LIKE SOUTH AFRICA.

A TRAVELER SAYS WE HAVE THE BARBARISM OF THE SAVAGE.

Why the Big City of New York Is as Dangerous as the Forests and Swamps Through Which Stanley Foundered—A Caustic Satire on City Life.

Not long since I had an opportunity of conversing with a gentleman named Lafayette Sykes, who has traveled a great deal in heathen lands. He was for a while with Stanley in Africa. He had also traversed the wilds of Brazil and undergone various experiences in Australia.

He has now settled down to a quiet life in New York. During the conversation I remarked that after a man had been living in the jungles of Africa for a long time, upon his return to civilization everything must seem queer and strange; that for a while at least he must be in a dazed condition.

"In what way?" he asked, looking somewhat surprised.

"Certainly the manners and customs of the savages and the mode of life in a wild country are essentially different from what they are in our large cities."

"Yes," he replied, "life is not precisely the same, but the change is not so great as you seem to think."

"I should think that the difference would be very marked. For instance, in Africa you were in daily danger of being assaulted by wild savages uttering fierce cries and brandishing their war clubs."

"Yes, but I had the same thing happen to me over in Hoboken."

"Impossible!"

"Nothing impossible about it. A wild man in a uniform, uttering fierce yells and brandishing his war club, rushed at me in Hoboken because I didn't see the sign, 'Keep off the grass.'"

"Yes, of course; but he was a policeman. What I mean is that in Africa you are in danger of being murdered and robbed by tribes of wild savages."

"That's so; but I don't think they are as dangerous as the gangs of the toughs that infest some of our large cities. In Chicago I came very near being murdered and robbed by a gang of wild savages. Some of the gangs of hoodlums in San Francisco are not as mild as spring lamb with mint sauce," remarked the former explorer, cynically.

"Yes, I suppose so, and even in New York there are such things as gangs; but what I mean is that in a large civilized city like New York your daily life lacks the element of danger which is always present on the Dark Continent."

My friend seemed to be very amused at what I said, but after he had got through smiling he replied:

"Excuse me, but when you speak of the element of danger not existing in New York my risibilities are affected. I don't quite understand how you can make that remark seriously—that is if you ever try to cross Broadway during the busy part of the day, not to speak of subway explosions, street car accidents, falling safes and other elements of danger."

It occurred to me that I was not getting ahead very much on that tack, so I turned the conversation a little.

"When you were in Africa you suffered a great deal from hunger. At times what little you got was not fit to eat, and"——

"That's so," interrupted Sykes, "but you can get all that, and even less, in a Boston boarding house, where I came nearer starving to death than I ever did in Africa. Next time I put up at a boarding house I'll see that there is a restaurant in the immediate vicinity."

"I suppose so," I replied, peevishly, perceiving that I was not getting the best of the argument; "what I meant to say was that—that in Africa you know there is—there are—no society gentlemen."

"If you mean dudes, perhaps, strictly speaking, you are correct. However, the difference between certain types of the monkey and the modern dude is not so great after all. I visited a swell club house after my return from Africa, where you hear and see the monkeys babbering all the time, and I—I—could not see any great difference."

"But you must miss the lions, tigers and elephants. I understand that Africa is very fertile in that class of animals," I rejoined, feeling that Sykes was getting away with me in the discussion.

"For that matter we are not altogether devoid of the elephant and the tiger right here in New York, so I am told. Both of the noble animals can be viewed. It is expensive, but still they can be viewed, and they are quite as large as and even more dangerous than in Africa. A friend of mine who saw the tiger very distinctly and had a simultaneous glimpse of the elephant told me that once or twice is as often as he cared to inspect the animal. It is a fact that it is very hot in Africa, but so it is here during an election. Moreover, if a man feels chilly let him do something he should not do and the press will make it hot enough for him. In Africa a man is robbed by the negroes, but none of them is as expert at robbing and begging as the sleeping car porter or the colored waiter at a summer resort."

"Well, how about the proprieties in regard to dress?"

"It is a fact," replied Sykes, "that the people of this country wear more clothing than is worn under the Equator. I admit that on my return from Africa I was shocked at seeing people wearing so many clothing, so to speak, so accustomed had I become to the light drapery of Central Africa."

"I thought you would have to admit as much," I said, with a triumphant air.

"But," continued Sykes, "that feeling of strangeness wore off as soon as I went to a theatre. The short dresses on the stage and the low necked dresses in the boxes reminded me very much of the costumes I saw in Africa. By the way, did you ever visit a fashionable seaside resort during the height of the season?"

