

AT A MAORI FEAST.

An Odd Welcome and a Slip on the Part of the Cook.

Telling of his experience at a Maori feast, the New Zealand correspondent of London Public Opinion says:

The Maori girls did a pretty welcoming dance, singing and dancing slowly backward all the way till we got to the inclosure around the meeting house (whare purie), where the speeches were to be made. Then the older people cut amazing capers, shouted themselves hoarse and made the most repulsive faces you ever saw by way of welcome to their chief. Chairs were put for us on the veranda of the whare, which was prettily decorated with beautiful palms.

After some time of this and the presentation of mats, etc., we were invited into the whare to lunch. It was laid most correctly on big tables with cloths, but the menu consisted of roast duck, chicken, beef and sucking pig and, so it is said, potatoes, peas and kumara (sweet potatoes), cooked in a Maori oven. I chose cold duck, with peas and potatoes. The duck arrived quickly, but the Maori girl who brought it said, with broad smiles, "The potatoes aren't cooked yet!" So my lunch consisted of duck, bread and two oranges. Just as I finished the potatoes arrived in pretty plaited green flax baskets.

OUR IGNORANCE.

That It Is Very Real the Things We Don't Know Prove.

After all are we not still ignorant of much which we feel we ought to understand? Apart from the great laws of electricity, light and heat, about which we know something, but certainly not all, are we not almost hopelessly ignorant of some of the laws which govern the lives of animals? Do we know, for instance, what is the law which makes it possible for a bee carried five or six miles from her home, blind in a dark box, to find her way back to the hive? What is the sense exercised by the antennae of the virgin moth which, set out in a muslin box on a lawn, attracts suitors from woodlands scattered away in all the country round? What is the attraction felt or choice decided upon by the tendrils of the climbing plant which turns aside from the smooth wall to catch at and wrap round the nail or the ledge or the projection which is to help it upward? All that is unknown, hardly even guessed at, and if there is so great an ignorance of what can be seen, is it logically to be argued that there is not a greater ignorance of what is unseen? One thing at least is certain—the reality of that ignorance.—London Spectator.

THE CENTO.

What the Word Strictly Means and What It Means In Poetry.

A cento is strictly a coat made of patches. In poetry it is a piece wholly composed of verses or passages taken from different authors and so placed together as to form a new poem with a fresh meaning of its own.

According to the rules laid down by Ausonius, author of the famous "Nuptial Cento," the pieces may be taken from one poet or from several. The Empress Eudoxia wrote a life of Christ in centos taken from Homer, and Alexander Ross used Virgil for the same purpose.

The following are modern instances: I only knew she came and went (Lowell) Like troutlets in a pool (Hood). She was a phantom of delight (Wordsworth). And I was like a fool (Eastman).

"One kiss, dear maid," I said and sighed (Coleridge). "Out of those lips unshorn" (Longfellow). She shook her ringlets round her head (Stoddard). And laughed in merry scorn (Tennyson).

NEW ROAD.

Open River Causes More Transportation Competition.

Competition with both the O. R. & N. and the Northern Pacific in Eastern Washington and floating the freight it thus secures down the Columbia, by way of the Portage Railroad, to Portland; shutting out Puget Sound and insuring the business of a large newly developed area to this city, the Spokane & Columbia River Railway & Navigation Company is the first important independent line to result from the open river just secured, says the Telegram.

The promoters of the project have proceeded cautiously in planning for this coup against the Northern lines, for while the line will tap entirely new territory, it will be virtually in the zone from which the O. R. & N. draws heavily. In the incorporation articles it is set forth that the road will be built southwest from Spokane through the counties of Spokane, Whitman, Adams and Franklin. The capital stock is placed at \$4,000,000 and the incorporators

named are Edward W. Swanson and W. S. Kyle, of Spokane, and Willard S. Foster, of Cheney, the headquarters to be located at Spokane.

Special advice had from Spokane by the Telegram are to the effect that all preparations have been made to commence grading from Council this week. The chief engineer and his corps, together with the contractors, are now on the ground and the line will be pushed to Fletcher, a distance of about 35 miles, so that it will be fully equipped and in operation within 90 days. The backers of the enterprise display reticence with reference to their future movements admitting only as much of their intentions as are outlined in the articles filed with the secretary of state.

Even with the first 35 miles the road will tap one of the richest sections in the state, that confined within Adams county in the Rattlesnake Flat district. This locality is a new, but famed wheat locality, which is being rapidly settled and where land has risen from as low as \$2.50 to \$35 an acre in nine years. Rattlesnake Flat lies west of Cow creek, and its grain is shipped to tidewater by way of Washtucna, Lind and Ritzville. That immediate neighborhood is not touched by transportation though a line has been projected through it for years. Both the Northern Pacific and O. R. & N. draw big revenues from this vicinity and these are gradually being enlarged. Just where the road will come out on the bank of the Columbia river is problematical, but as the outlet will be in Franklin county, and it is not practicable to build through White Bluffs, it will probably come out opposite Buckworth Island, above Pasco.

