

A FAMILY OF GIANTS.

THE EXTREME HEAT TAKES OFF LAST OF BIG FAMILY.

Wonderful Feats of Strength That Were Performed by Members of Large New York Household.

Monticello, N. Y.—The last of the old Litts family, one of the most remarkable families in the state, has gone with the passing away of Thomas Litts, who died in Monticello from the effect of the extreme heat while at work in a field near his home.

He was 80 years of age, and for the last half-century had been one of the most commanding and prominent figures in Sullivan county because of his size and wonderful strength.

Thomas Litts, while attending the old-time logging and haying bees on different occasions had been known to pick up a barrel full of cider and drink from the bung hole. A brother on a wager carried a barrel of pork on his back a mile without resting, the pork being the wager.

Even the daughters were more powerful than ordinary men. It is said that one of the girls has also been known to lift a barrel of cider and drink from its bung.

In his young days one of the brothers was considered an expert wrestler and sporting men came from a distance to measure their skill and strength with him.

What! exclaimed she, "wrestle with mine brother!" and she eyed him as if taking his caliber.

She continued to jeer and banter him, and finally dared him to the encounter in such a way that he accepted her challenge.

He found her strength and skill too much for his science. Her feet and ankles were protected by the drapery which surrounded them from the advances of his heels, but they found no obstruction when she attempted to trip him.

She sent him to grass twice with such celerity and force that he retired from her father's doorway vanquished and crestfallen.

Within an inch of death Visitors in Colorado Mine Left on a Crumbling Ledge Above Water.

Denver, Col.—To face death by drowning in the icy waters of a cavern 1,000 feet underground, to feel a narrow strip of ground affording temporary safety crumbling away inch by inch into the black waters lapping at their feet, to see their only hope of rescue just an inch above their outstretched hands and finally to be saved after hope was gone, was the recent experience of Howard Wyndham and his companion, Sir George Berkeley, of London, in the Mohegan mine in Victor.

The visitors went to Victor to inspect the Mohegan mine and were being lowered in the shaft when they saw the water below them. They jerked the belt rope to signal the engineer and broke it. The cage continued downward and when the water was up to their chins they jumped for a ledge and reached it.

The engineer, puzzled by the one bell he had heard before the rope broke, began hoisting slowly and the cage left them. Then they discovered that the cage they were standing upon was breaking down. Barely in time to save them, the cage was lowered again, stopped where they could reach it and they were hoisted to safety.

Covetous of Canada. Gradually but surely the forces are at work which will in the no distant future serve to make Canada either an independent government or will bring her to that condition of mind which will lead her to seek annexation to the United States.

Capital Period. Mr. Peary is to start for the north pole again. These expeditions always begin with a dash and end with an exclamation point.

Spotlight Both. It takes nearly all the goodness out of a steak or a boy either to pound the one or the other.—Boston Transcript.

First Woman Hunter's License. Mrs. J. H. Rhodes, of Sedalia, the first woman in Missouri to secure a hunter's license, is an expert rifle and wing shot, excelling her husband, Missouri's game warden in the accuracy of her aim.

Her Idea of It. "Mr. Ranthard took me out for a ride in his automobile." "Did you have a good time?" "No. We didn't meet a single person whom I knew."—Cleveland Leader.

YOUTH OF FERTILE FANCY.

Texas Boy Strikes Chicago with Some Stories of the Tallest Description.

Chicago.—Baron Munchausen heretofore the most famous liar of whom the world has heard, has lost his honors. In the person of Anton Petrosko, a 17-year-old Texas youth, Chicago has one who for realistic fabrications has the renowned baron crying for mercy.

Anton arrived in Chicago a week ago on board a freight car, bringing with him a long list of tales of life on the western frontier. Being without visible means of support, Anton was arrested. He told the police that he wanted to work. Judge Holdom was willing to give him a chance to earn his living and sent him to the Boys' club on West Adams street.

Anton then decided to organize a syndicate among the members of the Boys' club to go to Texas and make millions. In drumming up recruits for his venture Anton would open his discourse with a few remarks concerning life in Chicago.

