

EXPLORERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI

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THE OREGONIAN'S HOME STUDY CIRCLE: DIRECTED BY PROF. SEYMOUR EATON

DISCOVERERS AND EXPLORERS OF NORTH AMERICA

IX.

The achievements of Cortez and Pizarro in conquering the wealthy kingdoms of Mexico and Peru stimulated the ambition and cupidity of Spaniards and turned attention to the unexplored regions north of the Gulf. What more likely than that a third golden harvest in that quarter awaited the clutch of a strong and daring hand. Hernando de Soto marked these imaginary riches for his prey. He had accompanied Pizarro to Peru, and on returning to Spain organized an expedition to repeat Pizarro's work in the vast region then known as Florida.

Men of rank and full of the spirit of adventure were the first to start on the quest, so that he had no difficulty in collecting a band as gallant and well appointed, as eager in purpose and audacious in hope as ever trod the shores of the New World. They sailed in 1539 strong at Tampa Bay, Florida in 1539. We know, of course, what awaited them, and how impossible of fulfillment were their golden dreams. But now comes the question: "What did they know?" They wandered about in the present States of Florida, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi until in the third year—1541—they reached a great river "fifteen half-days wide, deep, rapid and constantly rolling down trees and driftwood on its turbid current." It was the Mississippi, the Father of Waters, now known by the first time by white men. They crossed the river at the lowest Chickasaw bluff and continued their wanderings on the other side until it was evident to all that their enterprise was a complete failure. Then they returned to the river, and De Soto, his proud spirit completely broken, succumbed to his misfortunes and died. To keep his body from the Indians his companions sunk it in mid-river. There was now no thought in any mind but that of escape from the terrible wilderness. Eventually the survivors, only one-half the original number, half-starved, sickly and starving, made their way down the river and reached a Spanish settlement.

After De Soto's ill-starred expedition the great river remained unvisited by white men for 132 years, and the fact of its discovery had well-nigh faded out of memory. Distorted accounts of it from the Indians reached the French in Canada, awakening curiosity and suggesting a new trade route to the ocean, though whether it would lead to the Atlantic or Pacific was long a matter of conjecture. The prevailing opinion for a while was that it emptied into the Vermilion Sea—namely, the Gulf of California.

When Frontenac became Governor of Canada in 1672 he commissioned Louis Joliet and Jacques Marquette to discover and explore the river. Joliet was a young man 27 years of age, who had been educated for the priesthood, but had chosen instead the life of a soldier and explorer. Marquette was 35 years old, and had already made his mark as a zealous Jesuit missionary.

May 17, 1673, the two leaders, with five men, started their adventurous journey from the Straits of Michilimackinac. In their two birch-bark canoes they coasted along the northern shore of Lake Michigan, and down the coast of Lake Superior. There they entered and went up the Fox River, crossed Lake Winnebago, then followed the river beyond through dense growths of wild rice, from which the Indians in wild fowls in great flocks. With the help of Indian guides they passed from the Fox River to the Wisconsin, upon which they launched their canoes, not knowing whether their canoe would come to the Gulf of Mexico or the Pacific. June 17 they saw before them the broad current of the Mississippi, and, reaching it, turned their canoes southward. They followed the river for several days, and then, with joy which I cannot express," wrote Marquette.

For several days they paddled on without seeing the faintest trace of human habitation. At length, on the 25th, they found a well-wooded path on the west bank, leading from the river inland. Leaving their men behind, the two leaders followed the path for several days until they reached an Indian village on the banks of a stream which might have been the Des Moines. Here they were hospitably received. "Frenchmen, how bright the sun shines when it comes to visit us," said the chief, holding up his hands as if to shield his eyes. Marquette, who knew several Indian languages, had no difficulty in understanding the chief's reply in flattering terms, assuring them that "their presence added flavor to his tobacco, made the river more calm, the sky more serene and the earth more beautiful." They followed in which a large dog, killed and cooked for the occasion, was a prominent dish. On the following morning the hospitable Indians—60 in number—escorted their white guests to their canoes and bade them farewell.

