

# SOMEWHAT STRANGE

## ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS OF EVERYDAY LIFE.

### Clear Facts and Thrilling Adventures which Show that Truth is Stronger Than Fiction.

WHAT has been known for half a century as the old Freehand residence, ten miles from Jackson, Miss., was recently torn down after having been a ruin for many years, says a correspondent of the Philadelphia Times. Beneath it was discovered what had been an old curbed well, and on clearing this out there was brought up a small steel casket containing several articles of old-fashioned jewelry. These numbered among them a watch of the style worn during the last part of the last century and a comb such as was affected by ladies of continental times. These were set with large pearls, which must have been valuable, but which are ruined by the action of the water. A tiara of small diamonds bore the device of "D" in diamond German characters, but beyond this there is no clue as to the owner of the jewels. The family to whom the house belonged has long been extinct and the place for some years until recently has been inhabited by negroes. Some of the older citizens remember that this mansion replaced another far handsomer, which was destroyed by fire and which was one of the oldest places in the State. At the time of the war the house was rented to a poor family named Lucey, who would hardly have possessed such jewels, so their presence in the well can scarcely be accounted for on the theory that they were hidden there for safety. The present value of the articles is not more than \$100, but when new they must have been worth something over \$1,000, according to the valuation of a jeweler. They are now in the possession of the gentleman who owns the land on which the old place stood. The watch is curious for its antique workmanship, though most of the works have been eaten away by rust.

In many places in the tules lands in the vicinity of Suisan, Cal., wild hogs, as ferocious and as tenacious of life as the boar of the German forests, may be encountered by the sportsman who likes a spice of danger in his hunting. One of these beasts, shot recently, measured from the tip of the tail more than six feet, and had tusks fourteen inches in length. Its weight, although it had no superfluous flesh, was 320 pounds. The skin at the shoulders was three inches thick and as tough as leather. It was reported that hogs had been running wild in the marshes for a long time, and that they were savage enough to furnish better sport than other animals that are supposed to be dangerous. A party was formed to kill a particular boar that had been roaming the tules land for several years, in spite of the efforts of local hunters to bring him to bay. The tracks of the boar were found and he was traced to a patch of dense reed grass. The hunters invaded it from different points, and one of them suddenly came upon the animal. His companions heard the report of his gun, and the next instant saw the man's body thrown into the air fully ten feet. Going to his rescue, a second hunter was charged by the boar. One shot brought him to his knees, but even then he rose and rushed on his assailant again. A second ball penetrated the brain and he rolled over dead. The man who was thrown into the air was not seriously injured, but received bruises which laid him up for a considerable time.

The recent report that a citizen of the United States has discovered among the mountains of the Mexican State of Sinola a long forgotten city tallies with a curious local tradition of that region. Adjoining the State of Sinola on the south is the State of Jalisco, and of this State Guadalajara is the capital. Living in the mountains of Jalisco, part of the same great Sierra Madre or "Mother Range" that extends through Sinola and thence northward, are the unconquered Yaquis, a brown-haired people with light eyes and almost fair complexions. Guadalajara is the only civilized town that these Yaquis visit, and it has long been believed there that the Yaqui fastnesses of the Sierra Madre range conceal not only rich mines of silver, but as well the lost city of the Aztec race. No one has hitherto pierced the mountain wilderness, because the naked Yaquis have an effective system of passive resistance that has hitherto successfully closed the sole line of approach. The only human beings other than the Yaquis themselves admitted to the mountains of Jalisco are a few renegade Apaches, dangerous wretches, vastly more dangerous to would-be explorers than the peaceful but persistent Yaquis.

The immense herd of cattle branded "J. B. S." ranging in Lyman County, South Dakota, has been levied on by the Treasurer of that county for taxes. The owner of the herd was John B. Smith, who is reported to have died suddenly in some spots while on a business trip to that city some weeks ago. The

Lyman county authorities, however, have no proof of his death, and there is no record in the Probate Court of that county showing that his estate has ever been probated. Parties claiming to have held a mortgage on the stock, but who are known to be rustlers have been running the cattle out of the country without any process of foreclosure, and the County Treasurer finally came to the conclusion that it was time for him to act, and accordingly levied on the balance of the cattle for the taxes due. Nearly 10,000 cattle were run out of the country. Smith left from \$8,000 to \$10,000 in life insurance, beside the large herd of cattle in question. It is regarded as very peculiar that his heirs have never attempted to settle the accounts of the deceased cattleman.

