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## The "Orang Kooboos," or Brown Men of Sumatra.

Captain Gibson, whose imprisonment and harsh treatment by the Dutch colonial authorities at Batavia has rendered his name well known to his countrymen, delivered a lecture before the New York Historical Society last week, in the course of which he described the "Orang Kooboos," who occupy a particular district on the east coast of that island, whose appearance and habits, he says, indicate them to be "of all the races of men of whom we have any knowledge, the lowest in the scale of humanity; or, rather, the capacity for degradation of our species would seem to have reached that limit in the case which might be regarded as the connecting link between the human and the brute creation." "They are covered," he adds, "with hair, have long arms, and are deficient in chin, or, rather, it forms no part of the face." These were the points in the formation, he says, which first arrested his observation, and led him "to class them at once as simply a somewhat higher development of the orang outang." But on further examination he found that they possessed speech, though extremely rude and monosyllabic, had risible faculties, &c., and that they were recognized as belonging to the human race by the Malays, "who, however, hunted them as wild animals, in order to work them as beasts of burden." The principal features of his description are condensed in the following passage:

"The Orang Kooboos are only to be met with in the almost impassable swamps and forests that lie between the Jambes and Palembang territories, in the island of Sumatra. They live among the branches of the teak and waringen trees, which grow here to an enormous size, as is, indeed, the case with the forests throughout the island. They construct a rude platform of bamboos wherever they can find a sufficiency of horizontally-attending limbs of a tree to serve as the basis or sleepers of a floor, and over this they raise an equally rude conical roof of split bamboo or cocoa nut, or pisang tree leaves. These savages are ichthyophagists, as are almost all the uncivilized tribes of the eastern islands; and in all the rivers and bays of Sumatra, as also of all the rest of the islands of the archipelago, a most bountiful provision of excellent fish is to be found. I had an opportunity to have a glimpse of some Kooboos people, while ascending with my boat a small branch of the Soonsang; but it was only near Palembang, and at the Kraton, or palace of the old Soosoochoonan, or Sultan of Palembang, and at the residence of the independent Panyorang, or Prince Osmin, that I had an opportunity for any special observation of these creatures.

"The Panyorang had several as slaves, or rather as beasts of burden, for they were not entrusted with any labor but the dragging and carrying of loads of dirt, stones, or materials for building. He said that they were born as the lowest of slaves, and this had been the case for hundreds of generations, inasmuch as they were the descendants of the slaves and burden carriers of the army of Alexander. I found them generally called *hamba* or *boodak* *hander*—the slaves of Alexander. It is well known that numberless traditions of Alexander the Great, of 'Doulkarnain,' the two horned, prevailed throughout Sumatra as well as on the Asiatic continent. It has been found impossible to teach the Orang Kooboos the use of garments, although they have a great fondness for pieces of colored cloth to be fastened to various parts of their bodies; they will tie a vest to their heels or round their wastes; or will, as I have seen the men, suspend a colored cap, or handkerchief, or a glove to their bodies, with a lively grinning and grunting of delight, and seem to make no distinction between a simple piece of cloth for ornament or a manufactured article; the only cause for preference being the difference of colors. It has been found equally impossible to teach them the language of

their masters; for those who had grown up in a domestic state still spoke the Malay in an uncouth monosyllabic manner, like their own jargon or unclassifiable grunts."

The cashier of the Newport Safety Fund Bank publishes a card in the Cincinnati Commercial, asserting in general terms that the institution is perfectly safe. Those willing to take the word of an interested party will govern themselves accordingly.

MRS. AMELIA OPIE, the popular authoress of numerous works of fiction, died at Norwich, England, the city of her birth, on the 24 ult., at the age of 85 years. Her maiden name was Anderson. She married John Opie, the painter, who, while she was training for her literary career, was still working in the tin mines of Cornwall, where his rough-sketching first attracted the attention of Dr. Wolcott (Peter Pindar.) It was not, however, till after her husband's death, that Mrs. Opie betook herself to authorship, in 1800.

