THE BROAD AX.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

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JULIUS F. TAYLOR, Editor and Publisher.

A French conscript has just been excused from three years' service because of ugliness. It was held that his appearance would make his comrades laugh and thus interfere with discipline.

Young lawyers have a fine field open to them in Texas. There are forty counties in that state which have to seek legal advice outside their limits, as they have not a single attorney of their own.

The vestry of Christ Church in Philadelphia, replying to the many suggestions for memorial tablets at the grave of Benjamin Franklin, says: "It may not be generally known that the grave of Franklin, though simple, is what he himself, in his will, dictated it to be. The church has for past years maintained a policy of keeping the historic spot as it is."

Bozeman, and, in fact, the whole of Gallatin county, Montana, is afflicted with a scourge of dandelions. They are to be seen in every garden and in nearly every field in the county. In the summer the little globes of fluffy cotton-like substance, containing the seeds of the dandelion, float through the air and alight in every nook and corner. No matter how poor the soil the dandelion flourishes.

According to a paragraph which has been going the rounds of the French newspapers, M. Waldeck-Rousseau—the French premier—has all his dogs vaccinated to prevent them from having distemper, and has never lost one from that disease. Jenner, who introduced vaccination, proposed that all the dogs in England should be treated in this manner, but was laughed at for suggesting it.

Some curious botanical experiments made at a zoological laboratory at Naples are reported by Hans Winkler. A flowerless aquatic plant, that grows normally with its roots in the sand and leaves in water was inverted, specimens being placed with the leaves buried in the sand and the roots floating in the water in strong light. The roots changed to stems and leaves, and the buried parts becoming roots.

Within two years the Cherokee, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks and seminoles will cease to exist as an Indian people governed by tribal laws, and their territory will be broken up and allotments of land made to them as citizens of the United States. They have been known as the Five Civilized Tribes, but the government has decided that they have failed to live up to their name according to the American requirements of law and order for the Indian Territory.

Swiss military papers speak in high terms of the new revolver which has been adopted for the mounted troops of the Swiss army, and which is the invention of two Berlin engineers. The recoil on firing brings a fresh cartridge from the magazine into the barrel. The pistol weighs one pound, thirteen ounces, and its center of gravity lies immediately over the hand of the firer. The magazine carries eight cartridges, and practiced shots can fire forty-eight rounds in from twenty-eight to thirty seconds. The calibre of the weapon is 0.32 in., and its range is given at 2,000 yards.

Young King Alphonso of Spain, when he attended his first bull fight at Madrid in full state, was received with unbounded enthusiasm. Uplike his Austrian mother, whose aversion to this form of sport is notorious, he appeared to follow the Corrida with the most keen interest and satisfaction, thereby showing himself a true Spaniard, and as possessed of what is known as "sangre torera," that is to say, "bull fighting blood." At the close of the performance, which was particularly sanguinary, eight bulls having been killed, and twenty horses ripped up, the young king presented handsome gifts to the leading toreros, Mazzantini, Bombitta and Fuentes.

One of the great packing houses of Chicago has prohibited profanity upon its premises. The primary purpose of the order was in itself excellent, namely, to protect employes against abuse by swearing foremen or overseers; but it cannot fail also to exercise a good influence over all those who work for the company, especially the younger men. In commenting on the order the Chicago Post truthfully says: "It is one of the better signs of the times that in these days the men at the head of affairs are presumed to be, if not Christians, at any rate gentlemen. They find ways enough of making their wishes intelligible and effective without resort to bluster or swagger or the indecencies of blasphemy."

THE MAN FROM YESTERDAY.

He Practiced the Good Old Virtues, But the Sooner Got Ahead of Him.

The Man from Yes-ter-day had learn-ed the old-fash-ion-ed vir-tues. So he work-ed in-dust-ri-ous-ly. But the Soon-er, having pre-empted the land on which the Man from Yes-ter-day must work, charg-ed him rent every time he was in-dust-ri-ous.

