

TRAVELING BY KITE.

An English Aeronaut's Unpleasant Adventure.

The Singular Accident Which Was an Outcome of a Freighter Mania for Aero-aerics in England.

About forty years ago a mania set in among aeronauts, who believed that carriages drawn by kites would supersede railways to a considerable extent.

Fahrenheit seated himself in the basket. The three stout lines with which the kite was held and controlled were carefully examined, and after considerable maneuvering the enormous spread of canvas was wafted upward.

WONDERFUL COIN COLLECTION.

One of the Coins in the Philadelphia Mint is Worth \$200.

The Philadelphia mint has a very wonderful collection of coins, says the Washington Star. Among other curiosities it includes what is believed to be the oldest piece of metal money ever made.

AFRICAN WEDDINGS.

Cruel Rites Performed During the Ceremony.

Crude Exhibitions of Physical Courage by the Soudanese Men—Manner of Settling the Bride's Dowry.

Dr Junker's labors in Africa occupied eleven years, with only one interval of rest, when it became necessary for him to recruit his health by a visit to Europe.

On the second day I sent the well-preserved carpet of my large angareb to Ali Effendi as a present. The banquet took place in the evening, Emin Bey being present.

COVERING BALD HEADS.

The Rich Can Have Scalps and the Poor Can Have Woodchuck.

Dr. John Ege, Reading's skin-grafting specialist, who a year ago or more gained considerable notoriety by successfully transplanting skin from the forehead of a colored man to the leg of a white man.

The doctor's latest achievement, performed a few days ago with every evidence of success, is that of supplying a bald headed man with a covering of hair that a football player might envy.

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RUNNING TO TITLES.

Americans Are Getting Too Fond of Handles to Their Names.

Military Officials Who Have Never Performed Any Field Service—Some of the Absurdities of an Inane Practice.

In no place perhaps is the inclination to affix titles to the names of public men more prominent than in Washington, where the fields of American life have unrivaled opportunities for development.

As governors are frequently changed, say every four years, in forty-four states, the possibilities in the way of the manufacture of colonels and generals are readily appreciated.

Not long ago, in a southern city, was raised a monument to a confederate leader. One of the newspapers published quite an attractive souvenir, which, by request, was sent to a Massachusetts town for presentation to the grand army post.

CRESTS AND THEIR ORIGIN.

They Were Used Far Back in Ancient Times—Some of the More Notable.

Crests are ascribed to the Carlians and they are of very ancient origin. They are mentioned by Homer and Virgil and described as in use among the heathen gods and goddesses.

ANCIENT AMERICA.

Supposed to Have Been Atlantis, a Powerful Empire.

According to an Egyptian Legend the Whole Continent Was Engulfed in the Sea by a Convulsion of Nature.

In a volume entitled "The Lost Atlantis," by the late Sir Daniel Wilson, president of the university of Toronto, an interesting study is made of the legends which suggest that America was known to the ancients.

Has this legend a basis of fact? It cannot be accepted as a whole, it appears, because the Atlantic, in the opinion of geologists, has been substantially what it is for many millions of years.

Sir Daniel affirms that the ancient maritime races of the Orient frequently made voyages far out into the Atlantic. In the reign of Pharaoh-Necho, 611-606 B. C., after the decline of Egyptian maritime enterprise.

When the Egyptians ceased to rove the sea Atlantis was lost to view at Sais and became a dim legend. Evidence of Egyptian intercourse with it are to be sought, according to the author, among the ruined cities of Central America.

AN ODD PROFESSION.

Good Incomes Are Earned by Finding Lost Articles to Shops.

Few women shoppers in their rush for bargains stop to think of the number of things that are lost by that great army of bargain hunters every day.

At six o'clock each night, according to his story, or when they meet at their "office" and make a general division of their spoils.

FOLKLORE AND CRIME.

Strange Superstitions That Influence Criminals.

Ghastly Implements Employed by Thieves in Their nefarious Business—The Dead Man's Hand and the Corpse-Candle.

One of the most curious and strange phases of superstition is that which relates to the criminal classes. The mystic code which regulates the lives of these enemies of society is in many cases a survival of fetishism of the oldest kind.

Some years ago an attempted robbery was made by burglars on an estate in the county Meath, and, to quote a contemporary account of the affair, "they entered the house armed with a dead man's hand, with a lighted candle in it, believing that a candle so placed will not be seen by any but those by whom it is used."

Many similar stories are told of the use of the dead hand by thieves, one communicated by Rev. S. Darling Gould being worthy of notice.

Then there is the corpse-candle, a weird implement of the robber's trade, which, although common throughout Europe, seems to have been more general in Germany than any other country.

WHITE WINGS NO MORE.

Prospect of Bidding from Cape Horn to Cape Town by Continuous Rail.

It adds something to the zest of life if one has a healthy and active fancy to reflect that there are people now living who may travel by continuous rail from Cape Horn to the Cape of Good Hope.

The manager of a big store on Sixth avenue says there is a regular company of women who do nothing else but patrol the stores on the lookout for articles and money lost by shoppers.

THE

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