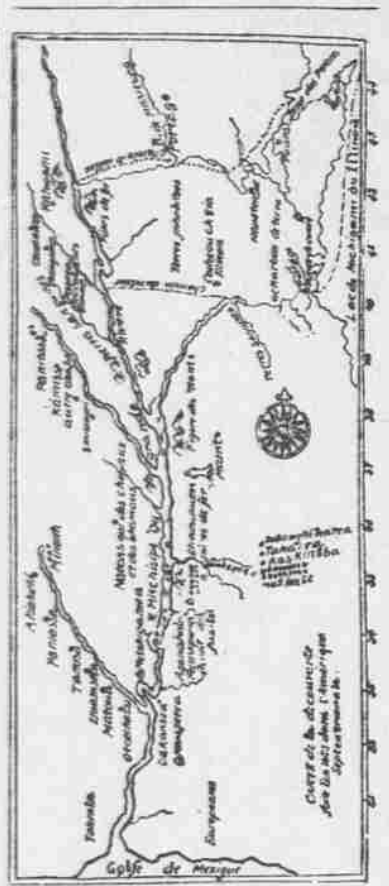
Slowly they drifted down the river. When nearly opposite the present site of Alton their supernatural fears and superstitions were aroused at the sight of two hideous monsters painted on the rocks by the Indians as representations of their gods. Many years later, long after the effigies had disappeared, came the money-worshipping white man and put in the place of the Indian deities a huge advertisement of "plantation bitters."

Presently a dangerous appearance of "a torrent of yellow mud rushed furiously athwart the calm current of the Mississippi, boiling, surging, and sweeping in its course logs, branches and uprooted trees." It was the Mississippi, and on its turbid flood the light canoe, were tossed in an alarming way, for Marquette wrote: "I never saw anything more terrific." But they escaped injury and floated down the river. At length, on the 18th, of course, an unbroken wilderness, and past the mouth of the Ohio, the "Beautiful River" of the French. Northern tribes began to give place to the straight stems and feathered heads of canoeists. When near the mouth of the Arkansas they decided to retrace their course. Nothing was to be gained by following the Mississippi farther, for they now knew that it emptied into the Gulf of Mexico. So on the 17th of July they turned their canoes northward and began their long and weary journey homeward. They followed the Mississippi until they reached the mouth of the Illinois, went up that river some distance, then with Indian guides crossed the country to Lake Michigan, and, descending along its shore, reached Green Bay, at the close of September. They had been gone about four months, and had paddled their canoes somewhat more than 500 miles.

We now come to the name in the history of American exploration. Rene Robert Cavalier, Sieur de La Salle, was born in 1643 of a wealthy merchant family of Rouen. In 1685 he came to Canada to seek his fortune, and in the course of the next 12 years engaged in business as a fur trader, and traveled extensively in the wilderness south of Lakes Ontario and Erie. He thus became acquainted with the natural resources of that region, and determined to find an outlet for it by way of the Mississippi River. As a base of operations he secured from the King a grant of Port Frontenac, at the entrance to the St. Lawrence River, where Kingston now stands. He also secured the services of two men whose names often recur in accounts of the explorations of that period. One of these was Henri de Tonty, who was attached himself to La Salle and served him faithfully with the utmost fidelity. The other was Father Louis Hennepin, a Recollet friar, extremely fond of adventure, who, after a short connection with La Salle,

was destined to secure fame by his independent explorations.

At the beginning of 1673, La Salle was ready to start for the Mississippi, so he with Tonty and Hennepin and a party of 39 crossed over from Port Frontenac to the Niagara River. Here his first care was to establish a fortified station near the mouth of the river, and next to build a ship above the falls in which to navigate the upper lakes. The place chosen for the shipyard was at the mouth of Cayuga Creek, on the American side, near the present village of La Salle. When Spring opened a little ship of 45 tons was launched, the forerunner of the merchant fleet to gather centuries later at the future port of Buffalo. The little craft was named the Griffin. On August 7, when all was ready, La Salle and his company went aboard, the "Te Deum" was sung, five small cannon popped off a brave salute, and the adventurous voyage was commenced. A fresh breeze sprang up, and with the swelling canvas the Griffin plowed the swirling waves of Lake Erie, where sail was never seen before. In due time



Marquette's Map of the Mississippi.

they reached Michilimackinac, where the French had a well-known trading station. Going ashore to the bark chapel of the Ottawa village, La Salle, in his mantle of a soldier and explorer, was welcomed and gave thanks for his safe voyage.