"This place is slow," he would tell his hearers. "Come with me to Texas and we can make money there. Why, the cows there are fine. We milk them morning, noon and night, and they give more milk there in a day than they do here in a week. And the sheep! You don't have decent sheep in Chicago. Why, in Texas the sheep all lay eggs. All farmers in Texas make a good deal out of their sheep eggs."

"Come with me to the soft grass belt of my native country," he said to the boys in one of his numerous addresses. "There among the currants which grow on trees, and amid the grasses, which grow so high that herds of cattle are lost for weeks at a time, and where the turkeys roost in trees and it is never hot enough for fans nor cold enough for mittens, we will make our fortunes. We will pick the currants from the trees, and the only thing we will have to guard against is to keep the buffaloes from climbing our trees and eating all our grapes."

The superintendent of the Boys' club bore with the strange tales until Anton criticized the methods employed by Judge Holdom, who, he said, ought to "go to Texas to learn something." The other day Anton was taken to the juvenile court and Judge McWilliams sent him to the John Worthing school, where he will remain until a place can be made for him at the St. Charles home for boys.

HISTORIC HIGHWAY FREE.

Tolls Are No Longer Exacted on Road Planned by George Washington.

Cumberland, Md.—The old National pike is now a free highway. On Wednesday, May 31, the last tolls on the old highway in Greene and Washington counties, Pennsylvania, were collected. On Thursday the old road became free. The last Pennsylvania legislature passed a bill abolishing the tolls and placing the road under the supervision of the state highway commissioner.

The old pike, or, as it is known in law, the Cumberland road, had its inception in the mind of George Washington, in the days when steam was unknown. Washington conceived the idea of a great highway to run from the seaboard to Wheeling. Later it was planned to extend it to Vincennes, Ind. In 1800 congress passed a bill for the construction of the Cumberland road from Cumberland, Md., to the state of Ohio. Jefferson, signing the act on March 19, 1906. The following year the senate passed an act permitting the United States to build the road through the state of Pennsylvania. The road was thrown open to the public in 1813, and, until the advent of the first railroad over the mountains, was the nation's great highway to the west. It was built to last, and its old iron toll gates and stone milestones are a lasting monument to its builders.

The great men in the early history of the nation traveled over the "old pike," Jackson, Harrison, Clay, "Sam" Houston, Polk, Taylor, Crittenden, Shelby, Allen, Scott, Butler and the eccentric "Davy" Crockett all joggied over it in stages and dodged piles of limestone in the center of the "old pike" in its day. On one occasion the carriage Henry Clay occupied upset on a stone pile. Clay extricated himself and remarked: "This is a mixing of the Clay of Kentucky with the limestone of Pennsylvania."

Carp Carry Typhoid Germs. Members of the medical profession of Appleton, Wis., declare they have discovered a new medium for the spread of typhoid fever.

German carp, which fill the waters of Lake Butte des Morts and Lake Winnebago, and which have been said to drive out more desirable fish, are now declared conveyors of disease. The fish feed on sewage and refuse, and physicians declare it is more than possible that many of the cases of typhoid fever in this vicinity within the last few months can be traced to the eating of these fish.

It is possible that the movement to have the fish removed from local waters will again be started.

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EUROPE SELLS TO MEXICO.

Machinery Is Better Suited to Unskilled Handiers Than American Make.

John Bull's island and the kaiser's fatherland are where the Mexican machinery mainly comes from, not on account of superior workmanship or cheapness, but apparently because European manufacturers are disposed to conform to the requirements of the 14,000,000 Mexicans who have occasion to use machinery. Besides the Europeans extend long credits, which permit the buyers to proceed in conformity with the slow processes in vogue everywhere in Mexico.

American machinery is admitted to be excellent, but it is not suited to the rough handling of the Indians and half-breeds, who perform most of the Mexican labor. By the majority of this machinery is made to perform its duty regardless of any defects which may exist, due to faulty installation or other causes. The laborers do not stop to take this into consideration. Nor can they appreciate the fine working parts of complicated machinery nor the careful handling it requires.