A SPECIMEN of huge vegetable growth resembling a mammoth rutabaga was on exhibition in Tacoma, Wash. The curiosity is of undoubtedly vegetable nature and is shaped like a turnip, roots and all. It was found on the beach near the water on McNeil's Island by Robert Longmire, one of the penitentiary guards. An express wagon had to be secured to bring it to town from the wharf. The curious find is two feet ten inches long from the top to the end of the roots, which appear to be broken off close to the body of the object. The circumference around the "turnip" is four feet three inches, while the major circumference is six feet six inches. The diameter is eighteen inches and the weight is fully 100 pounds. The flesh of the "turnip" cuts easily with a knife and resembles exactly a rutabaga. The taste is slightly bitter, probably caused by salt water.

WYNN MOLESFORTH has invented and constructed a very ingenious "celestial clock," which was exhibited at the first Winter meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society, says London Truth. The entire face of the clock rotates under a wire bar representing the equatorial horizon and is regulated to perform one revolution in 23 hours 56 minutes 4 seconds, this being the time in which the earth turns once upon its axis. The apparent annual motion of sun, moon and planets in the opposite direction is effected by movable pins, while the north and south polar stars, that do not rise or set for us, revolve simultaneously with the rest by a separate movement. Thus may be seen the entire heavens, with sun, moon, planets and constellations in their actual places, ever rising and setting as they rise and set in the heavens.

WILLIAM A. ASHLEY, of Long Plain, near New Bedford, Mass., had a thrilling experience with an eagle recently. He had just returned from meeting when he started out to look at some of his trees. He had scarcely gone twenty yards when his dog, which was with him, started in pursuit of something on the other side of a wire fence inclosing a pear orchard. Mr. Ashley jumped over the fence and to his surprise saw a large eagle. The dog barked fiercely and as Mr. Ashley approached the eagle spread its wings and attempted to fly. But Mr. Ashley was too quick for the bird and caught it by the neck and wings. He used no weapon, for he had none, and received no injury save a slight scratch. The eagle is a large one, the wings measuring eight feet seven and a half inches from tip to tip.

The London Telegraph tells a marvelous story from Vienna about a lady forty-two years old and suffering from a peculiar form of asthma, which ten months' treatment has been powerless to cure. Her story is that she constantly hears music from her heart, and is so maddened by the ceaseless tones that she has to keep her ears filled with wadding, like Ulysses during the siren's song. The medical experts who have had the case under consideration confirm the statement of the lady—a continuous noise composed of musical tones in a high pitch was to be heard during the medical diagnosis, which runs: "Diastolic musical heart." The lady has as strong a dislike to internal music as to asthma, and unless speedily cured, she avers, it will drive her mad.

SABLE ISLAND, whence a carrier pigeon recently brought news of the wreck of the schooner Robert J. Edward, is famous throughout the Canadian maritime provinces for its race of wild ponies. The little creatures were originally placed upon the island in order that they might furnish food for shipwrecked mariners frequently cast away there. The coarse salt grass of the island is cured and stacked in summer time, and upon this the ponies feed all winter. It is said that they eat their way deep into the stacks and thus find their only shelter from storms. There is a tradition current that they even eat fish cast upon the shore. Considerable droves of the ponies are taken to the mainland in early autumn, and they are sold in the Halifax market.

THIRTY-SEVEN years ago Clarence Morton sold out his farm in Berlin, Vt., and went to California to dig for gold. Failing there he went to Arizona, and for thirty years nothing

was heard from him by his wife, who had remained behind in the Vermont town until he should come enough to send for her. Twelve years ago, believing him dead, she remarried. A month ago her second husband died. Three days later she was astonished beyond measure by receiving a letter from the long lost Clarence. He wrote that he had "struck luck" within the last few years, and that he had at the time of writing \$40,000 in gold secreted in his Arizona hut. He enclosed two money orders for her fare and other expenses.