He was now beset with anxieties on account of the dishonesty and treachery of fur traders in his employ. Troubles like these and more serious harassment from jealous rivals and hostile creditors, he was often called upon to endure, for he was stern and cold, and usually failed in attaching to himself men of his own rank. He was, however, remarkably gifted in winning the admiration and devotion of the Indians, whom he knew exactly how to manage. To straighten out affairs he now decided to send the Griffin back to Niagara with a valuable load of furs, to be forwarded to Port Frontenac. She set sail on the 18th of September, and was never heard from again. A storm arose soon after she started, and in that she probably foundered.

La Salle and Hennepin and a party of 14 men resumed their journey in four canoes. They paddled down the western side of Lake Michigan, encountering great hardships from lack of food and stormy weather. Reaching the southern end of the lake, they rounded it and the straits which connect it with Lake St. Joseph, which they entered the last of November. Here they were joined by Tonty, who had been sent with a detachment down the eastern side of the lake.

On the 30th of November the party, now increased to 23, started in eight canoes up the Saint Joseph River to a point near the present site of South Bend. After some delay in finding the way, they landed their canoes on the opposite shore, five miles and launched them again on the Kankakee, one of the headwaters of the Illinois River.

The Illinois River. The stream floated them through a wilderness of boundless marshes overgrown with reeds. After a few days they passed through a wide prairie strewn with the carcasses and bleached skulls of human beings. At the place where the present village of Utica (in La Salle County) stands they passed through a large Indian town, Hennepin counted 60 lodges, in shape like the arched tops of emigrant wagons, and intended to hold six or eight families apiece. But all was silent as the grave. The Indians were off on their winter hunt. Lower down the river they found the Indians who tried to dissuade them from going farther, telling them great stories about the dangers, natural and supernatural, that lay before them. Turfied by what they heard, six of La Salle's men, including two of his best carpenters, deserted. This was a serious blow. It showed La Salle that he could not depend upon his men.

Note—This study, by Dr. C. H. Smith, of Yale University, will be concluded on Tuesday next.

Ranchers Who Need Water.

The Dakota Cattle Raisers. The Wapinitia ranchers are making another effort to get water for irrigation and domestic purposes on the flat. A meeting will be held tonight at Victor, at which it is expected provision will be made for a preliminary survey to be made for the feasibility of bringing water on the flat from White River. The ranchers have been singularly unfortunate in all their previous efforts, and money has been spent in digging ditches to have solved the water problem, if the money had been spent judiciously. What is known as the McCoy ditch is in the position of the dog in the manger.

McCoy cannot, or will not, complete it, and the ranchers cannot force its completion nor obtain possession of it without a law suit. An adequate supply of water on the Wapinitia flat will make a paradise out of some of the best agricultural districts in Wasco County.

FORESTRY AS A PROFESSION

Universities and the Government Encouraging the Study.

The young man who is starting out to make a place for himself in the world, has the chance to enter one field which, but a few years ago in this country, was practically unknown, says the New York Sun. It is a field in which he can assure himself of a respectable and permanent livelihood without the "talent of commercialism," in which he may enjoy the dignity and freedom of a profession without the rigorous routine of medicine or the dryness of a respectable and permanent livelihood. In which he may enjoy the dignity and freedom of a profession without the rigorous routine of medicine or the dryness of a respectable and permanent livelihood. In which he may enjoy the dignity and freedom of a profession without the rigorous routine of medicine or the dryness of a respectable and permanent livelihood.

The forestry of today is interested in the protection of trees, but it has for its chief end the utilization of mature trees to obtain their maximum commercial value, and the maintenance of the forest for the purpose of permanent investments. Indirectly, the preservation of the trees is included, because to get lumber you must first have your trees, but the essential part of the modern forestry is the acquisition of wealth where there was heretofore waste and such assistance of Nature that she may do her work with the maximum economy. The forestry of today is interested in the protection of trees, but it has for its chief end the utilization of mature trees to obtain their maximum commercial value, and the maintenance of the forest for the purpose of permanent investments.

