FACTS ABOUT THE SCOTTISH CROFTERS.

The Evolution of the Crofter of To-Day From the Brave Highland Warrior.

CLANSMEN WERE BRETHREN.

The Clansmen's Love for Home, Environment, Kindred and Chief—A Disruption of the Clan System. Tyranny Over the Croftsmen. Benefits Under the Crofters' Act. Reduction in Rent.

Special to THE SUNDAY CALL.

THURSO (Scotland), Sept. 29, 1890.—To the average American the "crofter" has always been a dim legend of the isles and highlands of Scotland. Though the "crofter question" has for over half a century been the "Irish question" of Scotland, and has much to do in effecting certain important land reforms in the kingdom, the "woes of poor Donald," though as sad and hopeless as those of the Irish peasant, have agitated Scotland exclusively rather than America largely, as in the latter case. Their remoteness have kept them from our universal ken, and to that degree that, while people of Scotch descent in the United States and Canada have been keenly alive to measures for the crofters' relief, there are many ordinarily well-informed Americans quite unable to tell you the real difference between a croft and a loft, or a crofter and a claymore.

Jamieson in his "Scottish Dictionary" defines croft-land as, "land of superior quality, which was still cropped." Chambers' Encyclopedia, remarkable like most encyclopedias, for deepening ignorance and intensifying longing for exact information, says a "croft is a piece of land connected with a humble kind of dwelling, whose inhabitant, the renter of the land, is called a 'crofter.'" Lord Colin Campbell asserts that the term "crofter" was unknown in the seventeenth century, although in old tacks and leases of that period the word "croft" is of common occurrence. He further states that in the "tack," or temporary holding given by Sir John Campbell of Glenurchy to a "weil belouit" servant, in 1530, besides the four markland of Kincrakin there were "the croft of Polgreyich and the croft that Ewin McEwin was wont to have." In the twelfth century English characters in Latin, the word is often used. In fact it is

AN ANGLO-SAXON WORD

Meaning simply "a field." At the end of the eighteenth century the tenants of the smallest Scotch divisions of land, in distinction from tenants holding from five to 200 acres and upward, were first called crofters—that is, acremen or crofters. In those days the crofters had the same relation to Highland tenants of the important class, who cultivated something like farms, as the cotters of the present day do to Irish and English small farmers, and the still smaller farmer or crofter of the Highlands; and the Scottish crofter of to-day is simply that surviving relic of the ancient Highlander, who, despite all efforts of the owner of great northern and western Highland estates to extirpate him, absolutely starves along where the bones of his ancestors lie, on one-hundredth as much land as, on the average, is devoted to the rearing and killing of one red deer.

The evolution of the woebegone crofter of to-day from the olden matchlessly brave Highland warrior of the north and west is, briefly, as follows: He was long ago an integral portion of the clan system. "Clan" is a Gaelic word meaning "child." The clansman was in the highest sense the child of his chief. The clan system is the family system on a larger scale. All clansmen were brethren in a common family and institutional preference for the purpose of recognized heads and authority could not abolish equality in every other respect and particular. The absolute loyalty to the chief to the limit of freely giving life in defense or aggression was tribute of fealty to family and tribal relations rather than to the absolutism of individual authority. Each clansman had absolute and undeniable share in the territory occupied by the entire clan. If he paid tribute to the head of the clan it could never have been in the form of rent to an individual owner, for temporary occupancy. It was practically a self-imposed and freely bestowed taxation for public purposes, common offense, or defense, common betterment, the common good. Under this system the result was agricultural competency, pastoral simplicity and pleasure, and surpassing military valor and virtues. The clansmen wove their own cloth, forged their own tools and weapons, tilled their own soil, fed and grazed their own sheep and cattle and possessed inalienable rights to their own homes and the soil necessary to sustain them. The clansman perforce possessed habits of hardihood; his healthy life of the mountaineer made him strong and brave; the necessities of limitations gave him shrewd craft in all exigencies; doing everything with his own hands he became perfected in expedients rather than the dwarfed, one-sided man resultant from later-day infinite division of labor; and thus, when his sad day of expatriation came, these Scottish Highlanders gave

TO THE UNITED STATES,

To Canada and to Australia the most grandly self-sustaining colonists they ever knew. Indeed, his many splendid characteristics proved his own ruin in Scotland.

No men living, barring perhaps his no less unfortunate brethren, the Irish Celts, ever displayed such consummate love of home environment, kindred and chief. His bens, lochs, straths and glens provided an all-consuming nature-worship; his ancestry and the traditions of his lineage became his exultantly sung epics; his chief and the deeds of his clan were adored, with almost the passion of idolatry. His devotion to the Stuarts, from Cromwell's time to "Bonnie Prince Charlie," was sublime in its desperate loyalty, and furnished some of the most thrilling pages in history. But being too far from Edinburgh, London and Paris to "know the political time of day," he always fought for a lost cause. Naturally little mercy was shown him or his more dangerous chiefs. You can to-day still see the tremendous walls of Fort William, Fort Augustus, Fort George and King's House, the trans-Grampian furies established after the first rebellion of 1715, to awe him into submission, their English names breaking his spirit greater than the men and armament they housed. Then, after Culloden, when all his hopes were blasted in the utter ruin of the House of Stuart, came the disarming act, depriving him of the right to bear arms, essential in his eyes to manhood; and, immediately on the heels of this, followed that most bemeaning of all Highland humiliations, the interdict against his beloved kilt and tartan, which for years made him skulk and hide in his mountain home, a pitiful object of contumely and disgrace.