E-vent-u-al-ly, when the Man from Yes-ter-day had raised all the po-ta-to-es the Soon-er could eat, the Soon-er gave him notice to quit.

The Man from Yes-ter-day took up ed-u-ca-tion in order to in-crease his op-portun-i-ties; where-up-on the Soon-er bought up all the land a-round him and held it for a rise, which he in-tend-ed to take out of the Man from Yes-ter-day.

The Man from Yes-ter-day, see-ing that the Soon-er was get-ting more pos-ses-sions than he could man-age, rea-son-ed with him-self that if he could show his de-vo-tion to his em-ploy-er's in-ter-est, he would be more val-u-able; so he be-came very hon-est. This de-creased the Soon-er's ex-pense of man-ag-ing his prop-er-ty, so it in-creased in val-ue, and he took up more land.

Seeing that his share of his own pro-duct would bare-ly keep him, the Man from Yes-ter-day stud-ied e-con-omy, where-up-on, see-ing that he could live cheap-er than be-fore, the Soon-er cut down his wages; and when the Man from Yes-ter-day object-ed, the Soon-er told him that if he was not sat-is-fied he could quit work—and quit living.

The Soon-er en-dow-ed a coll-ege to teach the Man from Yes-ter-day that it was all right, and when the Profess-ors said that Hon-es-ty, In-dus-try and Per-sev-er-ance were the ways to raise the rents, they were dis-miss-ed for in-sub-ord-in-a-tion.

Then the Soon-er, see-ing that the Man from Yes-ter-day was be-com-ing rest-less, en-gag-ed a clergy-man to point him to the sky for the sat-is-fac-tion of his wants.—Bolton Hall, in Life.

Our Growing Seaports.

The general development of our export trade has had the interesting effect of increasing the relative activity of several of our seaports, and thus reducing somewhat the too heavy proportion of the foreign business cleared through the port of New York. We were doing a large export business in the spring and early summer of last year; but the gains of this year over last, as indicated in the statistics of the last few weeks, are nothing short of startling. The greatest gains have been in cotton and cattle, with a good gain also in breadstuffs. As the result especially of the great export business in cotton, aided by the increased movement of cereals through Southern ports, New Orleans has for the first time taken a place next to New York as respects the value of its export trade, thus displacing Boston. In the year 1900, New York was credited with only forty-seven per cent. of the total foreign commerce of the country, as against an average of more than fifty per cent. for several previous years. New York still continues to receive considerably more than sixty per cent. (in value) of the country's imports, but last year it handled only about thirty-seven per cent. of the exports. Boston and Philadelphia have been comparatively stable in the volume of their foreign trade, while Baltimore, Newport News, New Orleans, and Galveston have made great gains— as also have the Pacific Coast ports, owing to the progress of our Oriental trade.—The Review of Reviews.

Hungry Fish That Reason.

"Here is a curious thing that fishes do and one that seems clearly to show great intelligence," said an old fisherman. "It might be that two fishes some feet apart saw the same object of prey, may be a smaller fish, at the same instant, and they might both dart for it at once and come violently into collision while their prey escaped. Now that would be when they had each the same chance of capturing what they wanted; they would both make a dash for it.

"But often have I seen something very different happen. Of two large fishes following along side by side and pretty well closed up together, pursuing a minnow, I have seen the rearmost sheer off and let the other fellow have it, apparently, either because he knew he couldn't reach it, and there was no use of his trying any more, or because he knew that if he kept on and mixed in he would make the fish ahead lose the game, as well as himself. This last would seem to indicate, besides intelligence, unselfishness on the part of fish No. 2; but the action of sheering off when he saw he couldn't get it showed intelligence, anyhow."—Albany Argus.

The Power of Water.

In Frank Leslie's Monthly there is a captivating article on the story of the greatest jam in the history of logging. It was in the Grand River in Michigan in 1883.