To make a success of forestry as a profession, a young man should expect to devote a considerable part of his life to the study of botany, surveying, political economy, law, and to some extent mathematics, chemistry, physics, and geology. In short, a course of liberal education in a regular school of forestry, such as two of the universities now provide. Most college graduates would, of course, have already prepared themselves in such subjects. The second year should be devoted to the study of forestry under the guidance of a veteran forester, and especially to the study of the forest which a young man, student gets in a clinic or hospital. The third year should be spent in lumber camps and lumber mills, with, if possible, a trip abroad, where the forest is more extensive and many of the principles of forestry can be studied. The United States Department of Agriculture offers to a few well-qualified men just starting out a course of instruction for the second year. A certain number of men who have been properly recommended are now taken out into the field for a year, and paid a salary of \$1,000 a month, in addition to their expenses while in the field.

Some 23 applications for these appointments were received this year by the division of Forestry, and from the more important colleges. From Yale and Harvard alone 10 were received, while 7 more were scattered over different parts of the country. The remainder 15 are from California, where several students from Berkeley and Stanford had appointments last summer, and a somewhat larger number from the State of Washington, 7; in California, 6; in the Middle West, 3; in the Pacific West, 3; in the Adirondacks, 15.

Equipped with the usual camping paraphernalia expected when a party is going to "rough it," these young men are taken out among the forests of Oregon, or the red woods of California, or wherever the squall to which they happen to belong is assigned, and they spend the summer in collecting the measurements of trees and making surveys, from which the foresters of the division can, next winter, draw conclusions and tabulate results.

As the students work in squads under a trained forester, they are found to pick up a pretty good notion of the significance of what they are doing and the way in which a forester does his work. One of the subjects most thoroughly investigated by these bands of amateurs is the effect of forest fires on the forests. Clifford Pinchot, forester of the Department of Agriculture, in recent number of the Forester, writing of opportunities open to the young forester, says, "he may reasonably look for paying employment either from private owners of forest land, such as great companies, or wealthy lumbermen from states such as New York or Pennsylvania or from the Government, either in the General Land Office, where the National forest reserves are administered, in the geological survey, where they are mapped and described, or in the division of forestry, to which the general progress of the science and art of forestry is assigned, together with technical forestry work, and in which the interests of the vast area of private forest lands are considered. At present the pay of the foresters is on about the same plane as that of the instructors and professors in a university."

You don't go into forestry, therefore, to get rich. For him, however, who loves the out-of-doors, who prefers the wealth of cheerful and health to that of gold and strenuous, who does his work not so much for what it brings him as for the fun of doing it, forestry as a profession offers compensations most worthy of consideration.

Olympic Games for America.

It is good news that there is a prospect that the famous Olympic games will be contested for in 1904 on American soil. In no country in the world, not even in historic Greece herself, was greater interest shown in the revival of the ancient games at Athens than in the United States. According to the original schedule Paris was to have the games this year, England those of four years hence, and America's opportunity was booked for 1908, but if the arrangement can so far be changed as to permit of this country being favored in 1904 a multitude of American lovers of many sports will rejoice and be exceedingly glad.

Isles of the Blest.

Indianapolis Press. The most enjoyable summer climate in all in all, perhaps that of the lofty plateau known as Newera Eilia ("the King's Highland"), where the weather is cool and breezy spring up an hour or two after sunrise and keep the temperature below 55 degrees Fahrenheit all the day long, while the neighborhood of the sea is hot and sultry. The altitude of 5,000 feet. Formosa has similar highland regions, and was perhaps rivaled by the Island of Madeira before Portuguese lumber fiends destroyed the magnificent hill forests.

BRYAN'S STAGELY REPLY

ESTIMATE AND ANALYSIS BY A DEMOCRATIC JOURNAL.

Here is a Long Editorial, But Nobody Can Do Better Than to Read It.

Brooklyn Eagle, Ind. Dem. The crystallization of good taste into custom or habit has led candidates for President and for Vice-President to be notified to their homes. The theory has been that the fellow-citizens have sought them out, as citizens, to tell them that they have been selected for high civic trusts, for causes and on principles which they would not have chosen for themselves. Both propriety and impressiveness have commenced the occurrence of these notifications at the homes of candidates, where friendship and hospitality could be shown to the extent of the evidence of the candidate's character. Neither the effect nor the intention of spectacularity or sensation could be charged. This has been the rule of both the great parties in the past, and we do not recall that it was broken before today.