European machinery is fully one-half to one-fourth heavier than American machinery of the same power, and hence stands much rougher treatment. American machinery, it is said, is shipped carelessly, so that it arrives in bad condition, requiring the missing parts to be replaced by native mechanics, who thereby jeopardize the working of the machines. The European products are shipped in a faultless manner.

RUGS OF PET CAT SKINS.

Felts of Dead Felines May Be Used to Make Handsome Ornaments.

Devoted feminine owners of "the loveliest cat you ever saw" need not utterly despair when, in course of time or accident, the last of this cat's lives is yielded. They may, if so disposed, at once remember poor pussy affectionately and add to their own choice possessions by following the example of a London woman who has loved and lost many fine felines.

This woman is the sadly proud owner of a handsome rug made from the skins of her departed darlings. All of the 14 skins that compose this rug are of a single color, black, the one-time mistress of the vanished cats being partial to pets of inky shade and keeping no others. On the reverse side of each skin is an inscription recording the name of its original owner and the period during which she gladdened the heart of the woman before whose hearth her fur still resides.

Owners of fine cats might do worse than follow a similar plan when death removes any of their feline treasures. Cat fur usually is fine and handsome, and poor pussy might as well be remembered in this way as by the cat portraits that now hang on many a wall.

NOT WHAT LAWYER WANTED

Got Good Motherly Advice Where He Was Looking for Treasury Notes.

"Lawyers have some queer experiences," said the judge. "One of them was telling of a case heard before me. A young man had been arrested for larceny and he sent for his lawyer. The young fellow told the attorney that he was innocent, but that he had no friends in the city, and no money. His mother, however, was in fair circumstances, and he knew that she would help him. What he wanted the lawyer to do was to defend him, and also send a telegram to his mother telling of his fix, and asking for aid. The lawyer agreed to this, and made such a good defense that the young man was acquitted. He and the attorney went direct to the telegraph office to which the message had been ordered sent, and found it. The young man was so grateful to the lawyer that he handed him the unopened envelope, telling him that he must take all the money that his mother had telegraphed him. The lawyer tore open the yellow cover, and his eyes were greeted with these words: 'Put your trust in God. I am praying for you. Mother.'"

Hindoo Bathing Festival. Says a newspaper published in India: "The Mahavari, the great bathing festival of the Hindoos, was observed on the night of the 1st of May. Immense crowds from all parts of the country repaired to Harwar to bathe in the Ganges on the occasion. The giving away to Brahmans of rice, sweets, clothes and utensils on the occasion is considered meritorious, and the festival must have proved a windfall to the priestly class. In Lahore the festival as celebrated in a befitting manner. The road between the city and the Hari was instinct with life throughout the night."

Light Draught. A young subaltern, fresh from the Sudan, was explaining to a large party the excellent construction of a stern-wheel steamer that allows of it being navigated in the shallowest waters.

"Precious smart, I guess," said a soldier Yankee beside him; "but just before I left New York they had launched a river boat with such a shallow draught that it would sail anywhere where it was damp."—Tit-Bits.

Her Idea of It. "Mr. Ranthard took me out for a ride in his automobile." "Did you have a good time?" "No. We didn't meet a single person whom I knew."—Cleveland Leader.

SETTING TIDES TO WORK.

Neglected Source of Power on Pacific Coast to Be Brought Under Control.

The entrance to Mission bay, near San Diego, formerly known as False bay, is so narrow that the tidal flow through it in and out of the broad basin is very rapid and strong, save during short intervals at slack, high and low water. The tidal area of Mission bay is very extensive, so that a vast volume flows in and out at each flood and ebb. It is proposed to utilize this neglected source of tidal power through the agency of horizontal turbines, and apply it to useful purposes.

There is probably enough power going to waste during the ebb and flow of the tides to generate enough electricity to light the city of San Diego, providing that the turbine plant installed is equipped with a storage battery station, in which the electricity generated by the dynamos driven by the turbines can be stored for use when needed.