THE most unusual profession for a gentlewoman has been taken up because of necessity by Mrs. Coleman, an English woman, as a means of supporting her invalid husband. The name of the profession is pavement artist, which is one of the commonest street sights of London, though but little known here. There are 300 or more persons in the English metropolis earning a living in this trade of drawing pictures on the pavement and collecting pennies from the crowds that gather. Colored chalks are used and realistic scenes are sketched of the exciting events of the day. On fair days Mrs. Coleman earns on an average \$1.25 a day, and when it rains she stays at home and prepares her chalks.

THE mania of giving a large number of Christian names to one and the same person is particularly prevalent in Italy. An Italian gentleman named Campagna, who has just been naturalized a Frenchman, has given some little trouble to the French Foreign Office clerks in registering his full designation. Here it is: Vincenzo Salvatore Maria Gennaro Francesco Sales Francesco d'Assisi Francesco de Paolo Rocca Michele Crocifisso Emidde Pasquale Giovan Giuseppe Geltrude Carlo Gaetano Alfonso Giro Andrea Luigi Gioran Geraldo Antonio-di-Para Antonio-Abbate Campagna.

OKLAHOMA continues to comport herself as if she had been open to settlement a hundred years instead of only four. Her latest statistics show nearly 2,400,000 acres of farm land in use, with a cash value of more than \$18,000,000. Her farm implements are worth \$340,000, and she has growing 688,000 apple trees, 648,000 peach trees, 69,000 cherry trees, 51,000 pear trees, and a great variety of other fruit trees and of vines. The whole Territory is adapted to fruit raising, and Oklahoma fruit will doubtless soon appear in the New York market.

SOMEBODY is poorer and the State of North Carolina is richer \$2,100 a year by the accidental loss of \$36,000 of an old 6 per cent. bond issue. The State Treasurer has never been able to hear from the missing bonds and it is supposed that they were destroyed during the civil war. They are pretty safe bonds, too, as the whole issue is guaranteed by a pledge of the State stock in the North Carolina Railroad Company. The dividends from this stock are nearly \$17,000 in excess of the interest on the bonds.

AN old man who for many years has been a beggar on the streets of Auzerre, France, existing on scraps of food which he begged from door to door, died a few days ago of cold and hunger. In an old trunk in his miserable lodgings were found bonds to the value of more than a million francs, and in the cellar, covered by heaps of rubbish, more than 400 bottles of wine of the vintage of 1790. The old miser had inherited the wine from his family, and lived to the age of 85 years without opening a single bottle.

THE Stamford university at Palo Alto, Cal., has been presented with a colt whose left front foot and right hind foot are cloven like the foot of a calf. The colt was born at the stock farm of Mr. Boots at Santa Clara, and was chloroformed a few days after its birth. The specimen is being prepared for the zoological laboratory, and the hide, after being stuffed, together with the skeleton, will be placed in the museum. The deformed feet will be separately mounted for exhibition.

AMONG the many vessels which have been driven ashore and wrecked on the English coast since the winter's storms began, was the schooner Draper, which was lost with all on board. The Draper was more than 114 years old, having been built in 1779, and was one of the oldest vessels regularly engaged as a freight carrier.

COLONEL ENOCH NOYES of Cecil County, Maryland, has just felled on his farm near Port Deposit, a walnut tree eighteen feet in circumference, eighty-six feet high, and believed to be 300 years old. He expects to get \$400 for the lumber, not an unreasonable expectation, as walnut wood is scarce and again in considerable demand.

ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPOKE.  
Gus De Smith—I hear that your wife's mother is very sick. Is she dangerous?  
Pete Amsterdam—She is a very sick woman, but she is not as dangerous as when she is well.—These sayings.

**THE U. S. Government Chemists have reported, after an examination of the different brands, that the ROYAL Baking Powder is absolutely pure, greatest in strength, and superior to all others.**

ROYAL BAKING POWDER COMPANY, 106 WALL ST., NEW-YORK.