The downfall of the Stuarts caused a complete disruption of the clan system. Then followed the abolition of heritable jurisdiction. The power of the chiefs, good or bad, was transferred to lawyer adventurers sent into the north from Glasgow or Edinburgh. The Highlanders began to loathe their own country and the chiefs lost all interest in the welfare of their people. Important emigration resulted, lessening products and revenues. Many great clan territories changed hands. New landlords or dispirited and bankrupt former chiefs began to look upon the Highland peasantry simply as chattels to be bought and sold as mere slaves. Then in the latter part of the last and the first part of the present century, as the proprietors of estates, abandoning all mercy to a people with inherent rights in the soil from which they sprang, and taking refuge under the absolutism vested in the powers granted under the old Scottish feudal laws, which, by successive encroachments, had transformed the original authority of suzerain into absolute private ownership, came the barbarous "clearances" or

FORCIBLE EVICTIONS

Of Glen Dessary, Clanranald and Glengarry. Following this, and continuing from 1807 to 1829, were perpetrated the atrocious Sutherland Clearances. The most of the entire shire of Sutherland then belonged and still belongs to the noble house of Sutherland and Stafford, related by intermarriage. The then living representative of these noble families conceived the idea that sheep were more profitable than Highlanders. That was before British sportsmen let the Highland landlords know that deer and grouse could be made more profitable than either. But in the period named practically the entire shire, one of the largest in Scotland, and comprising an area of nearly 2,000,000 acres, was depopulated. The helpless mountaineers were driven from their own homes, and these leveled to the ground by fire. Hundreds perished from fright, exposure and brutal treatment. Those who had the means of flight, or whose friends in Canada or the States could furnish them the same, emigrated to America. The remainder were huddled in vile cabins along the seashore, and forced to escape actual starvation by gathering kelp and mussels, this poor shift being finally denied them, or in braving the dangers of the sea in fishing, a mode of life to which they were as much a stranger as your own tenderly cared-for child. There is not to be found in all history a more scandalous page of ingenious and supreme human cruelty. And yet it was set down by economic writers of the time as a great benefit to society at large, as it cost the noble houses of Sutherland-Stafford over $1,000,000, and in the unbiased history of Scottish and English gazeteers and encyclopedias as "a notable improvement of the Highlands.

The same kind of "improvements" intermittently remained in vogue, though on a lesser scale, under sanction of those old Scottish land laws up to a very recent date, in Banff, Elgin, Nairn, Inverness, Caithness, Ross and Argyll shires and in the Hebrides. If a landlord wished to transform his great holdings into sheep-walks or game preserves it was soon bruited about that the district was "congested." Then crofters were cleared out entirely or summarily removed to wretched patches of uncultivated land, to begin anew a life of starvation under increased penalties of rental burdens and environment. Aside from these heartless cruelties it seems as though the most devilish ingenuities in extortions and humiliations were also imposed. After the new croft was improved, at the termination of the usual nineteen-year lease, additional rental was demanded. If not paid the croft was rack-rented, or leased to a new tenant. The terrified crofter, rather than become homeless, attempted the new burden, struggled along under increasing arrears, and was finally evicted, securing no compensation whatever for his improvements. If he entered the presence of the factor or agent with his hat on, his hands in his pockets, or left the door open he was fined.

THE RENT OF EVERY TENANT

On an estate has been raised because the first tenant calling with his money was a few moments late. Sons on attaining their majority could only remain upon the estate on the written consent of the proprietor. Crofters were liable to prosecution for using any road or foot-path not prescribed by the proprietor. An entire page of this paper might be filled with a truthful recount of similar tyrannies and grievances. But organized agitation in behalf of the crofter, similar to that adopted by the Land League for Ireland, at last secured the concession of a royal commission of inquiry into the condition of the Highlands. Although, from the fear of reprisals by landlords and factors, not one-half the wrongs of these people were made known, a condition of things was brought to light which shocked the country. It must also be borne in mind that the constitution of that commission was essentially conservative. But these disclosures had a salutary effect. In 1886 Parliament passed what is popularly known as "The Crofters' Act." This fixes, by a royal commission whose members travel from point to point, receiving evidence and making adjudications, what are called "fair rents," to which both proprietor and crofter-tenant are bound, in all cases of crofters paying an annual rental of £30 or less. The commission has also power to deal with arrears.

The terrible odds against which these helpless people for more than a century fought for mere existence is clearly shown by the outcome of the annual proceedings of this Crofters' Commission. In July of the present year on the estate of Keiss, near Wick, the crofters secured an average reduction of 34 per cent, while 76 per cent of their arrears were canceled. In the island of Stroma, lying in the Pentland Firth, opposite John o' Groat's house, the same reduction and cancellation were made. On one estate in Caithness rent reductions have been as great as 50 per cent, while 90 per cent of arrears have been canceled. Perhaps one-half of the entire territory of the northern and western Highlands has been already adjudicated upon by the commission. On an average "fair rents" have been established at a reduction of 40 per cent. The infamous iniquity and injustice of former years have been illustrated and partially atoned for by the commission in an absolute cancellation of more than one-fourth of existing arrears, and a reduction or cancellation of fully 75 per cent of the remainder. A far greater good has also been accomplished. Under the Crofter's Act, "Poor Donald" is to-day pretty nearly a free man.

Under the old conditions he could never pay his rent. "It was not expected he would," a factor confided to me. "He was more manageable when you could hint of a notice and removal." In other words, landlords, while certainly rapacious for

THE LAST FARTHING

That could be pinched out of the crofter, in cold blood actually calculated upon a certain percentage of arrears piling up against the terrified crofter, so that all slavish commands were quickly assented to and additional burdens were imposed without protest. Outrages under this form of duress were countless. But under the Crofter's Act the crofter is absolutely independent of proprietor or factor as long as he pays the "fair rent" fixed by the commission. He may vote as he pleases, pay his rent with his hat on, his children may remain at home, or even marry, without the proprietor's written consent, and, marvel of land-law progress, he may worship at the Established, the Free, or at a Catholic Church, without the vengeance of a bigot master overtaking him.