So tremendous was the pressure at this time that here and there over the surface of the jam single logs could be seen popping suddenly into the air, propelled as an apple seed is projected from between a boy's thumb and forefinger. Some of the fifteen-inch manila ropes stretched to the shore parted. One, which passed once around an oak tree before reaching its shore anchorage, actually buried itself out of sight in the hard wood! Bunches of piles bent, twisted or were cut sheer off as though they had been nothing but shocks of Indian corn. The current was so swift that the tugs could not hold the drivers against it; and, as a consequence, before commencing operations, especial mooring piles had to be driven.

TREASURERS OF OLD,

BEING UNEARTHED IN THE FAR EAST.

Old Mosaic Floor Recently Dug Up in Jerusalem — Peculiar Drawing that Tell of Historical Events Ages Ago, When Christianity Was Young.

(Jerusalem Letter.)

Former discoveries of fragments of mosaic pavements in Jerusalem, Palestine, and its neighborhood have been eclipsed by a recent find which is most elaborate and exquisite in design and execution, and which is also in a state of almost perfect preservation, the colors of the mosaics in their artistic combinations being as bright and effective as the day the work was finished.

A few weeks since the owner of a little property in a small Jewish colony just outside the Damascus gate, in digging a ditch in his yard, came upon some mosaic work at about four feet below the surface which, when uncovered as far as permitted by the streets bounding the excavation on two sides and the wall of a house on the third, disclosed the ancient mosaic pavement which the illustration shows. Further excavations await the order of the Turkish government, whose officials have taken the site in hand, and which may sow the pavement to extend somewhat further in length on one side. The patter would indicate that the complete width at one end has been uncovered. This mosaic floor is about 220 paces west-northwest of the Damascus gate. The part already uncovered is about 18 feet in length by 11 in breadth. The upper and larger part of the pavement is composed of an exquisite design, including a central panel surrounded by an elaborate frame. The panel has its chief figure, a representation of Orpheus, in a sitting posture, and playing upon an 11-stringed harp. Grouped within the panel are animals and birds, including a serpent and a salamander, which latter two are in an attitude of conflict. In the lower right-hand corner is the horned and goat-footed figure of the God Pan, with his pan pipes under his left arm and his right hand outstretched, and beneath it a hare. In the other lower corner is a centaur, with his hand over his mouth. The posture of these animals and figures suggests that they are entranced with the music of the harp of Orpheus. Green branches on the white background, interspersed here and there, given an added brightness and beauty to this central design. In the elaborate work of the wide frame surrounding

THE MOSAIC FLOOR.

this panel are wrought medallions in leaf-enclosed wreaths, 14 in all, containing representations of fruits, animals, and birds, with symbolic human heads in the four corners, each looking towards the center, where Orpheus sits. Beneath this main part of the floor, but wrought in with it so as to form an harmonious whole, are two rows of designs, there being three in each row. The first row is composed of three panels, the central one containing two female figures in Byzantine dress, with a column standing between them, and a Greek name written alongside of each in poor orthography and style of character. The lettering suggests the reverse side of the Byzantine coins. On either side of this central panel is another, containing each a stone which protrudes above the surface and suggests tombs beneath. The lower row is of three medallions, each containing a figure, the right-hand one of a hunter with a spear, running; the central one of a lion, and the left-hand one of a leopard, both bounding away.

The work is assigned to not earlier than the Fourth century, and possibly as late as the Seventh. The designs seem purely pagan and classical. There is little, if anything, to indicate a Christian origin. There may be a nimbus about the heads of the female figures, but it is as likely to represent the dressing of the hair or be designed to throw the faces into better relief.

St. Dunstan and the Horseshoe.

The notion that the horseshoe is a protection against evil is as old as the hills. There is a legend that the devil one day asked St. Dunstan, who was noted for his skill in shoeing horses, to shoe his "single hoof." Dunstan, knowing who his customer was, tied him tightly to the wall, and proceeded with the job, but purposely put the devil to so much pain that he roared for mercy. The saint at last consented to release him on condition that he never would enter a place where he saw a horseshoe displayed

IGNORANCE NO EXCUSE.

This Young Man Properly Bunsoed by a Greek Customer.