"I have been to Coney Island a time or so."

"You should go to Long Branch or Newport, as I did, where I could not see any great difference between the style of bathing dress worn there and that which prevails in the Sandwich Islands."

"Well, there is one advantage we have in this country over Africa. We have no such barbarous names for places. When Stanley went to the rescue of Emin Pasha the papers mentioned the most outlandish names of places."

"Yes, I know Stanley passed through Ujijijijiji, on the banks of the Kneighkeeneedezeb river, and traversed the Xylmbzujidqzi desert after fighting his way through the Jibimini tribe, who belonged to the Xylzdfjhiji"——

"For heaven's sake, hold up!"

"But how about names in this country? Last summer I spent several weeks in Maine at the Shawgamatunk house, and this year I am going to summer at Lake Moosegalucmahuckgundachopaquoddy. If there is any place in Africa that has a harder name than that I don't know where it is."—Alex. E. Sweet in New York Herald.

About Keeping Eggs.

Eggs are said to become unwholesome when kept in refrigerators; a fungus forms in them which is easily found by a microscope, although it is not noticeable to the taste. This fungus constitutes a danger when we consider how many eggs are consumed by all classes of society, and people of delicate constitutions ought to be particularly careful that they eat fresh and not kept eggs.—Exchange.

When the Czarina Smokes.

The czarina of Russia, who is one of the vassals of King Nicotine, smokes in a somewhat indolent and almost oriental fashion. Stretched on the silken cushions of a broad low divan, at Gatschina, she follows dreamily with her beautiful dark eyes the rings of blue smoke that her crimson lips part to send upward into the perfumed air of her boudoir, a boudoir which she calls her "den," and which is copied from one of the loveliest rooms of the Alhambra, with palms raising their banners against the gorgeous colors and diapered gold of the walls. Heavy hearted and anxious as the charming sovereign of all the Russias often is, her mind filled with grewsome fears of a cruel death for those she loves best, she finds in the cigarette her greatest solace, and she spends many an hour, her small, patrician head crowned by its wealth of brown braids, reclining among the gold embroidered pillows of her couch, sending little clouds of smoke upward to the ceiling and sipping exquisite Caravan tea at $40 a pound. The latter is brought to her in a service made by the goldsmiths of the Deccan, who provide work beside which all the best that Europe can furnish appears clumsy, vulgar and inartistic.—Paris Letter.

The Corporation and the Rats.

It is calculated that 8,000 rats have been killed during one week at the Birmingham Market hall, and the slain have been found everywhere, under stalls, in poultry baskets and flower pots, and even in the open streets. A provision merchant in Philip street opened his doors the other morning and found thirty-one rats lying dead near to a butter tub, in which there was water. The manner in which the animals decompose under the new treatment is peculiar. The body swells first of all, and within five days collapses again and becomes perfectly flat. The rats killed a week ago would be perfectly unrecognizable but for their heads.

The bodies have lost shape altogether. If this method of destroying the vermin had not been discovered the city would have been put to a considerable expense. So extensive were the ravages of the rats that the market and fairs committee had decided upon lifting the flooring of all the markets and relaying them with cement. That would have meant an outlay of many hundreds of pounds. The corporation paid to its market officials a penny for every rat destroyed, and a few years ago the number annually killed reached 4,000—representing in itself a sum of £16.—Pall Mall Gazette.

Colic Stones Mounted in Gold.

Travelers who have penetrated into the easternmost parts of southern Russia find some strange beliefs as to the power of fish charms. Many fish found in those countries have two small hard round bones on the sides of the head. They are believed to have the power when worn by the owner to prevent colic, and they are termed colic stones. The more wealthy of the peasants have the colic stones mounted in gold, and they are worn upon the neck as a valuable addition to a necklace. The bones of the common bullhead are much used among the Russian peasants as a charm against fever. Among European nations in the Middle Ages doctors of medicine had faith that two bones found in the tench have medicinal virtues. The bones were applied to the skin in cases of fever. The tench is an European fish and the United States fish commission are endeavoring to introduce it to American waters.—New York Sun.

"Whoa, There! Old Benzine."