This San Diego scheme illustrates the growing disposition which prevails everywhere throughout the state to utilize sources of power which have been hitherto neglected, whose value, through the progress made in the generation and application of electric energy, has become apparent to everyone. And through the increasing employment of these natural sources of power we are enabled to reduce the consumption of coal and wood. Reducing the coal consumption means, of course, a lessening of the imports of that mineral, and the retention of the money formerly sent abroad to pay for it to be employed in the upbuilding of domestic industries; while the reduction of the use as wood as fuel stops the ravages of the woodchopper on our forest lands. We are, therefore, profiting in various ways by these new utilitarian developments.

USE OF BALLOONS IN WAR.

Are Intricately Made and Equipped with Most Expensive Apparatus.

The war balloon of to-day is supposed to last five or six years and is protected with many thicknesses of material in vital places, such as the top and bottom, where the valves are let in. A balloon of 500 cubic meters capacity will cost about \$1,500, states the World Today. The network is of hemp and the basket of Spanish reeds. The observer has, of course, wireless telegraph apparatus and telephones, as well as flag signals, megaphones and other instruments. His sketches, written notes, maps and negatives may be sent down in a tin can along the cable. His telegraph instrument is fastened about his waist on a belt and the telephone receiver is always at his ear. German officers in small balloons carry an instantaneous camera screwed to the stock of a rifle, so that the observer can put the stock to his shoulder as though about to shoot, bring his sights to bear on the subjects to be photographed and make an exposure by pulling the trigger.

The German balloon "stable" is a corrugated iron shed, nearly 60 feet high and 100 feet long. It is lit by electricity and no open lights are allowed near it. Each balloon is attended by 15 cyclist scouts, messengers and patrols and the German balloon detachment, on a peace footing, numbers 150 men, commanded by a major assisted by a captain and four lieutenants. There are besides two professional instructors in aeronautics, each of whom may have a class of lieutenants under him for a whole year. These men must never get "seasick" in the basket during an ascent and must possess level heads in more senses than one, sound judgment, stout hearts and infinite resource.

Why Prussia Is So Called. The modern name of Prussia is derived from Borussi, or Porussi, who conquered the country about 320 B. C. Little is known concerning Prussia and its people till the tenth century, except that that portion of the Baltic shore which is now included in the kingdom of Prussia was formerly inhabited by Slavonic tribes akin in customs and languages to the Lithuanians. They came in occasional collision with wave after wave of the great Teutonic race as it flowed down from the icy north, receiving their first knowledge of Christianity from Bishop Adelbert of Prague, whom they martyred in 971. In the middle of the thirteenth century the Teutonic knights, on their return from the crusades, undertook the conquest and conversion of Prussia. The Borussia, element mingled with the followers of the Teutonic knights, and consequently with the Poles.

Antiquity of the Mosquito. The antiquarians are not without their uses. Those who will not follow all of their work and who refuse to be interested in the excavations at Babylon or cities of an earlier date will none the less give ear to their revelations establishing the antiquity of the mosquito. The average man has long suspected that the mosquito is of an ancient race, in spite of his many evidences of barbarism. The fessess he displays in holding to the leeward side of an unfortunate victim, at times and places and when the wind is ablow, indicate centuries of accumulated experience manifesting themselves in his instinct.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Fine Figuring. It is supposed by a scientist of eminence that the average man's eyelids open and shut 4,000,000 times during the year.

THE MIRACLE OF SUNBURN

Wise Provision of Nature for the Protection of Man Against Sun's Heat.

There are certain arctic animals, dark coated in the short summer, that in winter turn pure white, thus matching the snow covered landscape, and escaping notice and harm.

This change of color, this protection, effected no one knows how, is wonderful, as wonderful as a miracle, and yet, says the New York Herald, a kindred change of color, a kindred protection, happens among mankind every summer, and nobody ever notices it.

When the pale city people go out in the summer sun at the seashore or in the mountains the light attacks them fiercely, first reddening their skin, then swelling, blistering and scorching it. If they kept in the sun enough, and if no miracle occurred, the light would kill them finally, burning off the skin first and afterward attacking the raw flesh.