Today it was broken. Our news reports show how and where. The Democratic candidates, Messrs. Bryan and Stevenson, were not notified at their homes, though we are glad to say, they have pleasant and happy homes, but were summoned to the capital city, in a state in which neither lives, and in that city were taken to a public park, to enable their notifications to wear as tawdry, as theatrical and as flamboyant a character as could be predicted of a procession of plain men. The President already laying the foundations of Americanism in the Philippines. The Nation is pledged to accord to the people there as much a measure of self-government and local control as by obedience, order and decency they show they can appreciate and use. Pending that our soldiers are keeping the members of a guerilla, which is a safe and sure way of what was once a conflagration of rebellion. With the soldier goes the schoolmaster, with both the law-maker, and over all, the light of events there permits us to go. The future of policy there will depend upon the indestructible love of liberty, order and justice.

The Bryan program, which we give as that has been done, would reverse all that has been projected, would vindicate the Tagal murderers in their every deed and would undo the good of all that has occurred there under the authority of the Nation, from the time of the entrance of Dewey into the harbor to that of the establishment of the Republic. To plant civilization in the East, under the auspices of the free country on the globe. Better far for us to protect order and law there, in our own name, for our own good, and the good of the Philippines and the world than to make the murderers and the poisoners of our troops the instruments of our purposes and the executors of our policy.

What kernels of policy can be found amid the mountainous chaff of this program, can well be put to plain men in plain contrast with what the patriots of this country propose and mean to carry out. Bryanism is free silver. McKinleyism is the gold standard. Between them is the standard of free silver means the destruction of enterprise and property, the reduction of labor and of its wages and the repudiation of obligations by more than one-half of their value. The standard means the prevention of all that and the preservation and increase of present prosperity. Choice there should not be difficult.

Bryanism means illimitable greenbacks, which are promised to pay the paymaster's check. McKinleyism means honest money, solvent everywhere, discounted nowhere, doubted nowhere and issued everywhere in the country in response to the volume of need for circulation. Choice there should not be difficult. Bryanism means the incoming of Porto Ricans into the Senate and House, and into our citizenship, with all their untutored and their ignorance and with all their moral and intellectual juvenility or barbarism. It means the relapse of Cuba to an anarchy, in which the worst would be on top and the best at the bottom. McKinleyism means the orderly government of Porto Rico and the progressive Americanization of Cuba. Choice there should also be easy.

Bryanism means the estimate of Dewey and Ciois, of MacArthur and Taft, of Schurman and Denby as wrong-doers and of Aguinaldo and his murder-gang as right-doers in the Philippines, without surrender and apology to them and our "protection" of them against the world. McKinleyism means the reduction of these mongrel rascals to order and their lifelong sentence to undergo the benefits of good government at our hands, which is the Philippines the keys of the new civilization and of destiny in the East. Choice there should not be hard.

Bryanism means the ignorance, the unrest, the dishonesty, the delusion, the insubordination and the disorder of the country under a dreaming roarer or a roaring dreamer. McKinleyism means judicious radicalism, progressive conservatism, the maintenance of honesty, or tranquility and of security for our people here and for our people abroad and the measurement of the Nation to the duties of the marvelous times into which Providence has plunged the Republic.

Choice there should not be difficult, and the vaudeville end at Indianapolis today, with all its garish and repulsive accessories, should make the right choice not only easy, but mandatory and beyond doubt.

Almost a week went by, and the saloon-keeper was beginning to think that the Italian had swindled him when his attention was attracted by a crowd of boys playing around the door of his place with a ball. He went to the door to watch the fun, and just reached there in time to see his own little boy pick up the dog and start across the street in the direction of the fruitstand. He was going to look after the boy, but he kept quiet. Straight for the stand went his son, with the dog under his arm, and looking stealthily around to make sure that the Italian was not in sight the little fellow placed the dog right

justification of his support of the ratification of the treaty with his opposition to the fruits the ratification brought and the duties it imposed. The defense is not even ingenious or ingenious. The man tries to explain away the one action of his influence for which he should not apologize and which stands to his credit along with his enlistment in the army. Alas, he would put even upon his patriotism the stamp of partisanship and would thus do more injury to himself than his opponents could possibly inflict.