A firm in Munich is making carriages to be propelled by gas generated from benzine. Several of the new vehicles are in successful operation, and the company is securing patents in all the big nations of the world. On the country road they go at a rate of ten miles an hour, but in the crowded streets they move about as slowly as a horse car. The motor is placed in the rear over the main axle, and the benzine is carried in a receptacle under the seat. It holds enough for a trip of eighty miles. The gas mixture is ignited in a cylinder by an electric spark. The motor is started by simply turning a lever. A link chain belted to a wheel on the rear axle applies the power. In its make up the carriage is something like a tricycle, having only three wheels, and is guided precisely the same way.—New York Journal.

Speed of Wasps and Bees.

A writer in The Scots Observer says that he has sprinkled individual wasps and bees with rose colored powder, and has found that thus handicapped they could with ease keep up with the fastest trains when speeding down "Shap Summit," the steepest gradient in the country. Nor were these carried along in the rush of air caused by the train. They would come in and out of the window, sometimes disappearing for a minute or more, but frequently returning again and again. At distances of from five to ten miles they dropped behind, when others took their place.

Inefficiency of Sand Filters.

Drs. Frankel and Piefke, of Berlin, have recently made an exhaustive study on the filtration of drinking water through sand. Their experiments conclusively prove, that the danger of infection from impure water is only slightly reduced by filtration through sand, bacteria passing through at all times, but in larger numbers just after the filter has been cleaned, and again after it has been in use for some time.—Medical News.

Call No Man Fool.

Never call a novice a fool because his work is not up to your standard of excellence, for probably had he your experience he might be able to give you points about your work that would cause you to justly consider yourself the fool. And bear in mind it is not always the smart, bright fellow who readily takes hold of a thing that excels in a pursuit, but that it is almost invariably so of the plodding, unfluttering, thoughtful man.—Exchange.

He Thought He Could.

Editor—I want you to write an article on the livery stable keepers of this city. Do you think you can do justice to the theme?

Reporter—Those grasping monopolists? Well, I guess I can do justice to that theme. I took my best girl out riding yesterday, and that's why I had to pawn my overcoat this morning.—Yonkers Blade.

Bringing Out the Color of Cochineal.

Long after the introduction of cochineal it gave but a dull kind of crimson till a chemist named Kunster, about the middle of the Sixteenth century, discovered the use of the solution of tin, and the means of preparing with it and cochineal a durable and beautiful scarlet.—New York Telegram.

She Knew All About Them.

The Count—Ah! mademoiselle, I never saw anything so fresh and so green as the country around your beautiful New York.

The Maid—Well, count, some of the foreigners who come here are just about as fresh and just about as green.—Munsey's.

W. H. Doane, the hymn writer, is manager of an iron foundry in Cincinnati. He can superintend the making of a big casting and then cast himself into a religious frame and cast off a hymn that will bring him $25.

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KISSED ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE.

"You scoundrel," yelled young Jacob Green
At his good neighbor Brown.—
"You kissed my wife upon the street,—
I ought to knock you down."

"That's where you're wrong," good Brown replied,
In accents mild and meek;
"I kissed her; that I've not denied
But I kissed her on the cheek—

and I did so because she looked so handsome—the very picture of beauty and health. What is the secret of it?"

"Well," replied Green, "since you ask it, I will tell you; she uses Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. I accept your apology. Good night."

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W. W. CHENEY, Rivera, Cal., August 29, 1890.

I was treated by one of the most eminent physicians in Kansas City, Mo., for what he called rheumatism of the heart. I derived no benefit and continued to fail and suffered agonies. I was unconscious for days at a time. I took medicine of Dr. Wong and was cured in one month, now 3 years since. Dr. Wong said my spleen was the seat of my disease.
R. M. DUNCAN, Compton, Cal., August 26, 1890.

Three years ago I got injured in the hip. I employed three different doctors, none of whom relieved me. At last I became drawn over, was unable to dress myself and my suffering was just all I could bear. It was apparent that if I could live I would be a cripple for life. Dr. Wong relieved me of all suffering and I was able to dress myself in three days. In one month I was completely cured. I have had no return of the trouble. Dr. Wong said that there was dead blood settled in the muscles of the hip that would, in a short time, cause paralysis and lockjaw.
N. McDOWELL, 111 West 3d st., Los Angeles, Cal., August 29, 1890.

After four doctors had failed to relieve me of intense suffering from which I was unconscious at times during five days, Dr. Wong afforded me relief in five hours and cured me in ten days. I have enjoyed first class health ever since—now three years. Dr. Wong's diagnosis was that there was a collection of blood on the brain.
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