If in the course of your wanderings, gentle reader, you should ever find yourself in the Grecian village of Marcopoulo, 35 miles out of Athens, don't as you value your celibacy—if you are possessed of that pleasing attribute—pick up any handkerchiefs which you may see lying on the ground. A suit of breach of promise, which is now being tried in the Grecian capital, should be a warning to all bachelors who intend visiting Hellas without a chaperon. The plaintiff in this suit is a remarkably good-looking young woman, who demands that a young man, a total stranger to her until recently, and who never asked her hand in marriage in his life, should become her husband or pay her heavy damages. In the village of Marcopoulo there is a curious custom which has the force of law. On certain holidays the villagers assemble on the village green, and on these occasions any unmarried woman who thinks it is about time she took to herself a husband drops her handkerchief has all the binding force of an engagement. Now, the fair plaintiff in this suit made up her mind a while ago that the boys in Marcopoulo were rather "backward about coming forward," and her chances of matrimony were gradually slipping away in spite of her good looks. So she went to the village green on the next holiday and dropped her handkerchief. There happened to be a strange youth in the village that day who was not familiar with the local customs. The village boys fought shy of the handkerchief, but the unsuspecting stranger picked it up. Then the villagers set up a great shout and brought to him a blushing beauty, whom he had never seen before, announcing to him that she was his future wife. Naturally he was astonished, and could only murmur: "This is so sudden." Partially recovering his composure, he inquired if he might ask just why the young lady was to be his future wife. He said he was over young to marry yet, and, in fact, declined with thanks. But the villagers explained their ancient custom to him and the young lady declared that he would marry her or she would know the reason why. The young man swore by Pallas Athena that he would "see her further" first, and made his escape from the village. But the girl was bent on marrying, and the personal inclinations of the man in the case could not be considered. So she brought suit for breach of promise and it is thought she will win her case, and the young man be forced to either marry her or "pay through the nose."—New York Press.

WONDERFUL COW-HORSE.

New Jersey Again in Line With Something Abnormal.

Veterinarians are interested deeply in a freak cow-horse, which is in the possession of Mr. William S. Hugo of Elizabethport, N. J. At first glance the animal looks like a mare of natural size, but on approaching her hind quarters the formation of a cow is discovered in the hip bones, which are level with the backbone. She measures 23½ inches from one hip bone to the other. The mare has natural shoulders and head, but when traveling has the peculiar stride of the cow.

The animal has attracted much attention, and several circus men have endeavored to buy her. The mare can get over the ground in lively fashion, while not appearing to be going fast. In the stall the animal chews her cud, as does a cow or bull, and if watched closely many of the attributes of the bovine can be observed. When swishing flies her motion is the same as that of a cow. She can gallop, but in a clumsy fashion only.

Why Boys Wear Earrings.

The custom of boys wearing earrings in China is thus popularly explained by the Chinese: The boy is the greatest blessing that heaven can send. The spirits like boy babies. It is natural that they should, everybody likes them. Very often, if the boy babies are not watched closely, the spirits who are constantly around grab up the unwatched boy babe and carry him off to their home. Girl babies are not such blessings and the spirits care nothing for them. The earring is a feminen ornament, and the spirits know that; so the Chinese mothers have the ears of their boy babes pierced and put in huge earrings. When the sprites are around looking for boys they will see the earrings and be fooled into thinking the boys are girls and will pass on and not trouble them.

Chameleon Colors of Butterflies.

Butterflies change their colors according to the heat of the atmosphere. This interesting fact has been discovered by M. Sandfuss of Zurich, Switzerland, who subjected 40,000 butterflies to experiments under different degrees of the sun's heat. On one occasion, it being unusually cold in Switzerland, a butterfly common there took on the appearance of a butterfly from Lapland. On the other hand, butterflies which were subjected to a higher degree of solar heat than the normal looked as if they had been born and raised in Corsica or Syria. One result of these novel experiments is the production of butterflies of an entirely new type, some of them being of bewildering beauty.