All this, in degree, is hopeful and good. But I fear help has come to the crofters too late. They possess many of the noblest characteristics of the noble Scotch race. Their home-life, of which I shall speak in the next article, and their social betterment, barely possible under new although wholly inadequate conditions, would seem to give no good ground for encouragement. There are too few of them. Those who remain are huddled by proprietors into crofter settlements and there restricted from the full development of their kindly instincts and admirable energies by miserably insufficient areas of land. In brief, the landlord class practically extirpated the crofter class before they would permit the enactment of laws to protect the latter. It was like a specific law against specific murder, after the killing. Over five-sixths of the entire area of the northern and western Scottish Highlands are now in sheep-walks or game preserves and principally the latter. I can take you across Scotland, through the shires of Invernese and Ross, from Beauly to Strome, and you may climb every mountain peak between, without your being able to count two-score crofter tillers of the soil. A land has become desolate indeed when its roads and by-paths are transformed into paths for deer and courses for hounds, and the blackened walls of once happy homes into lairs for foxes and wolves.

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SIX MONTHS MORE.

J. C. Green of the Enterprise Has to Remain in Jail.

J. Charles Green, one of the notorious Enterprise gang, made application yesterday to the Supreme Court, on habeas corpus, for his release from the County Jail, but the court denied the request and dismissed the writ. Green was convicted on June 3, 1889, of libel, and was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. He served four days of the time and was then released on bail, pending a decision on appeal to the Superior Court. Before the appeal was decided he was also convicted in the Superior Court, on August 22, 1889, of conspiracy with Nellie B. de Garcia and W. W. Knott, and was sentenced to serve one year in the County Jail and pay a fine of $500.

From this judgment he appealed to the Supreme Court, after serving one day, and on November 22, 1889, the appellate tribunal affirmed the decision of the Police Court whereby Green was sentenced for the libel, and he was put into the custody of Sheriff Laumeister, where he has remained since. In March last the Supreme Court affirmed the judgment of the Superior Court in the conspiracy case, as to the time, but declared the imposition of a fine void under the law.

Green claimed, on habeas corpus, that having served one day of his second sentence before his appeal from the first had been passed upon entitled it to precedence, and that his service of one year of continuous imprisonment covered the entire time of the sentence. He also asked that it be adjudged that the sentence of six months on the first conviction has expired in the service of the second sentence.

Reception and Banquet.

A reception was given by California Commandery, No. 1, Knights Templar of San Francisco, on Friday evening to the commanderies of Oakland, San Jose, Vallejo and Golden Gate of San Francisco. Over 300 guests attended the banquet. Among those on the Reception Committee were: Sir Knight R. Beverly Cole, Eminent Commander; Sir Knight E. W. Blaney, Generalissimo; Sir Knight W. G. Winter, Captain-General; Sir Knight W. J. Younger, Senior Warden; Sir Knight C. G. Kenyon, Junior Warden, and many other officers of the California Commandery.

Libel for Seamen's Wages.

Henry Peterson, one of the Edward E. Webster's crew on her recent voyage to Alaska, has filed a libel against the ship for a balance of $123 alleged to have been due him for wages. He avers that after shipping for the entire voyage Captain Matthew Turner discharged him at Cole Harbor, Alaska, and only paid $25 66 of the $148 67 due him for the entire voyage.

Street Parade of Minstrels.

W. S. Cleveland's Colored Minstrel Company have arranged to give an illuminated street parade this evening, starting from the Bush-street Theater at 8 o'clock and following the route generally taken by all processions.

THE NOVEMBER BRIGHT GLEAMS.

Skies Are Dull and Gray, But Frocks Make Sunshine.

Picturesque Posings in the Park and at the Horse Show—A Wedding Guest in Brown and Cream—A Widow's Tea Robe.

Special to THE SUNDAY CALL.

NEW YORK, Nov. 21.—The bare trees and heavy clouds make a drear November landscape, and the park is chill and melancholy. A hedge of flaming reddish gold chrysanthemums is the only cheerful thing in the prospect, and it warms the heart like wine. Down the driveway comes a moving brightness under the creaking boughs. It is a dark woman who flashes toward one in a great hood of reddish yellow satin. She leans back in her carriage and her face is framed in a thick frill of black lace that surrounds it like a dusky halo. Her shoulders only half emerge from a fire of ruddy yellow and black that flickers up to her ears and blazes away down over the carriage robe. The sparrows stop ruffling their feathers, and the chipmunks turn their blue noses to watch her, for that Spanish hood and that great surge of satin and lace boa is almost warming. It's such an eye-compelling fashion, at once picturesque and daring.

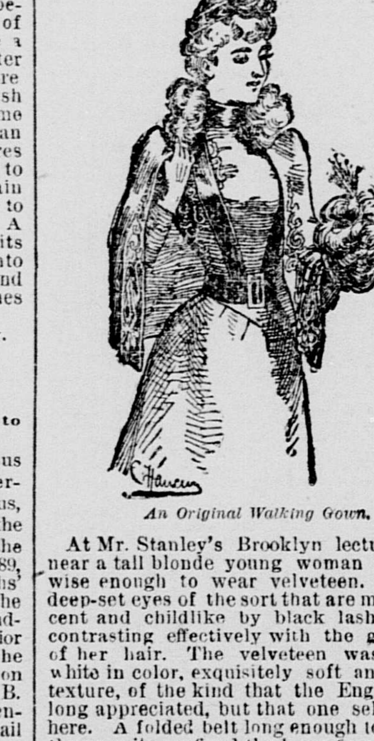
My neighbor at the horse show on the last evening of that brilliant spectacle was not a pretty damsel; she had a low forehead, heavy lustreless hair and a swathy complexion, but her intelligence was quick enough to wrest all possible advantages out of the situation. About her shoulders she had flung a long wool scarf woven in gay Italian stripes of scarlet and cream. One end hung in front, her brown fingers playing with its tangled fringe. The other she had wound across her throat, pinned with a barbaric boss of gold and left to fall over

"Shoulders."

her left arm. Her hair was coiled in a shadowy knot, its loose rings drooping in front even to her eyes. Not a human being looked at her but looked a second and a third time. They caught the gleam of gold beads at her neck and gold coins among her bangles. She didn't overdo the thing for she wore no earrings. On her head she had a loose twist of cream and scarlet with just a hint of gold fringe. I heard a woman call the idea clever; one could see the girl's escort think it fascinating.

