

# The Havre Herald

A. C. LENDER, PUBLISHER.

## CRETAN LEPEERS.

**Their Numbers Are Swelled by Their Food and Their Filth.**

In the small island of Crete leprosy is shockingly prevalent. The Cretans have themselves to thank for this state of affairs. The houses may be pretty and whitewashed on the outside, but within the filth is fearful. And the food they eat is just what encourages leprosy. The Greek forbids meat about 200 days out of the year, so as good Christians they must live on salt fish, which is not improved by its long journey from northern seas to southern heat. The olive oil is so plentiful—they export 20,000 tons each year—that they use it to excess, even adding it to the milk of a rice pudding. But the crowning evil is pork, the favorite fare of the Cretans on days when the church allows them to eat meat. The leper is not cut off here as he is in the Fiji islands or at the Cape. Outside each village may be seen a little white house called the "Iepochorion." Here the lepers live. Their estates, if they have any, are administered for them by friends, and any one passing by the door may speak to them. If the sufferers be poor the state provides each day a loaf of bread, and the charity of passersby adds the luxuries.—New York Herald.

## THE PRIMITIVE STAGE.

**How the Drama Flourished in the Time of Elizabeth.**

The great plays of Marlowe, Shakespeare and Jonson were performed by actors in Elizabethan dress in front of a curtain, usually in daylight, on a little stage partly occupied by the gallants of the period, with their pages and tobacco pipes. There was no fashionable actress, no orchestra, no limelight, yet the drama was more popular than churchgoing and held its own even with such gentle sports as bull baiting and "wiping of the blind beards." The little that we know of the actors shows them, with the exception of Burbage and Nathaniel Field, to have been very ordinary workaday people, with empty pockets and domestic affections and other modern characteristics. Yet the protests of the Puritans, the avaricious records of the censor and the continual erection of new theaters in spite of the solemn threats of the city fathers are evidence enough of the marvelous popularity to which the art attained in that "spacious time" of playhouses most remarkable for lack of space.—London World.

## OIL ON THE WATER.

**Its Soothing Effect Was Known as Early as the Sixth Century.**

A few gallons of oil cast upon stormy seas moderates their violence and prevents the waves from breaking with force. That this is the case has long been known. Theophylactes, the Byzantine historian of the sixth century, propounded the question, "Why does oil calm the sea?" and answered it to the effect that as the wind is a subtle and delicate thing and oil is adhesive and unctuous the wind glides over the surface of the water on which oil has been spread and cannot raise waves. The wind, in fact, slips over the water without being able to obtain a grip.

In the gulf of Mexico there is a remarkable stretch of water about two miles long by three-quarters of a mile broad to which the name of "oil spot" has been given because in the worst of storms the mariner finds still water there.

Its character as a safe harbor of refuge is said to be due to an oily property of the mud stirred up by the storm.

## Peru's Whistling Jars.

Among the ruined cities of Peru nearly fifty different kinds of musical instruments have been found. Unique among these are many double whis-

ting jars or musical water bottles. Near the top of the first or front jar, which is usually surmounted by a human or animal figure, is the opening of the whistle. When the jars have been partly filled and are swung backward and forward a number of whistling sounds are produced. As the vessel swings forward and upward the water is lowered in the first jar and rises in the other. In the backward motion it rushes back into the first, forcing the air out through the whistle.

## Customs in Mongolia.

Tea, with an admixture of salt and mutton grease, is the common beverage in Mongolia. It is not recommendable. Snuff taking is universal, and the offer of the snuff bottle is the general method of greeting. Mongols appear to seclude their women in some measure, at least, from strangers, and a traveler's arrival is usually the signal for a hasty departure of the ladies of the family for the tents of their next neighbors.

## The Whole Story.

Robert—Has your wife much curiosity? Richard—Oh, an awful lot. If I began to tell her what you told me standing on this corner she wouldn't hear a word of what you said until I told her what corner we were standing on.—Indianapolis Journal.

## Tricky Lions.

Some of the most dangerous tricks of animals are those of simulating kindness. Charles Montagne in "Tales of a Nomad" says that hyenas often follow lions and finish a carcass the moment the lions have left it. Sometimes, however, the hyenas are too eager and steal bits of meat while the lions are still at their meal.

"I have been told that the lion rids himself of the nuisance in the following way: He throws a piece of meat aside. When the lion is looking the other way the hyena dodges in and rushes off with the meat. Presently the lion throws another piece of meat, this time a little nearer. The hyena takes that also. At last the lion throws a piece very near indeed. The hyena, having become reckless, makes a dash at this also, but the lion wheels round and lays him low with a pat of his paw and a growl of annoyance."

## East Indian Chivalry.

The person of a high class East Indian woman is sacred. She can never be touched even with the tips of the fingers. She is looked upon almost as a goddess. She can frequent the most crowded public place without being subject to insult. A man that would gaze at a female passing by, as our loungers do, would be thought a most unmannered and uneducated person. All this gives her an air of dignity, purity, self-possession, that is beautiful to see, the "normal poise" we hear so much about and make such efforts to gain.—Everybody's Magazine.

## A Thoughtful Partner.

A prominent lawyer in a western city once came east to transact some business. On arriving at his destination he found that he had forgotten the name of the firm he had come to see. After spending some time in useless efforts to remember he at last decided to telegraph home to his partner for the necessary information. In answer he received the following telegram: "Your business is with Smith & Jones. Your name is Brown."—New York Tribune.

## A Predicament.

"Mrs. X's new suit came home this morning, and she's afraid to show the bill to her husband."

"Why, is it so large?"

"No. It's \$10 smaller than usual, and she thinks he'll cut her allowance if she doesn't keep it up to the usual high figure."—Detroit Free Press.

## The Kind He Smoked.

Patient—What is the matter with me, doctor—tobacco heart? Physician (sniffing the atmosphere)—Not at all, sir. Cabbage heart.—Chicago Tribune.

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## Timely Warning.

Fortune Teller—Beware of the handsome man with dark eyes and brilliant diamond pin. Fair Maid.—Why? Fortune Teller—You can't support him.—Smart Set.

## Knew It.

She—I suppose you flatter yourself you are a great man? He—I do not flatter myself. I merely recognize a fact.

To know how to be silent is more difficult and more profitable than to know how to speak.—Dumas.

"Women have no originality, no inventive genius."

"Nonsense; I have seen my stenographer make a memorandum with a hatpin on a cake of soap when she had no paper handy."

It is a good thing to remember when accepting favors that the time is liable to come when they will be thrown up to you.—Atchison Globe.

Modesty should be the virtue of those who possess no other.—Lichtenberg.