

OCTOBER 21, 1912.

A PERSISTENT ABBE.

Romance of Mountain Road Building
In the Pyrenees.

C. L. Freeston in "The Passes of the Pyrenees" quotes the story of Felix Armand, cure of St. Martin-Lys, who pierced a road through the magnificent Gorge de Pierre-Lys in order to bring prosperity to his poverty stricken village. The cure himself marked out

the route, "hanging like a spider from the end of a rope over the awful precipices of the Pierre-Lys. After five years' incessant toil the workmen reached the huge mass of rock which blocks the gorge near Belvignes." Still he bravely incited his parishioners to persevere until in 1781 the tunnel was pierced which still bears the name of "Le Trou du Cure." The revolution stopped the work, but after the reign of terror the cure set to work anew.

"A pity the man should be a priest," said Napoleon when he heard of Armand's heroic efforts. "I would have made him a general in my army."

The cure's personal bravery was great. Once when a mine was about to explode a muleteer was seen riding round a corner. The priest instantly sprang out and extinguished a slow match just at its last inch. Armand was made an abbe, but he declined to leave his flock and was buried at St. Martin-Lys with the cross of the Legion of Honor on his breast.

LEGENDS ABOUT DEW.

Curious Beliefs as to Its Origin and
Varied Powers.

In many places dew is looked upon as tears of the angels and of the souls in purgatory shed on account of the sins of human beings upon earth, and dew is collected to be used to cure certain diseases, especially those of the eyes, freckles, baldness, cramps, open wounds and cuts, rheumatism, skin diseases, burns, etc.

The virtues of dew as a beauty wash are also well known, remarks the Journal of Religious Psychology. One legend tells how by licking the dew off the plants on a certain morning when all the birds drink it one can learn their language.

Another folk belief is that "naked or with only their shirts on the witches at the time of the new moon collect the dew from the grass with bark sieves. By this means they deprive of their milk the cows that have been pastured on the grass, and as soon as their sieves are full of dew they know that their pots at home are full of milk.

The Polish people of Wongrowitz call the dew on which the birds are supposed to feed *ptasia mleko*—i. e., "birds' milk."

An Example of Daring.

During the hottest fighting in the Shilpa pass the leading battalion of the Russian General Dragomiroff's division recoiled before a hailstorm of Turkish bullets. The general was a very stout person and had the appearance of a peaceful German professor. But when he saw his men recoil he dismounted and walked slowly to and fro along a ridge swept by the enemy's bullets. He was a hundred yards in advance of the men, occupying the position they had abandoned. After staying there for awhile without being touched he shouted back to the battalion: "What are you doing, you geese? Did you think there was danger here? I don't find any!" The men responded with a roar of cheers, doubled up to him and charged so fiercely that the Turks were forced to retreat.

An Unexpected Conclusion.

A mistress was summoned in a London court for having dismissed a servant girl without due notice. The defendant pleaded that the servant was so voracious that she could not keep her in food. The judge after hearing the evidence inquired of the defendant, "Will four and sixpence a week keep her?" "Not nearly," replied the lady. "Will 6 shillings?" continued the judge. "No; that would not keep her," replied the defendant, feeling that in the judge's hands her case was gaining strength. "Now take care," said the judge, "and answer cautiously. Will 7 shillings?" "It takes 8," said the defendant. "Very well," said the judge. "Then you must pay her 8 shillings a week as board wages for one month"—London Mail.

For up-to-date mailing lists see H. W. Hunt.

Mr. Harold Bell Wright, the author of "The Winning of Barbara Worth," has written another popular book entitled "Their Yesterdays." It is now on sale at the Roseburg Book Store.

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