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LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN.

Where People Go to Bed in Broad Daylight—A Cold Fourth of July.

"I've been across the ocean more times than I care to tell, and I know London almost as well as I know Philadelphia, but I have never been to northern Europe before this summer," said ex-Attorney General Brewster to a reporter. "I left here on the 21st. I went up to Hull on the 23d, and on the 24th I joined the ship Angelo, and after a very smooth and pleasant passage arrived at Christiansand in Norway, on the following Sunday. It's a very interesting old place. I went to church there. It's a clean, nice style of Norwegian town. The people are very quiet, nicely behaved, plain and simple. Monday was passed in Christiania, a town of considerable importance. I staid there one day and then went by rail up to Throndjem, the old capital of Norway, which at one time was the largest and wealthiest town in Norway. It had at one time many monasteries and churches.

"In Throndjem is the oldest cathedral in all Norway. It was founded in 1016 by St. Olaf, and on the ground where he was buried the present building was erected in 1151 and completed in 1240, and was enlarged in 1300. The cathedral is a very interesting work of gothic architecture. It was damaged three or four years ago by fire, and in rebuilding it large walls were erected, which changed the architectural appearance of the structure. It is now being restored with very much pains and care. There was an annual fair being held in Throndjem while I was there and it was filled with specimens of farmers and working people. It was held in an open street. It was quite crowded and everything was orderly and quiet, and all of the people appeared to be comfortable, well-dressed, sturdy, vigorous, and simple in their ways, and a very honest people. The fair was held for business and friendly intercourse. All the time I was in Norway I saw no dirty poverty, no beggars, no tramps or idle, worthless people. The farms all appeared to be thoroughly taken care of. Everything around the house was kept in good order. Farms were in perfect condition. The houses were clean and comfortable and small and unpretending. The women are plain-looking but very vigorous, and they are quiet and clean and mild in their ways. They look as if they were exposed to hard work, and they have a healthy, comfortable, satisfied look. The men had a sturdy, manly look. They look like people who have no wealth and they appeared to all be on a social level. There seemed to be no distinction between them, but they had an air of independence. I saw no drunken people there and heard no noisy people. It is a very peaceful place. Throndjem is built of wooden houses, good broad streets, well paved, and has plenty of good shops.

"The sun reaches its uppermost point on the 21st of June. I got to Throndjem at 7 o'clock in the morning on the 29th of June. There was no night. It was broad daylight at midnight. There was scarcely any darkness. The sun shone night and day. The people went to bed regularly at an early hour, with the sun shining, and closed their shutters and pulled down their curtains and slept, and the town was as quiet as if the night was totally dark. After leaving Throndjem I took a ship named after some ancient Norwegian king, and in company with fifty or sixty other tourists, all people of respectability and intelligence and men from different nations. There were twenty-two Americans; the rest were natives of France, Spain, Germany, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and England. We went up the coast to Tromso and then to Hammerfest, the most northern town in the world. I saw the high mountains and the whole of the coast all the way up to the North cape, the extreme northern point of Europe.

"I arrived there on the 4th of July. It was a cold, wet day. The climate is harsh, cold and wet, rainy and damp. When it is not raining there is a heavy mist. The North cape is on a point of land at least 1,000 feet above the level of the sea. When I was at the North cape the sun was obscured with clouds. At 12 o'clock at night the sun was visible for a time. In winter it is dark there nearly all day, as well as at night. I returned by the same towns, but through different waterways. The whole of the navigation was protected by land, therefore the sea was mild. We were surrounded by immense mountains, covered with snow. On my return to Throndjem I went across Norway through a country which was filled with lakes, high mountains and green valleys, cascades and falls, and farms well cared for. It all had a solitary and bleak appearance. People were making the most out of what they had, but their life was evidently a hard one. The railway stations are supplied with eating-houses that are clean and with an abundance of good and wholesome food and fruit and wines at reason prices. The traveler is treated honestly. The women attend these eating-houses generally. They are all quiet women, pleasant and prompt."
—Philadelphia Times Interview.

The Flavor of Slang.

Slang, like swearing, is a protest against formalism, and a perpetual effort after directness and vigor of speech. But, after all, the flavor of slang is like that of garlic or onions; a very little of it goes a great way, and even that little can be dispensed with if the cook knows her business.—Harper's Bazar.