The indictment involves Mr. Bryan's series of objections to what our Government is doing or omitting to do in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. As to them the President is executing the laws of Nations, the promises of Congress, the obligation to maintain order and the duty to put down rebellion. Nothing he has done could have been omitted by him and nothing of it could tomorrow be undone, by Mr. Bryan, were he President. The American people require their President to do exactly what Lincoln did and what Washington did and McKinley is doing exactly with territories at peace or against insurgents in them, exactly what will have to do, should he ever become the chief magistrate of this people.

The prescription is for the assemblage of Congress to tell the Philippines that, if they will fight with us, we will give to them, first, a government of our making for them, then their control of that government, and finally, we will give them, finally, our protection of them, against the world, in any success or failure which they show in controlling the government; the creation, which we will present to them. We are content to give this prescription, divested of its incongruous rhetoric, its interminable verbiage and its dancing-dervish egotism, to the plain thinking of a people of plain men. The President already laying the foundations of Americanism in the Philippines. The Nation is pledged to accord to the people there as much a measure of self-government and local control as by obedience, order and decency they show they can appreciate and use. Pending that our soldiers are keeping the members of a guerilla, which is a safe and sure way of what was once a conflagration of rebellion. With the soldier goes the schoolmaster, with both the law-maker, and over all, the light of events there permits us to go. The future of policy there will depend upon the indestructible love of liberty, order and justice.

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"PEACHES" SOUGHT HIS OWN

Story of a Fox Terrier, the Son of Whose Life Was Peaches.

New York Sun. Seventh-avenue saloon-keeper, who is the owner of a fox terrier which was given to him recently, was delighted at first to be the owner of so well bred an animal, but more recently he has begun to think that he has been the victim of a trick. The dog, which was named "Peaches," was given to him by a man who claimed to be a saloon-keeper. The man had heard that the dog was a good one, and he had bought it for a large sum of money. The saloon-keeper, however, was not satisfied with the dog, and he had decided to return it to the man who had sold it to him. The man, however, was not willing to take the dog back, and he had decided to keep it. The saloon-keeper, however, was not satisfied with the dog, and he had decided to return it to the man who had sold it to him. The man, however, was not willing to take the dog back, and he had decided to keep it. The saloon-keeper, however, was not satisfied with the dog, and he had decided to return it to the man who had sold it to him. The man, however, was not willing to take the dog back, and he had decided to keep it.

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Weary Women

Rest and help for weary women are found in Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It makes women strong and healthy to bear their burdens, and overcomes those ills to which women are subject because they are women.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

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In front of the stand and quickly rejoined the other boys to await developments. Neither the boys nor the silent witness behind the saloon door had long to wait, for Peaches made a quick dash at a big hand of bananas, grabbed it by the stem and ran to the boys, who took the fruit and went off down the street, followed by Peaches wagging his tail and carrying himself as if he had just formed his best trick. When the bananas were all gone the boy and the dog returned home, and in the explanations that followed the saloon-keeper learned that the son of his friend who gave him the dog had told the saloon-keeper's son what Peaches could do in the way of picking fruit and the way to go about it.

It was a long time after this occurred that the Italian was over to the store with a bill for the bananas, which was paid this time without objection. All the boys in the neighborhood were now familiar with the story and they steal fruit right and left, but as soon as the Italian misses it he comes over to the saloon-keeper and demands payment, blaming it on the dog. "I'm paying for fruit for the whole neighborhood," says the saloon-keeper, "and if the Italian doesn't move away something like this, I'll have to send Peaches back where he came from. I think that dog should live in the country."

It Is a Wonder.

Indianapolis News, Ind. We assert that no nation can long endure half-republic and half-imperial, and we warn the American people that imperialism abroad will lead quickly and inevitably to despotism at home.

So says the convention that nominated Mr. Bryan as its candidate for the Presidency. Many people are now wondering whether "the despotism at home" has already come in the shape of the North Carolina amendment, and if so, whether it is the product of "imperialism abroad."

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HERPICIDE

Relieves Dandruff Immediately

Newbro's Harpicide

performs its work on the principle, "Destroy the cause, you remove the effect," and consequently it reaches and kills the ever-busy microbe which is responsible for all scalp diseases. It thus makes dandruff and falling hair impossible, and promotes a luxuriant growth of hair that soon becomes the pride of the owner. Even on bald spots it soon produces hair as thick and luxuriant as anyone could wish for.

One bottle will convince that it is the only hair restorer that really restores.

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