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TREASURE OF MONTEZUMA

Hidden Wealth of Mexican Monarch the Subject of Much Study and Interest.

Whether the report of the discovery of the Incas treasure at Chayaltaya, Bolivia, is true or not, it is certain that the conquistadores did not get all the gold of the last Inca of Peru, nor all the gold and precious jewels of the Mexican monarch. The story is, says the Mexican Herald, that the Incas treasure, withheld from Pizarro and now discovered in Bolivia, is worth \$16,000,000, and that the Indians believe there is still much more hidden away. Pizarro received a great sum from the Inca whom he cruelly treated and then killed him, but in so doing he missed a greater amount, which the Inca, hoping to save his life, promised his tormentor.

In this country one sometimes hears talk of a great golden sun and other treasure hidden securely from the early Spaniards. One gentleman who had the blood of Montezuma in his veins, and in whose family the traditions of the times of the conquest have been preserved, has said that probably \$8,000,000 worth of treasure escaped the hands of Cortes and his followers. Where is this treasure hidden? Some have said that it was thrown into Lake Texcoco, and not many years back a company well provided with funds made extensive excavations in the Pedregal, near Coyoacan, on a spot indicated by tradition. A series of subterranean chambers was found, but no golden sun.

Both in Mexico and Peru gold was hidden away from the greedy conquistadores by the Indians, who cherished the hope of making a successful rising against their conquerors. That hope has long died away, though much of the hatred for the race of the conquistadores remains in the breast of the aborigine.

It is quite probable that some fine day much of Montezuma's hidden treasure may be found here, by a lucky hit. Perhaps it is concealed in an idol cave in the southwestern part of the sierra surrounding this valley, a cave of which stories have been told among the Indians. Whence has come the gold that the Indians living in those mountains, so close to the city, have brought here and sold to their legal representative? There is a mystery in all this, and a greater mystery in the whereabouts of Montezuma's treasure which remains untouched.

CONCERNING FIVE POPES.

Heads of That Many Churches of the Old World, Their Subjects, Etc.

There are five popes on the face of the globe. They are the pope of the Latin church; the schismatic, or orthodox, pope; the father of the faithful, ruling at Constantinople; the pope of Tibet, who has five hundred millions of subjects; and the schismatic pope of the Mohammedan world, who reigns at Morocco. All five, says a Paris correspondent of London Truth, are threatened with hard times; 1904 has been unpropitious to them. He of Morocco takes his situation with the lightest heart, and goes on amusing himself with scientific toys. He is an amiable being, and the son of an English mother, who bargained in her marriage articles to be buried in British soil at Gibraltar or elsewhere. Since the signing of the Anglo-French accord German agents have given him no peace. He is glad of this. It opens to him a prospect of Emperor William following towards France, civilly but firmly, a dog-in-the-manger policy. The finest pastures in Africa are in Morocco, and the Germans hunger for them. Of the five popes Pius X. is the most venerable, Nicholas the most feared, the sultan the most terror-haunted and terrorist, the dala lama the most mysterious, and the head of the Moslem schismatics the best fellow. We may see a few of them here some day taking the places of Daudet's "Rois en Exil."

Disease of Glass.

A peculiar "glass disease" has broken out among the windows of York cathedral. Some of the thirteenth and fourteenth century glass in the edifice has been removed in order to arrest the "disease." It is said the outbreak is due to fungus.

WONDERS OF NEW ZEALAND

Magnificent Geysers That Surpass Anything of the Kind in America.

Yellowstone park is reputed to have the most magnificent geysers in the world, but their reputation is based upon the statements of travelers who have never been to New Zealand and who know nothing of its natural wonders, states the Chicago Chronicle.

Leaving Auckland by a fast express train, a journey of eight hours brings one to Rotorua, where may be seen the most splendid geyser which is probably to be found anywhere in the world. To give some idea of the magnitude of the geyser one need mention only the height of some of the surrounding objects. Over the "Inferno crater," which contains a seething lake of water, is a small shelter shed 450 feet above the plain. The surface of the water in the geyser basin when at rest is about 40 feet below this plain. The height of the eruption must often be about 900 feet. This is by no means exceptional. Higher "shots" have been recorded. Some months ago the area of the basin was measured in a small boat by a traveler and a guide. They found that the area is about two and a half acres, from which it may be inferred that this geyser may well be called the largest in the world.

The geyser plays about 22 times a month, is very erratic and gives no warning when it is about to erupt. The theory is advanced that the basin is somewhat like a funnel and that when the water and stones are ejected the larger stones return and jam in the neck, thereby choking the outlet, so that an enormous pressure of steam must shift them. When the pressure is sufficiently great to blow out the obstructions it naturally would eject water to a great height.

This geyser is not the only one to be seen in this vicinity. Others may be mentioned, such as the Pohutu, Wairoa, Feather, Papakura and others, besides mud volcanoes.

A HERO IN HIS NIGHTIE.

and with Dundreary Whiskers, Imagine the Sight If You Possibly Can!

And in what flippant manner does not the author treat the artist in the matter of costume! exclaimed an artist in Pearson's. Here is one of thousands of bad examples: The story—a sporting novel by White Melville—Period, 50 years ago—Time, midnight—Scene, something like this: "With one terrific bound the handsome hero leaped from his bed, and seized his pistol—" proceeding to demolish the villain in the usual way. And in those days men wore old-fashioned nightgowns and Dundreary whiskers!

I ask, How can an artist make a hero appear a hero when attired in nightgown and Dundreary whiskers—to say nothing of a possible nightcap? And I shall pause a long while, I know, for a reply. Pajamas are bad enough, but at least you can discern the whereabouts of a man's legs in pajamas.

And yet authors grow angry with artists who refuse to illustrate such stirring passages! They might get more angry if we did!

Japanese "Hurrah."

"Banzai," the Japanese "hurrah," seem to be able to strike terror into the hearts of the Russians at long range. The Japanese use the cry to keep their courage up when going into battle. The other day, when a Japanese naval officer was asked to respond to the toast, the navy of his country, at a public dinner in New York, he said very simply that his country would win, and he therefore asked the diners to join with him in drinking banzai. Now the Russian ambassador has asked the secretary of state to remind the Japanese minister that the proposal of this toast was in violation of the neutrality of the United States. In the meantime the Japanese are carrying the cry, banzai, further and further into Manchuria.—Youth's Companion.

Wild Creatures in Japan.

Japanese birds build their nests in the city houses; wild fowl, geese and ducks alight in the public parks and wild deer trot about the streets.—Nature.

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