### Ripe and Unripe Bananas.

Whether for shipment or for home consumption the fruit is cut as soon as it is "full"—that is, when it has reached its adult form and size, but is still quite green. The plant is cut off by a single blow of the machete wielded by a powerful arm. As it falls the bunch is caught, lopped off, and laid aside, while the harvester goes on to the next bunch. It is a popular supposition that bananas "ripened on the tree" are incomparably superior to those cut green. But, as a matter of fact, one never cuts them ripened thus in Jamaica. They are said to be not so good; at all events, one finds no better fruit in texture or flavor than the best of our own markets. But every lover of this fruit knows that its quality varies extraordinarily as it is offered to us. This is due partly to the different sources from which it comes. The best that is brought to us comes from Jamaica. It is also due still more to the condition of the fruit when cut. Bananas which are perfectly full will ripen mellow and delicious; but those cut when immature, as too many are, will turn yellow, yet never truly ripen, retaining always their hard texture and unripe taste. In Jamaica, as elsewhere, the competition of buyers leads the unscrupulous ones to accept fruit of any sort, even when totally unfit; and this sort of competition makes all the more unavailing the efforts of honest buyers to raise the standard and to teach the people to withhold their fruit until it is properly developed. Americans can give moral support to these efforts by accepting only such fruit as is mature at any price. A little pains will soon enable one to distinguish good from poor fruit, though it is difficult to give a general statement of the distinctive differences. But, as a rule, it will be found that bananas which are largest, deepest yellow and least angular are the most mature and best.—Popular Science Monthly.

### Deep Sea Thermometer.

The deep sea thermometer, as invented abroad and improved by officers of the United States Navy, is a marvellously ingenious and effective contrivance. It is in effect a self-registering instrument, though not technically so called. The thermometer is so arranged that it is automatically turned upside down when the machinery begins to draw it up from the depth at which the temperature is to be ascertained. The effect of the inverting process is to break the column of mercury, and a small portion of the column remains in the upper end of the tube, exactly enough to measure the temperature at the moment of inversion. The tube is graduated so as to read from either end, and the quantity of mercury in the upper part of the tube is so small that it does not respond to any but great and sudden changes of temperature. It thus happens that the reading, when the thermometer reaches the surface, is practically correct for the temperature at the point of inversion.—[New York Sun.

The matrimonial advertisement idea has reached Japan. U9



### KNOWLEDGE

Brings comfort and improvement and tends to personal enjoyment when rightly used. The many who live better than others and enjoy life more, with less expenditure, by more promptly adapting the world's best products to the needs of physical being, will attest the value to health of the pure liquid laxative principles embraced in the remedy, Syrup of Figs.

Its excellence is due to its presenting in the form most acceptable and pleasant to the taste, the refreshing and truly beneficial properties of a perfect laxative; effectually cleansing the system, dispelling colds, headaches and fevers and permanently curing constipation. It has given satisfaction to millions and met with the approval of the medical profession, because it acts on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels without weakening them and it is perfectly free from every objectionable substance.

Syrup of Figs is for sale by all druggists in 50c and \$1 bottles, but it is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, whose name is printed on every package, also the name, Syrup of Figs, and being well informed, you will not accept any substitute if offered.

### 1410 Bus. Potatoes Per Acre.

This astonishing yield was reported by Abr. Hahn, of Wisconsin, but Salzer's potatoes always get there. The culture of the King New Yorker reports a yield of 336 bushels and 8 pounds per acre from one of Salzer's early potatoes. Above 1410 bushels are from Salzer's new seedling Hundred-fold. His new early New Yorker reports a yield of 336 bushels per acre. He offers potatoes as low as \$2.50 a barrel, and the best potato planter in the world for but \$5.

If you will CUT THIS OUT AND SEND IT WITH GO POSTAGE TO THE JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO., LA CROSSE, WIS., you will receive free his mammoth potato catalogue and a package of sixteen-day "cut the root" raisins.

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All the telephones now operated in Japan are owned by the government.

Galveston, Texas, handles every year 700,000 bales of cotton.

Denver, Colorado, was named for Governor James W. Denver, of Kansas.

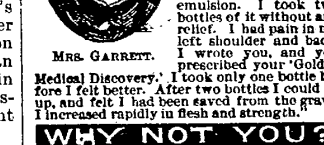
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Mrs. REUBEN GARRETT, King George Co., Va., writes: "I was taken with grip which finally resulted in pneumonia. Was prostrated for three months. Had a terrible cough and was emaciated and very weak. Was fast drifting into 'quick consumption.' The doctor gave me medicines all the time. I grew weaker. He advised cod liver oil emulsion. I took two bottles of it without any relief. I had pain in my left shoulder and back. I wrote you, and you prescribed your 'Golden Medical Discovery.' I took only one bottle before I felt better. After two bottles I could sit up, and felt I had been saved from the grave. I increased rapidly in flesh and strength."

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