One of the guests at the wedding last week which transformed Miss Annie Heyward Cutting into the Baroness de Vriere was a noticeable girl with brown hair, brown eyes, full pouting lips and a strikingly pale complexion. This ensemble was accentuated to a degree that was even startling by a brown cloth dress matching exactly the other browns, and edged with bands of owls' feathers of the cream tint of her skin. A long owls' feather boa touched her neck and continued its hue. There were owls' wings on her brown hat, and as she walked she was a moving study of cream and brown.

A pretty little widow, who carries about her, like Hester Prynne, a scarlet letter, though visible only to the eyes of women with husbands and lovers and brothers—that letter being a great D, which stands for Dangerous—was dispensing tea yesterday afternoon in her own dainty drawing-room, with its mixed up Orientalism suggesting the boudoir of an experimentally melined Arabian Nights princess who has a little of everything from everywhere fetched her on magic carpets and deposited promiscuously. She was clad in a tea gown of white and green brocade that was a Japanese poem in drapery, her graceful movements supplying the rhythm. A wide belt of silver embroidery circled her waist, meeting in front, crossing back beneath her arms and over the shoulder blades, coming to a sharp point in the neck behind. Below this strange girdle the robe was plaited to the waist, but the skirt fell in unbroken folds. To drink tea in its company, with the smallness of the widow coaxingly compelling sympathy and constraining one to say, "Poor little woman!"—seemed to be considered a perilously fascinating privilege.



An Original Walking Gown.

At Mr. Stanley's Brooklyn lecture I sat near a tall blonde young woman who was wise enough to wear velveteen. She had deep-set eyes of the sort that are made innocent and childlike by black lashes, these contrasting effectively with the golden red of her hair. The velveteen was a pure white in color, exquisitely soft and rich in texture, of the kind that the English have long appreciated, but that one seldom sees here. A folded belt long enough to reach to the armpits confined the loose-fronted waist which was held at the throat by a pearl pin. The sleeves, high on the shoulders, were laid in folds like the belt from the elbows down. Under the white hat, with its trimmings of white plumes, her pink and white skin was dazzling. At her belt she wore a pink rose.

There is now in New York the wife of an ex-President of some far-away republic, who is said to have molded with her own hands the bullets with which her husband made his fight for liberty. Perhaps it is because these palms are pretty as well as famous that she has revived the old fashion of a ribbon guard for a fine diamond ring. At all events the narrow velvet bands crossing the blue-veined beauty of the hand and bound about the wrist enhance its delicacy, as guests at a recent reception had abundant chance of observing.

The hostess on the occasion alluded to was a big, imposing woman, who wore a robe of dark blue camel's hair brocaded in blazing disks of gold as big as the rims of the tea cups she was passing. When she rose it fell magnificently away from a trailing petticoat of gold-colored silk, and you felt, if you did your duty in the matter, as if its wearer were the harvest goddess, or she who sits in the sun.

Miss Louise Shepard was downtown shopping a few days ago in quite an original walking gown. The material was a soft gray cloth embroidered in bold scroll designs in silver for the space of half a yard up from the hem, about which was a dark blue velvet band. The skirt was cut appreciably longer behind than in front, having in fact a very slight plaited train. Over the tailor bodice was worn a cape of gray velvet of a darker shade than the gown. This cape had a ruche of gray ostrich feathers at the throat and was lined with dark blue satin. The special feature of this little wrap was the fact that it was held in place on the figure by velvet suspenders from the shoulders, these meeting in points at the waist back and front and fastening to a belt with a silver buckle. Miss Shepard looked as if instead of a plain waist she were wearing under her cape a bodice trimmed with bretelles.

There are Thanksgiving dances in prospect, and for one of these I have seen two gowns. For a shy, delicate girl from out of town who is to be "managed," I fancy, much as Mr. McAllister relates having boomed the belledom of a young relative, there is a frock of white net strewn with forget-me-nots made of turquoise with silver leaves. The girl is not pretty, but the

A Wedding Guest and Buried in Furs.

pose of her head and neck looked at behind is charming. The story goes that a hairdresser has experimented with her locks for weeks, and that the proper height and fluffiness of coiffure has been considered—from behind—with painstaking. So, too, her dress has been studied devoutly as to the rear view of the shoulders, and the debutante's timidity is to produce its full effect as she retires to a corner by a window and turns her back on the gay company, looking at you sidewise.

The other costume is a blush-rose crepe with a thick ruche at the bottom, over which tilt and balance here and there great black butterflies. The low bodice is edged with a narrower ruche dotted with silver beads. There are sleeves of heavy rose-tinted brocade reaching the elbows. These are slashed on the outside of the arms, laced with silver cords and continued to the wrists by ruffles of silver lace in a pattern of roses. The superb brocade makes a princess train drawn back from the front and edged at the sides with fringe.

The woman who is most content with life is she who nestles in furs, her ears just peeping over the edge of her huge collar. Somehow she looks out of place in a horse-car or elevated train. The children in shabby clothes and the women with market-baskets look at her, and she leans back cosily and looks across at them, her mantle of black moleskin velvet flaunting its gold embroidery in very wantonness of luxury. This mantle has high sleeves that are curiously embroidered and are ruched at the wrists with feathers. It has a great Valois collar of gold-colored ostrich tips that curl about her throat and curl down along the square tabs that nearly reach the floor. The little toque on her head is of gold and black velvet and her fingers play with a mass of golden chrysanthemums.

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PRECIOUS STONES OF COMMERCE.

Some of Those That Have a Great Commercial Value.

There is a rock known as amygdaloid, one of the igneous rocks, which in some of the gigantic transformations of nature, we will say in cooling from a melted state, formed within itself cavities, from the size of a marble or bead to that of a closed hand. Now, as nature abhors a vacuum, she sets to work to fill these cavities, and in doing so she used other materials, and these combinations produded some of what we call the "precious stones of commerce." Exactly how this was done we cannot tell, but we see some hint of the operation in every subterranean cave where stalactites and stalagmites are found. Every student knows that this is the result of dropping water which contains carbonate of lime. The water, evaporating, leaves a minute particle of lime, which takes something to itself from the earth or atmosphere, and in the course of ages bodies are formed of a most remarkable character. In probably somewhat the same fashion have these cavities been filled in the igneous rocks, and then comes time and storm and other agencies, earthquakes, perhaps, and the rocks are rent apart, and out drops a bead or a bowlder, and a curious man picks it up, and hammers and breaks it, and then he puts a polish on it by some process more or less advanced, and lo! he holds in his hand an agate or an onyx. Many of the stones used in the arts have no other origin, and are deposits of silica, alumina, oxide of iron and other coloring substances.

It is the color or arrangement of colors that gives the name, and thus we have agate, onyx, chalcedony, carnelian, sard, chrystalobrase, sardonyx and others, all members of the quartz family and all having a family resemblance.

The agate has veins of different shades of color in parallel lines. Sometimes these are very closely together, as many as fifty to the inch, but this is unusual. When there are alternate bands of colors and a transparent medium we have the onyx, but the latter may be obtained by cutting the stone in a different way.

Agates are used chiefly for ornamental purposes, such as cups, seals, rings, handles for parasols, table and mantel ornaments, but the material is so hard that it can only be worked by those who have practiced skill.

The onyx was valued by the ancients for its application to cameos and intaglios—the first an object in relief, the latter a "cut-in" process; and these objects are still made.

Nature produces some very strange forms occasionally, and agates are found with exact resemblances of moss and other natural objects and figures, which are very curious and often very valuable.—Globe-Democrat.

A CHANGE OF COURTS.

The Alaska Company's Suit Transferred to a Federal Tribunal.

The suit of the Alaska Commercial Company against the North American Commercial Company for $100,000, alleged to be due for the misappropriation of 4158 skins, has been transferred to the United States Circuit Court from the Superior Court.

The grounds upon which the plea for a transfer was based and granted were that the time allowed for answering the complaint in the Superior Court would not permit the summoning of witnesses from the far Northwest, and, furthermore, that the suit was brought under a Federal and not a State statute.

The sealskins in question were brought to this port by the revenue cutter Richard Rush in charge of the defendant corporation. The Alaska Commercial Company claimed them and appealed to Collector of the Port Phelps, who declined to make an award and referred the matter to Secretary of the Treasury Windom. The North American Company then appropriated them to its own use, for which the Alaska Company brought suit for damages.

The plaintiff claims that it had the exclusive right of hunting seals from July, 1870, until July, 1890, at the islands of St. Paul and St. George, that its grant from the Secretary of the Treasury allowed it to capture 60,000 seals, but that in fact only 20,995 were caught, of which number were the 4158 in question.

THE MAUSOLEUM OF FREDERICK III IN THE CHURCH OF PEACE, POTSDAM. DEDICATED OCTOBER 18, 1890.

LITERATURE.

"SAMANTHA AMONG THE BRETHREN"—By "Josiah Allen's Wife." (Funk & Wagnalls; New York). In 1888 at the conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church there arose a question as to whether four female delegates, duly elected, should take their seats as members. The matter occupied a great deal of attention, and for three days the brightest lights in the conference argued the matter, finally deciding "that under the constitution and laws of the church as they now are, women are not eligible as lay delegates to the General Conference." In view of the frequent reference in the book to the discussion had on this subject, the publishers have added to the work, as an appendix, six of the most prominent arguments—three for and three against—that were had during the conference. The proceedings furnished "Josiah Allen's Wife" (Marietta Holley) the text for a humorous and semi-serious protest against the decision of the conference. The book is in the Yankee dialect, and the arguments, which are witty, do not lose their force by reason of being so expressed. The writer does not follow any set line, but presents arguments here and there, getting in some very solid thrusts in favor of women having a voice in the government of the church to which they belong. The whole book, while dealing with a subject that will involve a great many conferences in controversy, is a very happy way of presenting a very serious case, for it not only applies to the members of the church named, but to churches of other denominations in which women have sought a representation. The book is embellished with numerous good illustrations, which are to the point, and there is no doubt but that many who read "Samantha Among the Brethren," while amused by the quaint arguments advanced by "Josiah Allen's Wife," will give the subject serious consideration.

"LIFE"—By William W. Wheeler. (American News Company; New York). This is a novel by Mr. Wheeler, is a resident of Meriden, Conn., who in a plain every-day sort of a way tells a story of a man, Joe Whitney, who was pronounced dead, but could not be buried, because his sister being under the belief that he was in a cataleptic fit, he having had several, refused to allow him to be placed on ice or have an autopsy made or the "body" buried. The authorities were anxious to have the matter ended by placing Mr. Whitney under ground, but the sister being in the way they took steps to have her arrested for insanity and placed in an asylum for believing that her brother, who had the stare of death on his countenance for two weeks, was not dead. An attorney, George Wilson, circumvents the officers of the law by marrying the sister and becomes her guardian, and under the circumstances she cannot be arrested without his consent. The marriage was, however, only one of necessity, and as under the law a marriage outside of the church is a civil contract, which may be annulled by the courts, Wilson decided to obtain a divorce as soon as he had convinced the sister of Joe that there was a corpse in the house. A specialist in New York was sent for, and after treatment of the extraordinary case brought Joe back to life. He tells of some strange visions he had while in the trance. Finally Joe's sister becomes Wilson's wife in fact as well as name. The book is full of strong Spiritualistic views, and while there are many who will not place any faith in what is presented, it contains a great deal that interests.

PAOLI, THE LAST OF THE MISSIONARIES—By W. C. Kitchen. (Robert Bonner's Sons; New York). This is a well-bound and beautifully illustrated book of 463 pages, in which is presented a picture of the overthrow of the Christians in Japan in the seventeenth century. It tells in a most graphic manner of the severe trials of those missionaries who in the early period sought to establish the Christian religion in the "Land of the Morning." It is written in a very interesting and entertaining style, and is an historical picture which outweighs fiction. The principal characters are all real personages who took a prominent part in the stirring events that attended the overthrow of Christianity. The author of this book was for three years a resident of the picturesque city of Nagasaki, on the crest of Higashi-yami, where the war against the Christians was waged, and it was while there that he decided to gather the material for the book. He devoted a great deal of time to investigation, and hearing from the lips of the people legendary accounts of the great rebellion of the "jashiu-mon," which have been handed down from father to son for more than two and a half centuries. During his investigation the author came across two hitherto unknown manuscripts, written by eye-witnesses of the war, in which they gave a minutely detailed account of the events of the time, and it is mainly upon these that the volume published is based.

MANUAL OF NERVOUS DISEASES—By A. B. Arnold, M.D. (the Bancroft Company; San Francisco). This is a work written by the emeritus professor on diseases of the nervous system, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Baltimore, and is a concise description of the essential facts in relation to the study and treatment of nervous diseases. It is the second edition of the work, and it has been thoroughly rewritten and enlarged, yet in this the author has not departed from the original design as set forth in the first edition. He has added some valuable matter to the preliminary chapters on the anatomy of the nervous system and the general symptomatology and therapeutics of nervous diseases. It is a book of value to the medical profession and to students.

DESTINY OF A COMMON-PLACE LIFE—By Mrs. R. E. Nelson. (John B. Alden; New York). This is a story written for young people by the author of "Dorance." It is one that is realistic, written with a good purpose and should have many readers who will find it instructive, interesting and profitable. In the preface the author says:

Believing that false and impracticable ideas of life and its sacred duties are oftentimes imbibed from books giving improbable accounts of every-day events and unreal pictures of the scenes and lives I have tried to deal only with that which is attainable by any energetic boy or girl who enjoys the advantages of this nineteenth century civilization. I hope that I may gave my young friends an incentive to better work or nobler living as I show them the benefits of moral and intellectual culture.

LOVELL'S INTERNATIONAL SERIES (United States Book Company; New York). This publishing house has added to the well-known and popular series three very interesting works of fiction, namely: "The Heart of Gold," by L. T. Meade, author of "A Girl of the Period" and "Frances Kane's Fortune"; "Alas," by Rhoda Broughton, author of "Doctor Cupid," "Good-by, Sweetheart," and other works; also "Famous or Infamous," by Bertha Thomas. Like other works of this series, the novels named are of the best class of English writings, and are printed by special arrangements with the authors. Each of the books named has a good plot and each is exceedingly interesting.

ROSE ASHES—By Carrie Stevens Walter (C. A. Murdock & Co.; San Francisco). This is a neatly printed volume of poems by Carrie Stevens Walter of San Jose, which the lady has written at various times in the past few years. They are divided into three classes, namely, "In the Sunshine," "In the Shadow" and "Tempest-Tossed." Many of them were inspired by California scenes and are meritorious compositions in verse. The book will make a neat offering for the approaching holidays. For sale by William Doxey.

Book Notes.

The Worthington Company of New York will shortly issue "A Russian Country House," by Carl Detlef, translated by Mrs. J. W. Davis, and fully illustrated with photogravures. This is said to be a very interesting story of Russian life—Russian high life—which presents capital pictures of manners and customs in the time of the great Elizabeth, and tells of her favorites and the festivities carried on in barbaric splendor. It gives a further insight into the strange Russian character, of which Turgenieff and Tolstoi have written.

The Gossip Printing Company of Mobile, Ala., announces the early publication of "Society as I Foundered It," by Cad McBallister, the author of "The Rock or the Rye." This is a skit on Ward McAllister's book, "Society as I Found It," by T. C. de Leon, a Southern writer of considerable ability in travesty, and one whose travesties have had many admirers.

Charles H. Sergel & Co. of Chicago announce the publication of a popular edition of General Booth's remarkable book, "In Darkest England and the Way Out." The first edition of this book was sold in England three hours after publication, and Sergel & Co. claim that their American edition of 5000 was sold on the day of publication.

Those who have read "The House on the Marsh" and "Nurse Revel's Mistake," by Florence Warden, will find pleasure in reading "Missing—A Young Girl," by the same author. Published by the United States Book Company of New York as part of the "Lovell Westminster Series." For sale at the book-stores.

An important biographical work, "The Earl of Beaconsfield, K.G.," by J. A. Froude, D. C. L., is announced as nearly ready for publication by the Harper Bros. This work is the first of a series of biographies of the Queen's Prime Ministers, edited by Stuart J. Reid.

Two novelettes by Edith Sessions Tupper are published under one cover by the United States Book Company of New York as No. 22 of the American Authors' Series. These are "By Whose Hand?" and "By a Hair's Breadth," both charming stories.

"The Romance of a Marriage," by Count Lyof Tolstoi, has been published by Laird & Lee of Chicago. This book, in view of the attention the other works of this writer have attracted, will undoubtedly have many readers.

Magazine and Other Notes.

Israel C. Russell of the United States Geological Survey, who was detailed by the Government to take charge of the recent expedition fitted out by the National Geographic Society for the exploration of the region of Mount St. Elias, Alaska, will contribute to the "Century Magazine" an account of the experiences of his party, accompanied with illustrations from photographs made at the time. The exploration was of a large tract of country lying between Yakutat River and the mountain named, never before visited by man.

The holiday or December number of "Scribner's Magazine" will be an uncommon one in several particulars. With the exception of the serial and a story each article is illustrated throughout by a single artist, who has worked in immediate association with the author. It will contain "Japonica," the first of Edwin Arnold's articles on Japan; "Christie's," an account of the famous auction-room, written by Humphrey Ward, the art critic of the London Times, and a number of other very interesting articles.