But a miracle does occur. The skin changes from a pale color to a tan and on this tan the sun has no effect. The sun may beat on tan-colored skin for days and weeks, but such skin remains always sound, unblistered, whole.

Thus nature works a miracle. The white skin is suffering, and nature, aware, somehow, that a tan skin is sun proof, changes to tan the white. How does she do this? Where did she learn that it was wise to do this? No one knows. Only the fact of the miracle remains.

To prove this miracle—to prove that it is not the hardening of the skin, but the change in its color, which protects it from sunburn—is an easy matter.

Let a pale person, unused to the sun, stain one side of his face yellow, and, leaving the other side untouched, go out in the bright summer sun for a couple of hours. The one side of his face is no tougher, no more hardened, than the other, yet the unstained side will be inflamed, blistered, while the tan-colored one will be quite cool and unburnt.

Sunburn is a miracle, a protection to mankind as inexplicable and as wonderful as the miracle of the arctic animals' change in the winter from dark coats to snow white ones.

WON'T WEAR FULL DRESS.

Sitters in Photographic Studios Are Opposed to Dress Suit Poses.

Why is it that men are seldom photographed in evening dress? Do they dislike full dress—do they think it less becoming or are they less at ease in this style of apparel than in their ordinary business suits? These are questions raised by the discovery that it is almost an impossibility to obtain individual photographs taken in dress suits of the majority of business and professional men, says the Chicago Tribune.

In group pictures, taken at banquets or other like functions, many of these men are to be recognized clad in evening garments, but when it comes to a photograph they wear their ordinary business dress. It is a curious fact that, while the wives and daughters go to the fashionable photographer for a photograph of themselves arrayed in their latest importation, décolleté, with their hair elaborately coiffured, the head of the house, patronizing the same photographer, will appear before the camera, dressed in his most ordinary every day suit, usually a plain sack coat and a string tie.

One photographer says that many extremely young men come and sit for their pictures in evening dress, but they are not, as a rule, the sons of rich men, but the young fellows who seldom own a suit themselves and who either borrow or rent it for the occasion to awe some girl left behind in the little village. This is the fellow who likes the people at home to believe him prosperous, and who gladly pays the rental of a suit for an hour, while his employer, who probably owns a dozen suits, will pose in anything he happens to have on.

Of course, some professions, like music and acting, require evening costumes at times for business reasons, but nine times out of ten the sitter who goes to his photographer for these pictures will pose in an ordinary dress for photographs to give his family and friends.

Eats the Sailors' Joy.

Antimal pets have ever been a great joy to the average sailor. There is hardly a ship afloat that does not carry one or more such little favorites, to whom the crew are universally kind. More than this, there is frequently developed an attachment between men and animals that is seldom to be seen on shore, and the intelligence displayed by these animals often far exceeds the wonderful stories we sometimes see in print. On men-of-war there is probably more consideration shown the crew in this regard than on merchantmen; at all events, you will find there many more ship's pets. It is by no means uncommon to see upon the same deck a dozen or more well-trained animals of various kinds whose natural homes are separated by thousands of miles.—St. Nicholas.

International Railways.

It is announced on apparently excellent authority that the French government is in accord with the cabinet of St. James, will shortly sign an agreement whereby the railways in Abyssinia shall be conducted on an international basis. The French Ethiopian railway is to be extended to Adis-Ababa, under international control.

Hence the Need.

"Why do you tip the waiter?" asked the man with the nine-fifty-five suit and the rotund form. "He's better off than you are. He owns an automobile." "If he does," replied the man with a comfortable lowdown collar, "he needs the money."—Indianapolis Star.

HAS A "BREECHES BIBLE."

Quaint Edition Printed in 1605 Owned by Hartford, Conn., Man—Reason for Name.

Hartford, Conn.—Frederick G. Bull has a quaint and rare edition of the Bible, which attracts much attention from lovers of the antique. It was published in 1605, "imprinted at London by Robert Barker, printer to the king's most excellent majesty." Its wood covers contain not only the Bible, but the ritual of the episcopal church, concordance and psalms set to music.