A WATCH STOLEN BY A RAT.—One night last week the overseer of a farm near Huntly laid his watch on a table in his sleeping apartment, previous to going to bed. Towards morning he was aroused by a crash of something that had fallen and a rattling sound, as of something being dragged along the floor. He immediately got up, and found his watch was gone. He lost no time in pursuing the thief, following the directions of the sound, when he came upon the watch at the mouth of the rat's hole, into which the rat had entered, taking with him the whole of the guard chain, and was only prevented from taking in the watch by the case springing open from the fall, which made it require more room than the hole would admit of. As it was, the rat did not seem disposed to lose his prize, but kept a firm hold of the guard when the owner tried to pull it from him.—[London Paper.

## Antioch College.

The denomination who reject all names but Christians, all creeds but the Bible and who have had a very rapid growth, mainly in the Western Free States, have undertaken, as many of our readers already know, the establishment of a College of high grade at a beautiful rural location known as Yellow Springs, Greene County, Ohio, and have already raised about \$150,000 for its endowment. Part of the necessary buildings were completed last Fall, when the College was opened under the Presidency of Hon. Horace Mann, late of Massachusetts, whose services to the cause of Common School Education are widely honored. Of the Professors already appointed, four are from the body known only as Christians aforesaid, two Unitarians, one Baptist and one Dutch Reformed, but a majority of the Trustees must be Christians. Three hundred students entered at the opening, and as many more were ready, if there had been room for them. The cost of tuition is \$24 per annum; but a share in the College, costing \$100, entitles the holder to a perpetual scholarship. Board \$14 per week. The location is very healthy and eligible, 74 miles north of Cincinnati, and in the midst of a fertile and well tilled farming region.

Though this College is not all that could be desired—the Manual Labor feature not having yet been engrafted on it, though we are assured that it shall be—it has many excellent progressive traits. We know that one of the Professors is a worthy and capable woman, and believe that others are women also. Females equally with males are entitled to all its privileges. We are assured that no effort to proselyte children from the faith of their parents will here be countenanced. We think therefore, that all liberal people who consider a useful, blameless life the best creed, should aid this College according to their ability. Whenever its Trustees shall be able to do so, they intend to buy a convenient and excellent farm of four hundred acres, (whereof they have the

refusal at a moderate price,) and set their boys to work. They cannot be enabled to do it a month too soon.

SOUTHERN TIMBER GOING NORTH.—The great increase in ship building has caused the employment of a large fleet of vessels in bringing oak and pine timber and plank from the southern to the northern States. In Virginia, Georgia, North Carolina and Florida, considerable tracts of timber land have been purchased by northern ship builders, who have erected saw mills and prepared much of the timber they require near the spot where it is cut from the forest, and then charter vessels to convey it to the ship yards of the north. Great numbers of men from Maine are at the present time engaged in getting out this timber and plank, in all the Southern States named above; and a few also in South Carolina. The Gardiner Transcript says parties for this work are leaving Bath every few days, and several weeks since, a party of 106 men started from Richmond on the Kennebec, where they had rendezvoused for the same destination. Last week a party of 30 picked men left Gardiner for Florida, and another party is about starting for Virginia, both for the purpose of cutting ship timber for the builders on the Kennebec.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—The Legislature of this State adjourned on Tuesday of last week.—The Bank of Charleston was re-chartered, with a capital of \$3,000,000, whilst the capital of other Banks were restricted to one-third that amount. Nothing done for common schools; the infamous law respecting colored seamen, although recommended by the Governor, was not modified; and the question to give the people of the State the election of Electors for President, etc., was again rejected.

The amount of tax to be collected by the Treasurer of Montgomery county, Ohio, this year is enormous. Mr. Clark, the Treasurer, will have the handling of some \$220,000 of the people's funds. If this sum were collected in silver it would amount to several tons in weight, and would take six or seven Conestoga teams to haul it.

## Native Arkansas Hog.

The attention of the northern and eastern portions of America, is respectfully called to the very peculiar qualities of the Native Arkansas Hog; and notwithstanding many different species of hogs are now known, there is, perhaps, none that possess so peculiar a quality as does this swine of Arkansas.