The announcements of "The Youth's Companion" for 1891 show a variety of features not surpassed in any previous year. This periodical, which is published with a view to improve the mind of young readers by presenting to them matter that is pure and wholesome, has engaged for the coming year a number of the best writers of the day and these will furnish sketches of army and navy life, athletic sports, science, serial stories of adventure and many popular ones.

The Christmas number of "Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly" is bound in a special illuminated cover of beautiful design in lithographed colors of gold. The contents, varied and suited to the times, amply fulfill the promise of the elaborate exterior. The leading article is a richly illustrated narrative of Dr. Talmage in the Holy Land.

The "Cosmopolitan Magazine" for December will be represented in the literary world by an edition of 100,000. One of the features will be 123 cartoons from the pencil of Dan Beard, which are to be placed at the bottom of pages, and will represent "Christmas during the eighteen centuries of the Christian era."

In the December number of "The Century" there will be published four complete stories, by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Joel Chandler Harris, Richard Harding Davis and Maurice Thompson. Besides these there will be the first installment of a novelette entitled "Sister Dolorosa," by James Lane Allen.

"Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper" of the 15th inst. presents a picture of special interest to all who take an interest in horseflesh. It is illustrative of the great horse fair held in Madison square, New York. It also presents an interesting account of the doings of the Leslie Alaska expedition.

The November issue of "The American Antiquarian and Oriental Journal," published by S. D. Peet of Mendon, Ill., has for the leading article "Zodiacal Chronology," an interesting scientific paper by O. D. Miller. The editor presents an article of unusual interest on "Stone Grave People."

The first number of a new periodical published in this city has just been issued. It is entitled "The Architectual News," and is devoted to architectural art in San Francisco. It is well printed, has good illustrations, and is an attractive addition to that class of periodicals.

The "Ladies' Home Journal" of Philadelphia, which has become one of the popular magazines, announces some excellent features for the coming year, and the publishers will do their utmost to make it even more interesting than it has been in the past.

"The Illustrated English Magazine" for November has a number of brilliant articles, all of them beautifully illustrated. Among the number is one on Winchester College by the Earl of Selborne, and "The Witch of Prague," by F. Marion Crawford.

In the current issue of "Garden and Forest" there are a variety of articles on chrysanthemums, asters, and other late flowering plants which are seasonable and attractive to the lovers of gardens and garden flowers.

One of the neatest and at the same time artistic calendars thus far issued for the coming year is that published by "The Youth's Companion."

The November number of "Freund's Music and Drama" contains an illustrated historical sketch of Steinway & Sons, the great piano-makers.

MALARIOUS AFRICA.

A Line of Graves Stretches Across the Fatal Country.

Malarial fever is the one sad certainty which every African traveler must face. For months he may escape, but its finger is upon him, and well for him if he has a friend near when it finally overtakes him. It is preceded for weeks, or even for a month or two, by unaccountable irritability, depression and weariness. This goes on day after day till the crash comes—first cold and pain, then heat and pain, then every kind of pain, and every degree of heat, then delirium, then the life-and-death struggle. He rises, if he does rise, a shadow, and slowly accumulates strength for the next attack, which he knows too well will not disappoint him. No one has ever yet got to the bottom of African fever. Its geographical distribution is still unmapped, but generally it prevails over the whole east and west coasts within the tropical limit, along all the river courses, on the shores of the inland lakes, and in all low-lying and marshy districts. The higher plateaus, presumably, are comparatively free from it, but in order to reach these, malarious districts of greater or smaller area have to be traversed. There the system becomes saturated with fever, which often develops long after the infected region is left behind.

The really appalling mortality of Europeans is a fact with which all who have any idea of casting in their lot with Africa should seriously reckon. None but those who have been on the spot, or have followed closely the inner history of African exploration and missionary work can appreciate the gravity of the situation. The malaria spares no man; the strong fall as the weak; no number of precautions can provide against it; no kind of care can do more than make the attacks less frequent; no prediction can be made beforehand as to which regions are haunted by it and which are safe. It is not the least ghastly feature of this invisible plague that the only known scientific test for it at present is a human life. That test has been applied in the Congo region already with a recklessness which the sober judgment can only characterize as criminal. It is a small matter that men should throw away their lives, in hundreds if need be, for a holy cause; but it is not a small matter that man after man, in long and in fatal succession, should seek to overleap what is plainly a barrier of nature. And science has a duty in pointing out that no devotion or enthusiasm can give any man a charmed life, and that those who work for the highest ends will best attain them in humble obedience to the common laws. Transcendently this may be denied; the warning finger may be despised as the hand of the coward and the profane. But the fact remains—the fact of an awful chain of English graves stretching across Africa.—Drummond.

Birds stand between beasts and reptiles, but are widely distinct from both. All beasts possess, as we possess, warm blood, but the blood of a bird is warmer still, and thus birds differ greatly from reptiles, in spite of their possessing certain structural characters in common with that cold-blooded class.

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Will have no other Tobacco
Who once tries
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—IN—
SILKS
—AND—
Black and Colored Dress Goods
TO BE OFFERED
This Week!

The special values offered this week in our Silk and Dress Goods Departments are really phenomenal and are sure to attract immediate and widespread attention, for our magnificent display of dress materials has already gained great prominence on account of its unusual magnitude of assortments, elegance of styles and extreme lowness of prices, and our this week's offerings surpass, in every respect, any of the many wonderful attractions heretofore presented, comprising, as they do, the following unprecedented bargains.

COLORED DRESS GOODS DEPARTMENT!

Henriettas.

At 50 Cents.
FRENCH HENRIETTA CLOTH, new fall shades, 40 inches wide, warranted all wool, will be offered at 50 cents per yard.

At 75 Cents.
FRENCH HENRIETTA CLOTH, latest fall shades, 42 inches wide, warranted all wool, will be offered at 75 cents per yard.

At $1.
FRENCH HENRIETTA CLOTH, silk finish, new shades, 46 inches wide, warranted all wool, will be offered at $1 per yard.