Was Glad of It.

Spindler (quoting)—With half my appetite, good dame, my leather doublet would be a feast indeed! Servant—I'm glad you feel that way, sir, for missus wanted me to tell you that she's lost the mallet and the steak an't been pounded quite so much as common.

Duty's Path.

The path of duty lies in what is near, and men seek for it in what is remote; the work of duty lies in what is easy, and men seek for it in what is difficult.—Mencius.

An Indiana girl has been born without a mouth. She will soon begin to realize that she has forgotten something.

Give what you have. To some one it may be better than you dare to think.—Longfellow.

SIR FRANCIS DRAKE.

Taking Possession of California for the Queen of England.

Francis Drake, later Sir Francis Drake entered the Pacific in 1578, doubling Cape Horn in search of Spanish galleons and the imaginary strait of Anian. The cosmographers of that time believed that a passage between the Pacific and Atlantic existed in the far north, which, once found, would have served the same purpose that the Panama canal is expected to do now. In June 1579 the explorer was in the Northern Pacific where he became discouraged on account of the extreme cold and resolved to abandon further search for the strait. He now concluded to return home by way of the Cape of Good Hope, thus making the first voyage round the world. After anchoring in a bad bay, perhaps in latitude 43, in southern Oregon, he ran down the coast to find a suitable harbor for refitting and preparing the Golden Hind for the homeward passage. What makes Drake's voyage apart from its general interest to all the world, of especial interest to our coast, is that the looked for harbor was found in California.

On the 17th of June, Drake found a convenient and fit harbor where he beached his vessel and remained until July 23rd. In the mean time he took possession of the country in the name of the Queen of England. The natives cheerfully agreeing and named it New Albion from the similarity of aspect between the banks and cliffs of that part of the coast and those of England. There is no part of earth here to be taken up, where there is not some likelihood of gold or silver reports the explorers. Probably they saw particles of fine gold glittering in the sun in the patches of black sand on the beach.

To establish possessory rights it seems Drake set up a "monument" consisting of a strong post, nailed to which was a plate of brass, engraved with the name of the queen, the date of arrival of the expedition and the statement of the free giving up of the province and kingdom, both by the king and people into her majesty's hand. He also affixed the queen's "picture and arm" to the plate by the simple process of cutting a hole in it and filling it with a piece of sixpence of English money. At the foot of the document was signed Drake's name. England has never insisted upon her rights secured by the act of Sir Francis Drake and the brazer document has long since disappeared. How much the natives understood of its purport is shown by the fact that during the presence of the explorers they worshipped it as a god. On July 23rd, Drake sailed away and found next day some islands with many seals and birds. Then the explorers saw no more land until they had crossed the Pacific. The actual locality of Drake's anchorage has remained a matter of doubt to the present day. Of the expedition in question three narratives exist, the "famous voyage," the "world encompassed" and the "discourse." The latitude of the harbor is stately bent aside from the fact, that determining latitudes was the weakest point of the old navigators, the narratives themselves disagree.

Three bays have been found to amount to some extent the description of the old chronicles, Bodega, Drake's and San Francisco. That the preponderance of opinion is in favor of the second, is sufficiently indicated by its name. This bay is almost exactly in latitude 38, given by the "World encompassed." Bodega agrees with the 38.30 of the 'famous voyage,' while San Francisco more than either corresponds with the "convenient and fit harbor." Herbert Howe Bancroft's opinion, as laid down in his 'History of California," is, that the great freebooter did not enter the bay of San Francisco and that Drake's Bay is the most probable place of his anchorage. For this version speaks also, that the explorers leaving the coast on a southwesterly course, found some islands the next day which in this case would be the Farallones. What may have given rise to the belief that Drake entered the harbor of San Francisco, is a circumstance very little known, namely that long before this bay was discovered, the Spaniards had applied the name of San Francisco to the bay under Point Reyes, which is the same as Drake's bay. Thus while the Spaniards were right in maintaining that Drake anchored in San Francisco Bay—meaning the only bay which then bore that name—the modern writers are wrong in asserting the same proposition, because now San Francisco as the name of a bay is exclusively applied to the bay within the Golden Gate.

The goverment of Japan has forbidden lecturing against Christianity.