He was discovered as early as the nineteenth century in the first settlement, in the southwestern portion of the State, and was immediately adopted into their flocks, where he has constantly been kept, and is considered by the lords of the soil of Arkansas, as the best species of hog ever known, being very large when thoroughly matured.

He weighs from six to seven hundred pounds and is from three to three and a half feet in height, large boned, and long bodied, with quite a long head and ears, and the most peculiar feet imaginable, the hoof being round like that of the mule or horse, and entirely destitute of the usual fork, so common in the hoof of other species of hogs. Indeed he appears to be a curiosity to those unacquainted with his species, his hoofs being very long, and extending unusually high up his legs, tapering off very sharp at the bottom. He is generally of a reddish color; the hair short and thin, being finer than the hair of most other hogs. It is believed this hog would prove, where he adopted into use by the farmers of the northern and eastern portions of the State, the best species of hog ever known.

The native hog of Arkansas is most numerous in Pope and Yell counties, or on the Magazine Mountain. It is hoped he will be more generally known in a few years.—[Dollar Newspaper.

The Albany Cultivator of November, has the following account of a specific, which, it is said has been successfully applied in a neighborhood in one of the interior counties of the State. We hope it is an exception to the general character of recipes for the disease:

"CURE FOR THE POTATO ROT.—In a recent conversation with Mr. John Barrett, Jr., of Cayuga Bridge, on the subject of the potato disease, he informs us that he had not been troubled with rot for some years, and that there was an easy remedy for it, which all might apply with very little trouble or expense. On inquiring for this simple remedy, we expected to have been told that it was a secret, to be revealed only to those who are willing to contribute a handsome reward to the discoverer. But Mr. Barrett freely gave us his experience, which we as freely impart to our readers, leaving it to them to make the experiment, if they think proper.

"Mr. Barrett states that a few years since, he as well as most of his neighbors, lost their entire crop of potatoes by the rot—the next spring he was compelled to go to another town for seed, where he procured a supply for himself and an adjoining neighbor, and where he was told how to prevent the disease. He said he and his neighbor planted the seed he procured in adjoining fields—the soil and treatment similar—only that Mr. Barrett applied the remedy recommended to him—which consisted in sowing ashes over the field once a week for six weeks, commencing shortly after the second hoeing of the crop. He used from two to three bushels of ashes per acre, which is sufficient to give the potato tops a good dusting. The result was, that his field was entirely free from the disease, while the potatoes on the adjoining field, without this application of ashes, rotted badly. Since then, Mr. Barrett, as well as most of his neighbors, had applied ashes, and had been entirely free from the disease."

In South Carolina there is no law prescribing a marriage ceremonial. Hence the mode of the ceremony and the character of the officiating functionary are left to the choice of the parties. Judge Frost, of the court of sessions, in a recent charge to a jury, remarked that if a man and a woman jump over a broom, the former saying "I take this woman to be my wedded wife," and the latter, "I take this man to be my wedded husband," and go to house-keeping, they are legally married—having entered into a bond of union which cannot be annulled so long as they both live.

A SEA MOUSE.—A beautiful living specimen of the aphrodite is exhibiting in England. The fish is six inches long, and presents the general appearance of a sole. It is furnished with twenty-six feet on either edge of the under part of the body, the extremity of each leg or foot possessing four or five tentacles. The great remarkable feature, however, is in the fine glossy filament of hair which fringes the side of the animal all round, every hair reflecting the colors of the rainbow.

LAKE NAVIGATION.—The losses by steam and sail vessels on Lake Erie, Ontario, and Michigan, exceed \$574,000. Six steamers, two propellers, and thirty sail vessels were entirely destroyed. It is a cheering fact, that no lives have been lost on any regular steamer, except the Ocean Wave on Lake Ontario, showing the benefit of the new system of lights. As fresh water improvements are to be stopped, we must be thankful it is no worse.

ERIE AFFAIRS.—The United States Court has ordered Kilpatrick, the Erie rioter, to be imprisoned in jail for violating the injunction of Court, and has also ordered the United States Marshal to take possession of the road and hold it against the mob. We may now have something done that will be effectual.