At $1.25.
FRENCH HENRIETTA CLOTH, silk finish, newest colorings, 46 inches wide, warranted all wool, will be offered at $1 25 per yard.

At $1.50.
FRENCH HENRIETTA CLOTH, silk finish, new shades, 46 inches wide, warranted all wool, will be offered at $1 50 per yard.

At $2.00.
FRENCH HENRIETTA CLOTH, extra fine finish, latest shades, 46 inches wide, warranted all wool, will be offered at $2 per yard.

At $2.50.
FRENCH HENRIETTA CLOTH, superior finish, in all the most popular shades, 46 inches wide, warranted all wool, will be offered at $2 50 per yard.

FANCY WEAVES.

At 60 Cents.
MELROSE CLOTH, new fall shades, 40 inches wide, warranted all wool, extra value for 85c, will be sold at 60c per yard.

At 85 Cents.
FRENCH ROYALS in all the latest fall shades, 42 inches wide, warranted all wool, extra value for $1, will be sold at 85c per yard.

At $1.00.
SATIN RAYURES, new shades, 42 inches wide, warranted all wool, extra value for $1 25, will be sold at $1 per yard.

At $1.25.
SATIN DIAGONALS in all the most popular shades, 42 inches wide, warranted all wool, extra value for $1 50, will be sold at $1 25 per yard.

Cloths and Cloakings.

At $1.50.
54-INCH VERY STYLISH SCOTCH TWEEDS, in check effects, will be sold for $1 50.

At $2.00.
54-INCH SCOTCH CHEVIOT JACKET CLOTH, in stripes and heather mixtures, worth $2 50, will be sold for $2.

At $2.50.
54-INCH RARITAN PLAID CLOAKING, extra heavy, newest shades, well worth $3 50, will sell at $2 50.

At $2.50.
56-INCH STRIPE CHEVRON JACKET CLOTH, in black, very stylish, worth $3 50, will be sold at $2 50.

At $2.50.
56-INCH FRENCH DIAGONAL CLOAKING, in all the latest weaves in black and navy blue, worth $3 50, will be sold at $2 50.

At $3.00.
56-INCH FINE DIAGONAL CHEVRON CLOTH, suitable for Newmarkets or Jackets, worth $4, will be sold for $3.

At $3.50.
56-INCH BISON CLOTH, in black and navy blue, very fashionable, splendid value for $4 50, will be sold at $3 50.

ASTRACHANS.

BLACK ASTRACHANS from $5 to $8 per yard.
BROWN ASTRACHANS from $3 50 to $5 per yard.
GRAY ASTRACHANS at $7 50 per yard.

Special---Remnants---Special.

A vast quantity of REMNANTS OF STYLISH CLOAKINGS will be closed out this week at NOMINAL PRICES.

BLACK DRESS GOODS DEPARTMENT!

At 35 Cents.
38-INCH IRON FRAME ALPACA, worth 50c, will be sold at 35c per yard.

At 50 Cents.
54-INCH ALL WOOL LADY'S CLOTH, worth 75c, will be sold at 50c per yard.

At 65 Cents.
42-INCH ALL WOOL FRENCH SERGE, worth $1, will be sold at 65c per yard.

At 75 Cents.
40-INCH EXTRA FINE FRENCH CASHMERE, worth $1, will be sold at 75c per yard.

At 75 Cents.
42-INCH EXTRA HEAVY FRENCH SURAH SERGE, worth $1 25, will be sold at 75c per yard.

At $1.00.
48-INCH FINE FRENCH CASHMERE, worth $1 50, will be sold at $1 per yard.

At $1.00.
40-INCH SILK WARP HENRIETTA, worth $1 50, will be sold at $1 per yard.

At $1.00.
44-INCH SUPERIOR LUSTER IRON FRAME ALPACA, worth $1 50, will be sold at $1 per yard.

At $1.25.
46-INCH SILK WARP HENRIETTA, worth $2, will be sold at $1 25 per yard.

At $1.50.
48-INCH SATIN MERVEILLEUX, worth $2, will be sold at $1 50 yer yard.

SILK DEPARTMENT!

At 50 Cents.
100 pieces COLORED SATINS, in all shades, will be offered at 50c a yard.

At 50 Cents.
100 pieces COLORED SURAHS, in all shades, will be offered at 50c a yard.

At 60 Cents.
50 pieces EXTRA FINE INDIA SILK, in all shades, will be offered at 60c a yard.

At 75 Cents.
50 pieces EXTRA FINE BLACK SURAH will be offered at 75c a yard.

At $1.00.
40 pieces CANTON CREPE, in evening shades, 28 inches wide, will be offered at $1 a yard.

At $1.00.
40 pieces 24-INCH EXTRA FINE COLORED SURAH, extra value for $1 50, will be offered at $1 a yard.

At $1.25.
30 pieces EXTRA FINE BROCADED SILK, in evening shades, extra value for $1 75, will be offered at $1 25 a yard.

At $1.00.
20 pieces BLACK ROYAL SILK, good value for $1 25, will be offered at $1 a yard.

At $1.50.
15 pieces BLACK FAILLE FRANCAISE SILK, extra good value for $2, will be offered at $1 50 a yard.

At $2.50.
15 pieces 24-INCH BLACK AND BROWN HEAVY SILK PLUSH, extra good value for $4, will be offered at $2 50 a yard.

CHANGE OF BUSINESS HOURS.
On and after Monday, November 24th, our store will open at 8 A. M. instead of 7 A. M. as heretofore, and close at 6 P. M., including Saturdays.

☞ Samples sent free.
☞ Mail orders promptly and carefully executed. Goods delivered free in Oakland, Alameda, Berkeley and San Rafael.
☞ Our new Catalogue is now ready and will be sent to any address on request.
☞ See To-day's "Chronicle" and "Examiner" for Special Offerings from our new Fall Stock of Ladies', Misses' and Children's Outer Garments, House-furnishings, Hosiery, Underwear and Gents' Furnishing Goods.

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