The Bible was "translated according to the Hebrew and Greek." The volume is seven inches thick and is bound with a strong cord, firmly secured in wooden covers, which are nearly a half inch in thickness. The wood is covered with leather, with brass strips and heavy corners for protection. The type is old English. The volume is in a very good state of preservation.

The Bible is known as the "Breeches Bible," because of the seventh verse of the third chapter of Genesis is translated as follows: "Then the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves breeches."

The Geneva Bible, or "Breeches Bible," was issued from Geneva in 1560 by several English divines who had fled thither to escape the persecution of the reign of Queen Mary. This translation was in common use in England till the version made by order of King James was introduced in 1611. The old Bible came into possession of Mr. Bull from his father, the late Samuel Bull, who received it from England 15 years ago.

HYPNOTIC SLEEP NEW CURE

Wonderful Results from Swedish Doctor's Remedy for All Ills—Helps Worn-Out Society Devotees.

Stockholm.—Dr. Otto Wetterstrand has introduced the "sleep cure." It is intended to restore the nerves of jaded people after a long season of fashionable dissipation. Dr. Wetterstrand makes his patients sleep as much as possible through three or four weeks, and often uses hypnotic suggestion to induce and prolong sleep.

Dr. Wetterstrand has treated over 3,000 cases. The worried man reclines in an easy chair and sees others doing the same; he listens, as they do, to a quiet, forcible exposition of the cure from the doctor; who afterwards speaks to him individually in an undertone, "suggesting" the benefit his particular malady will receive.

After a few days of such preliminary treatment, the patient goes willingly to bed and to sleep, roused occasionally to a half-conscious state to eat and be tended. No unnatural person is allowed to enter the room; the sleeper is put on rapport with a sympathetic nurse, and receives the necessary "suggestions" as to eating etc. from the doctor himself.

"The remarkable results," says a great French physician, "which Wetterstrand has had will considerably extend the limits of suggestive therapy."

The deeper the sleep, the quicker the cure, and, unlike that produced by hypnotic drugs, it is as invigorating as natural sleep, and allows nature an equal chance of repairing organic and functional disorders.

PIANO PRODIGY AT SEVEN.

Smallest Girl. Musician in World Plays Difficult Composition—Will Study in Paris.

New York.—The smallest girl anyone ever saw playing the piano is Aline Boerentzen, who was born seven years ago at Somerville, Mass., and who now lives in Gramercy Park with her widowed mother. She has big, gentle blue eyes, chubby cheeks and thick, silken brown hair. This tiny creature plays the most difficult compositions with a clear insight, with sympathy and understanding and with wonderfully excellent technique.

Aline is not punished for her precocity with the grown-up air and blasé manner that have distinguished so many child geniuses. She is a genuine little girl and likes to play with dolls as other little girls do.

When she had finished playing various difficult selections from Chopin, an Liszt for a critic to-day she began romping about the room.

This girl began to play on the piano when she was three years old. When she was four she watched her mother give a recital and when the pupil departed the child played the lesson perfectly. At the age of five years Aline was taken to Paris by her mother. There for five months she studied under Prof. Marces and each month she won the prize given by the National Conservatory of Music. She will be taken back to Paris for further study.

Say Worm Cures "Con."

"The tapeworm is the natural enemy of the germ of consumption, and the latter cannot exist when the other is present," says Counsel Canada at Vera Cruz, Mexico, in a report just received at this state department at Washington, D. C. The consul states two eminent scientists have discovered that the tapeworm prevents the organism from being infected with tuberculosis bacilli, and it has been proven in the case of a consumptive affected with tapeworm that he completely recovered his health. To establish the efficacy of this remedy, the doctors injected a liquid prepared from the tania into several consumptives, which resulted in a complete cure.

Who Knows?

A new nebula has been discovered in the Milky Way in the region near Sagittarius. Perhaps it marks the spot at which some celestial automobile enthusiast hit a telegraph pole.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS