow feathers arranged in a curious design. It was four feet long, twenty-three inches wide at the top, and eleven and one-half feet at the bottom.

The yellow feathers were taken from an exceedingly rare bird, called the "Molloy alouhi." This bird must be captured alive, and after the two yellow feathers, found one under each wing, were removed, the bird was given its freedom. So highly were these feathers prized that a piece of nankeen, valued at \$1.50, was given in exchange for five of them. The king used to regard a small bunch of them as a full payment of the poll tax levied upon his subjects.

It is estimated that it must have taken one hundred years to collect all the feathers necessary for this cloak, and if their value be placed at \$1.50 for each five feathers, the whole cloak would be worth \$1,000,000, or as much as the purest diamond in Queen Victoria's crown.

This robe of State, after the battle, fell into the hands of the conqueror and became the crown property of King Kamehameha III. In 1841, Commodore J. H. Aulick visited the island and the king desiring to do him honor, and to show his friendly feelings towards the United States, presented him with the ancient cloak, in some respects the chiefest of his treasures.

The grandson of Commodore Aulick placed the cloak on exhibition at the National Museum, and there it will probably permanently remain under the care of the government.

It is kept in a large glass-covered case in a room opening off of the rotunda, and would probably receive but a passing glance from the visitors unless they should stop to read the account of the significance and history posted at one corner of the case.

No doubt if it were offered for sale at auction in a city where nobody knew what it was it would be impossible to get five dollars for it, yet it represents the patient efforts of a large number of people, hunting the treasured yellow feathers through a period of five long dynasties.

It has no intrinsic value of itself, yet among the thousands of objects displayed in this Museum, it is doubtfully no other single exhibit has had so remarkable and romantic a history as this robe of state of the ancient chiefs and kings of the Sandwich Islands.

THE BUTTON FAD.

Arcthusa Was All Right, but She Did Not Go Far Enough.

The little man who always says "Yes, ma'am," to his wife had been sitting in silence for a long time. And as he sat his lips became firmly set, as if a resolution of great moment were crystallizing in his mind. His wife had just laid down a book on political economy and taken up one on psychology.

"Arcthusa," he said gently.

"Did you address me?" she inquired.

"Yes, ma'am."

"What do you want?"

"I want to speak to you, if you don't mind."

"I can spare a few minutes."

"Do you remember some time ago when you got me a campaign button and told me to wear it because you thought it represented the right side of the question?"

"Yes."

"And then in a week or two you brought me another button bearing the features of a different candidate and told me you had changed your mind?"

"I did. The wisest people are those who learn as they live."

"I wore that too."

"Why, of course you did."

"And then you altered your views again and brought me home still another kind of button."

"Yes. I'm not ashamed of your political record."

"And I wore that. And when the same thing happened three or four times more didn't I follow you right along and bear the insignia of your convictions proudly on my coat lapel?"

"There is no doubt that you wore whatever I told you to wear."

He gave his trousers a sailor's hitch and again said:

"Arcthusa."

"What is it?"

"Would you mind if I were to try a few suspender buttons, by way of variety?"

Automatic Restaurants.

An automatic restaurant has been opened in Berlin, where, by dropping coins in a slot, the dishes are sent up on a tray. Rolls, wine and coffee are now served, and more elaborate dishes are to follow. The inventor is an Italian and the novel scheme is attracting great attention.

There seems to be a want of parity between "confidence" and "prosperity."

A Novel Plan for Making Them Destroy One Another.

Board's Dairyman.

The following novel plan of trapping rats was described by a writer in Cornhill (June, 1890). "The cunning of rats makes attempts to catch them in traps almost futile, their keen scent recognizing the places where a hand has been, and warning them to avoid so dangerous a locality. The use of gloves smeared with aniseed may lull the suspicions of the animal; but traps will never be the means of greatly diminishing their numbers where it has fairly established itself. The best course to take where the extermination of a colony of rats becomes a necessity is to make them help to destroy one another in the following manner: A number of tubs, proportionate to the number of rats in the place from which it is desired to rid them, should be placed about, the middle of each occupied by a brick standing on end.

The bottom of these tubs should be covered with water to such a depth that about an inch of brick projects above it. The top of the tub should be covered with stout brown paper, upon which a dainty meal of bacon rind and other scraps dear to the rat palate figures, a sloping board giving the rodent facilities for partaking of it. The food should be renewed for several nights, so that all the rats in the neighborhood may get to know of the good food which is placed within such easy reach. When it is judged that this policy has been pursued long enough, the center of the brown paper should be cut in such a manner that any rat venturing on it will be precipitated into the cold water below.