From such point steamers can easily be operated the entire year through to the portage, and light draft vessels of the character to be used can be constructed for \$50,000 each.

Must Dip All Idaho Sheep.

For the purpose of eradicating scab and other infectious diseases among sheep last legislature passed a law empowering the state veterinarian to cause all clean sheep, whether ranch or range, to be dipped once, and all diseased sheep twice, under state or federal supervision.

The range flockmasters have complied with this without a single exception but many of the farmers do not seem to understand that the law applies to them, and hence many small bunches throughout the valleys are yet undipped.

The veterinarian announces that all owners of sheep must see to it that their flocks are properly dipped by July 1, otherwise the state will take their sheep in charge and dip them at the owner's expense.—Boise Statesman.

Portland Leads in Lumber.

Since the first of January, this year, Portland has shipped close to 1,000,000 feet of lumber by water, the exact figures being 97,713,778. This is a remarkable showing when it is considered that although business was fairly good, the cargo shipments during the entire year of 1904 only reached a grand total of 132,497,601 feet. The value of the shipments for the first six months is placed at \$1,000,000. April leads with the largest shipments, June coming third with 16,611,449 feet. Last year Portland was the greatest lumber shipping port in the world; this year it is expected to be far in the lead.

Army Lacks Patriotism.

Berlin, July 1.—German newspapers discussing the happenings at Odessa and Libau, take an extremely dark view of the situation in Russia. While preceding events were classified as a revolutionary movement, these latest incidents, it is said, constitute real revolution. Colonel Gaedke, the military expert of the Tageblatt, and formerly its correspondent with the Russian army at the front, writing, says:

"It would be complete misjudgment of the actual conditions of Russia today to regard the mutiny on the Kniaz Po-

temkin as an individual occurrence without great significance. On the contrary it is a flashlight revealing to the dullest eye the true situation in the interior of that wide empire and the dangerous disintegration of political order."

Colonel Gaedke, after stating that St. Petersburg cannot longer rely implicitly on the army, draws on his personal experiences with the army in Manchuria to show the dangerous possibilities involved in widespread and profound discontent among the officers and soldiers. He says he never once after the terrible defeats suffered by the Manchurian army witnessed among the officers the slightest trace of spontaneous patriotism. They showed no wounded sense of military honor and no thirst for vengeance. The officers with whom he talked felt neither humiliation nor pain, while many showed undisguised satisfaction at the defeats which they said only served the government and bureaucracy right. The officers openly discussed their hopes that these defeats would result in the improvement of political conditions at home.

Colonel Gaedke says he found among educated Russians a very general conviction that the army could not be relied upon permanently to oppose the general national movement.

Cost of Telegraph.

In order to keep the 30,000 miles of telegraph lines in order in Great Britain an expenditure of about \$25,000 a year is necessary. In order to keep the stomach strong and the liver active it is only necessary to take a few doses of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. It is the best health maker and preserver in the world and has the hearty endorsement of physicians everywhere. It will re-

store the stomach to its normal condition, stimulate the flow of digestive juices and prevent the bowels from becoming clogged. Then you'll not be bothered with sick headaches, dizziness, heartburn, indigestion, dyspepsia, nervousness, cramps, insomnia or liver troubles. We urge you to give it a fair trial. The genuine must have our private stamp over the neck of the bottle.

Flood Brings Big Snakes.

New York, June 30.—The recent inundation of the River Parana has had strange consequences, cables the Herald's correspondent at Buenos Ayres. By the great extension of the River Platt, the docks of Buenos Ayres and the harbor have been invaded by floating islands of land torn from the banks of the Parana. These have brought hosts of tropical animals, hundreds of big serpents, and many crocodiles. Even a tiger cub has been captured within the harbor.

Terrific Race With Death

"Death was fast approaching," writes Ralph F. Fernandez, of Tampa, Fla., describing his fearful race with death, "as a result of liver trouble and heart disease, which had robbed me of sleep and of all interest in life. I had tried many different doctors and several medicines, but got no benefit, until I began to use Electric Bitters. So wonderful was their effect, that in three days I felt like a new man, and today I am cured of all my troubles." Guaranteed at Slocum Drug Co.'s drug store; price 50c.

The editorial page of the Weekly Oregonian gives a broad treatment to a wide range of subjects.

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