President Richard C. Hughes of Tabo College, who has accepted the presidency of Ripon College, is 40 years old, and has a high reputation for scholarship and executive ability.

Abyssinia was converted to Christianity in the fourth century. The country has now over 12,000 monks

HONORING A HERO.

GRAND OLD MAN OF THE FIRST AMERICAN NAVY.

U. S. War Vessel to Be Christened in Memory of Commodore Truxton—Won Many Victories Over the British in the War of Independence.

The honor of christening a war vessel of the United States navy, which is to perpetuate the fame of a revolutionary hero, Commodore Thomas Truxton, belongs to the beautiful granddaughter of the celebrated fighter, Isabel Truxton of Norfolk, Va. The craft, a torpedo boat destroyer, was put afloat a few days ago.

Commodore Truxton was born on Long Island, February 17, 1755. He began seafaring life when 12 years old and soon after was impressed into the English service. Obtaining his discharge, he entered the merchant marine and quickly rose to command. In 1775 he had charge of a vessel in which large quantities of powder were brought to Philadelphia. In the latter part of that year, his vessel was seized and condemned under the restraining act. Making his way to Philadelphia, he was made a lieutenant on the Congress, the first private armed ship fitted out by the colonies. In 1775 he was given charge of the Independence, with which he made a brilliant record, and later he commanded the Mars, the Commerce and other vessels which did great service for the American cause, he being uniformly successful in his many engagements with British vessels.

Upon the organization of the U. S. navy, June 4, 1798, he was named as and was appointed with a squadron under his command to protect commerce

THOMAS TRUXTON.

in the West Indies. He passed successfully through several brilliant engagements, for one of which, the worsting of a French (through the machinations of a pro-British secret order the United States had lately been drawn into a war with France, which, when the truth became known, was ended by consent of both countries) frigate of 50 guns after a desperate fight, Congress voted him a gold medal and its thanks. In 1802 he was appointed to command the squadron fitting out for the Tripolitan war, but through a misunderstanding was retired from the service. Subsequently he resided on a farm in New Jersey and later he removed to Philadelphia where he was sheriff of the county in 1819-21. His death occurred in Philadelphia May 5, 1822.

The record made by Commodore Truxton stands out prominently in the early history of the country and his memory has been handed down in the navy as one of its most brilliant officers.

The Old Lady and Her Frog.

There is the well-known medical story of the old lady who imagined that she had a frog in her stomach. Her doctor, after vainly trying to persuade her that it was only imagination considered a little deception justifiable to prevent this idea becoming fixed in her mind. Having administered an emetic, he managed to adroitly introduce a frog into the basin, as if it had just arrived from the old lady's stomach. The patient's joy was great, as there was proof positive that she had been right all along as to the cause of her illness. Her joy was as soon overclouded, as the idea struck her that, although there was the old frog, there might be little frogs left behind. The doctor, however, was equal to this sudden emergency, for on a rapid examinaiton of the frog he immediately assured the patient that her fears were groundless, as her late guest was a gentleman frog.—Notes and Queries.

New England Women at Buffalo.

The national secretary of New England Women has established registry headquarters at the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo. From the 1st of July the office will be in charge of a clerk who will engage on order, at special rates and privileges agreed upon by the management and committee, rooms with or without board, at hotels, boarding houses or in private families for all women of New England ancestry. Those interested can obtain further information by addressing the secretary at the New England states building, Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo, N. Y.

Public Expenditures in Mexico.

The Mexican army of more than 25,000 men is supported upon a trifle more than 1,000,000 Mexican dollars a month. The Mexican congress does not cost $1,000,000 a year.

The cross of the French Legion of Honor has been bestowed upon thirty-eight women.

TWO BOY HEROES.

Arizona Youngsters Winning Distinction as Outlaw Hunters.