It might be thought that the result of this would be the capture of a rat, or at the most two, for each tub prepared, but no such result took place. The rat, finding his trust abused and himself struggling in the water at the bottom of the tub, soon recovers sufficiently from the shock to discover that there is an island of refuge, on to which he clambers, and squeals his loudest for help. Now the squeal of a rat in trouble attracts every one of his kind within hearing, and very few moments will elapse before the victim of misplaced confidence is joined by one of his friends. The newcomer is as quick to discover the chance of escape from a watery grave as was the original victim, but when he attempts to avail himself of its presence, it becomes apparent that there is not room for more than one upon it. The first comer resists with tooth and nail the efforts of his companion in trouble to dispossess him of his coign of vantage, and the squeals which form an accompaniment to the fight for a footing upon the brick, attract more rats to the scene of the tragedy. The conflict waxing more and more furious as rat after rat topples into the water, and by morning bedraggled corpses in plenty will gladden the eyes of the man whose losses at the teeth of the rats have induced him to adopt this means of thinning their numbers. Some years ago the plan described above was tried in a city warehouse, with the result that 3,000 rats were destroyed in a single night.

If anyone had supposed that bimetalism was a dead issue, the scene in the United States Senate a few days ago would completely have dispelled that impression. Senator Chandler of New Hampshire made a brilliant and scholarly address, in which he said that the shrinkage in values as a result of the demonetization of silver had been enormous, and made the uncomfortable statement of his belief that "prices had not as yet touched bottom." He declared that Bryan's defeat was not because the people did not desire silver as part of their standard money, but because they believed the Chicago platform meant silver monometalism; that they were now, as they always had been, in favor of bimetalism, and closed by declaring that unless this fact was recognized by the incoming administration ultimate defeat would be inevitable. We give the Senator's own language: "If the Republican party shall content itself with seizing and enjoying the spoils of office, surrendering unreservedly to the money power, which so effectively contributed to its recent victory, acquiescing permanently in the existing gold standard and treating bimetalism as a juggling humbug, and the promise to promote it as a pledge never intended to be fulfilled, Republicans may speedily find the tide of political battle once more turned against them, and they will soon exchange places with their now bleeding and prostrate foes."

A Disciple of Garner.

Truth.

"Does doggie want to come out for a walk with me?"

"Bowwow!"

"Of course you does, but you have just had your hair cut, and you might catch cold."

"Bowwow!"

"Oh, yes, so would. If it stays home, I'll give you a piece of cake."

"Bowwow!"

"There, I knew you would. What kind of cake would you like?"

"Bowwow!"

"Sponge cake? All right, it will be sponge cake. Did you ever see such an intelligent dog, May? He can understand every word I say to him and replies to me just as if he could speak."

"A crick in the back," a pain under the shoulder-blades, water brash, biliousness, and constipation, are symptoms of disordered stomach, kidneys, liver, and bowels. For all ailments originating in a derangement of these organs, take Ayer's Pills.



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Notice of Sheriff's Sale ON SPECIAL EXECUTION.

SUPERIOR COURT, State of Washington, in and for Thurston County.

John D. Harst, Plaintiff, vs. R. McMahon, Defendant.

Under and virtue of a Writ of Special Execution issued out of the Superior Court of the State of Washington, holding terms at Olympia, in and for Thurston County, said writ of execution was issued on the 10th day of February, 1897, on a judgment rendered in said court on the 5th day of February, 1897, in favor of the above named plaintiff, and against the above named defendant, for the sum of three hundred twenty-one and 30/100 (\$321.30) dollars, together with an attorney's fee of forty dollars and costs of suit taxed at seventeen and 80/100 (\$17.80) dollars, with interest at the rate of legal per cent per annum from date thereof and amounting to all the sum of three hundred and seventy-nine (\$379) dollars, which said writ of special execution was to me as Sheriff of Thurston County, Washington, duly directed and delivered, and by which I am commanded to sell at public auction, according to law, the following described real estate, to-wit:

The east half of the northeast quarter and the east half of the southeast quarter of section eight (8) township eighteen (18) north of range three (3) east of the Willamette Meridian, T. 18 N., R. 3 E., of said day, at the Washington street front door of the Court house of said Thurston County, in the City of Olympia, Wash., and we can secure patent in less time than those from Washington, D. C.

Now therefore public notice is hereby given that on the 15th day of February, 1897, at 10 o'clock A. M. of said day, at the Washington street front door of the Court house of said Thurston County, in the City of Olympia, Wash., I will sell the above described real estate, at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or so much thereof as may be necessary to raise sufficient to satisfy said judgment and amount, together with increased costs and interest thereafter.

Dated at Olympia, Washington, this 11th day of February, 1897.

CHARLES A. BILLINGS, Sheriff of Thurston County, Washington.

GEO. H. P. U.S.K. Attorney for Plaintiff.

Date of first publication, Feb. 11, 1897.

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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. LAND OFFICE AT OLYMPIA, WASH., Feb. 24, 1897.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof of support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register and Receiver at Olympia, Wash., on Saturday, April 10, 1897, viz: George Weber of Rainier, Wash., Hd. No. 6708, for the E 1/4 NE 1/4, S 1/4 S. 2, T. 18 N., R. 3 E.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: H. E. Goodwin, of Rainier, Wash.; Andrew Lacker, of Rainier, Wash.; A. H. Schroeder, of Rainier, Wash.; E. N. Trice, of Yelm, Wash.

JESSE F. MURPHY, Register. Date of first publication, Feb. 24, 1897.

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