

### The Ghost of Trichinopoly.

The ghost of Trichinopoly may be seen on most nights between the hours of 11 and 2 on the Tennur road. She is a most beautiful creature who walks out of the river with her clothes all wet, water dripping from her long silken tresses, and she carries in her right hand—no, not a piece of soap or an antiquated toothbrush—merely a brass lotah. If any person attempts to approach her she merely points the forefinger of her left hand at him, and he dies! The ghost was originally one of the temple dancing girls famous all over the town for her striking beauty. The temple authorities raised objections to her bathing there and ordered her to creep out quietly at 11 every night and bathe in the river at Tennur, where no one would see her. This she did for some time, but another temple girl gave away the secret, with the result that the next night when bathing she heard the tramp of many feet and on rushing out to see what was the matter was accidentally knocked into the river and drowned by the crowd of men rushing to the riverside to see her.—Madras (India) Mail.

### Formation of Natural Bridges.

It is commonly believed that natural bridges, of which the natural bridge of Virginia is the best known American example, are due to the falling in of cavern roofs, leaving only a part to span the stream which the destruction of the cavern has brought to the surface. By a study of the North Adams natural bridge Professor Cleland has been led to the conclusion that in this case at least the origin is quite different. In this case the bridge seems to be due to the solution of the limestone along a joint plane near the former course of Madison brook. At first only a small amount of water seeped along the joint plane, but after awhile it made a channel large enough to divert the entire brook under the surface, giving rise to the bridge. Walcott had previously offered a similar theory for the natural bridge of Virginia, and Cleland concludes that, while the falling in of cavern roofs may occasionally give rise to natural bridges, the most common cause for such bridges in marble, limestone, sandstone and lava is that outlined above.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

### His Point of View.

"I wonder what the poet meant when he said 'blessings brighten as they take their flight,'" remarked the curious man.

"Perhaps he meant single blessedness," replied the man who was unhappily married.—Philadelphia Press.

### Illuminated.

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### ARMY UNIFORMS.

Officers Must Spend \$1,000 to Start and Then Keep It Up.

How would you like to be forced to invest \$1,000 for clothing whether you had the money or wanted to or not?

This is what an army officer holding a commission in Uncle Sam's service has to do much oftener than he likes, if he does not happen to have the ready cash (and many of them do not have it) he is forced by army regulations to buy enough clothes on credit to tog out fifteen men.

It is an army secret, but some of the lieutenants, fresh from West Point two years ago, have only recently finished paying for their first \$1,000 worth of clothes. Their salvation is that their credit is good with the tailors who cater to the army officers' trade. All the uniforms are tailor made. It is nothing out of the ordinary for an army officer to be paying for his clothes on the installment plan. That is one part of the army officer's life that will probably not appear romantic—especially to the women.

But the rigid requirements make it necessary for the officer to spend a large sum of money for his clothes or suffer a penalty for not having them.

The pay of a second lieutenant is \$1,040 a year. One of the first things he has to do on receiving his commission is to fit himself with clothes to meet the required regulations. In the first place, he has to have service uniforms of olive drab and khaki for summer and winter wear. There must be one kind of service while mounted and another kind while dismounted.

It requires not less than four khaki uniforms of wash goods for field service. There are trousers for use while dismounted and the riding breeches. With the service uniform go the boots, shoes, pigskin leggings, cap, service hat, saddle blanket to match uniform, leather equipment and a few other things. Then there are dress uniforms for dismounted service, with black boots and black shoes, cap, cape, overcoat, hat and helmet.

There must be two sets for summer and two sets for winter of all the different uniforms. Then come the official dress uniforms for mounted and dismounted service. With the official dress go gold shoulder knots and a belt of gold costing about \$50, cap, hat, patent leather shoes and boots. Next are the white shoes and cap. Then comes the social full dress uniform for evening wear, with hat, patent leather boots and shoes, purely for social affairs.

These are not all. There must be a mess jacket, raincoat of a certain color and flannel shirts. The officers have to furnish their own horses, saddles and blankets. They have to pay their own board and for fuel and lights. They even have to buy the furnishings for their quarters. Uncle Sam only furnishes the shelter and the commission. Even the officers' trunks have to be of a regulation size. All these things mean an investment of about \$2,000 at least to begin with. This is more than the first year's salary, and expenses never stop.—Columbus Dispatch.

### WALT WHITMAN.

Ways of the Poet Who Was Loved by All Who Knew Him.

This is the Walt Whitman who was known and loved by those who met him daily:

"After some conversation Whitman proposed a walk across to Philadelphia. Putting on his gray slouch hat, he sallied forth with evident leisure and, taking my arm as a support, walked slowly the best part of a mile to the ferry. Crossing the ferry was always a great pleasure to him. The life of the street and of the people was so near, so dear. The men on the ferry steamer were evidently old friends, and when we landed on the Philadelphia side we were before long quite besieged—the man or woman selling fish at the corner of the street, the tramway conductor, the loafers on the pavement—a word of recognition from Walt or as often from the other first; presently a cheery shout from the top of a drag, and before we had gone many yards farther the driver was down and standing in front of us, his horses given to the care of some bystander. He was an old Broadway 'stager,' had not seen Walt for three or four years, and tears were in his eyes as he held his hand. We were now brought to a standstill, and others gathered round. George was ill, and Walt must go and see him. There was a message for the children, and in his pocket the poet discovered one or two packets for absent little ones. But for the most part his words were few. It was the others who spoke and apparently without reserve."—"Whitman as Carpenter Saw Him" in Craftsman.

### The Two "Dark Days."

There are two "dark days" mentioned in the annals of New England. The first occurred on Oct. 21, 1716, when it suddenly became so dark soon after noon that the people were forced to use artificial lights to do their ordinary work. This strange condition of the atmosphere lasted about three and a half hours. Again, on May 19, 1780, there was a remarkable darkening of the atmosphere, but the phenomenon did not come on so suddenly as that upon the earlier date. The darkness in this latter instance began between 10 and 11 o'clock on the morning of the day named and lasted throughout the day. The darkness extended from the northeastern part of New England westward as far as Albany and southward to Pennsylvania. The most intense and prolonged darkness, however, was confined to Massachusetts, more especially to the seaboard. It is said to have come from the southwest, but there is no mention of it made in the history of Ohio or the Virginias. The exact cause still remains one of the unexplained mysteries.

### No Room.

"Mrs. Dunkley complains that her flat is awfully cold."

"I suppose the janitor doesn't dare to turn on much steam, because Mrs. Dunkley insists on having a thermometer, and if the mercury expanded in it there might be trouble."—Chicago Record-Herald.

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