Two young heroes have been developed in Arizona. They are Dick and Alfred Bocha, 14 and 15 years old respectively, and already they have laid a foundation for fame as Indian trailers and sleuths. These lads have accompanied their father, Pete Boscha, deputy sheriff at Congress, Ariz., on the most perilous expeditions and criminal hunts, never flinching, even under the hottest fire. They are expert marksmen, having been trained to firearms from their infancy. Alfred first distinguished himself two years ago by the capture of Sinovia Garcia, a notorious Mexican desperado, who had shot the husband of a woman of whom he was enamored. Sheriff John Munds, Deputy Sheriff Pete Boscha, and his two sons started in pursuit of the bandit, and, after following the trail for some distance, separated. Several days after Alfred encountered the desperado in a lonely canyon, and succeeded in getting the "drop" on him. Garcia surveyed the dwarfed and youthful figure before him with considerable amusement, and laughed at the boy's assertion that he was under arrest. He reached for his gun, when young Boscha opened fire, clipping off one of Garcia's ears and sending two bullets through his hat. This was convincing proof of Alfred's aim, and the bandit surrendered himself unconditionally. A few months later Dick Boscha was the hero of a capture that was equally as remarkable. Vincente Ortego and two others cut the throat of an Italian and robbed him of considerable gold dust. The lad trailed the murderer over precipitous mountains, and after several days returned with him triumphantly. Ortego is now serving a life sentence in prison at Yuma for his misdeeds. The Weaver district, where the Boschas live, is the heart of what once constituted the bad lands of Arizona. Famous old Geronimo, at the head of the most sanguinary band of Indians then in existence, infested the Rich Hill mountains and the Weaver and Blue Tank districts, firing settlers' cabins, murdering, plundering, robbing stages and bullion trains, and creating a reign of terror that will live in history.

THE "WISDOM RELIGION."

Some Beliefs of Members of the Theosophical Societies.

Theosophy, the Wisdom-Religion, has existed from immemorial time, writes Alexander Fullerton in the Arena. It offers a theory of nature and of life which is founded upon knowledge acquired by the sages of the past, more especially those of the east; and its higher students claim that this knowledge is not something imagined or inferred, but that it is seen and known by those who are willing to comply with the conditions.

Upon the subject of man it teaches: That each spirit is a manifestation of the One Spirit, and thus a part of all. It passes through a series of experiences in incarnation, and is destined to ultimate re-union with the Divine.

This incarnation is not single but repeated, each individuality becoming re-embodied during numerous existences in successive races and on successive planets, and accumulating the experiences of each incarnation towards its perfection.

That "Karma"—a term signifying two things, the law of ethical causation ("Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap"), and the balance or excess of merit or demerit in any individual—determines also the main experiences of joy and sorrow in each incarnation, so that what men call "luck" is in reality "desert," desert acquired in past experience.

That the spirit in man is the only real and permanent part of his being, the rest of his nature being variously compounded; and decay being incident to all composite things, everything in man but his spirit is impermanent. Further, that the Universe being one and not diverse, and everything within it being connected with the whole and with every other, of which upon the upper plane above referred to there is a perfect knowledge, no act or thought occurs without each portion of the great whole perceiving and noting it. Hence all are inseparably bound together by the tie of Brotherhood.

Riggs Unearths a Dinosaur.

Professor Riggs of the Field Columbian Museum, of Chicago, who has been delving in the earth ten miles below this city on the other side of the Grand River, has discovered the remains of another immense specimen of the dinosaur, the prehistoric monster that used to drink out of the vast lake that once covered the territory now known as Grand valley. The fossilized remains of the dinosaur are nearly perfect and as complete as any yet discovered in any part of the continent. The one under discussion must have been over seventy feet in length and nine feet in height.—Grand Junction (Col.) Sun.

Made $40,000,000 in a Year.

Capt. A. F. Lucas, the discoverer oil in Beaumont, Tex., who is said to be worth $40,000,000, was practically penniless a year ago. Though a mining engineer and geologist by profession, he was a railroad conductor for a number of years. After losing his place about two years ago, he drifted about and finally went to Beaumont. He succeeded in interesting some capitalists in the region, and the celebrated Lucas gusher was soon struck.

God does not expect roses to bloom on bare rocks.