

MOST PECULIAR PEOPLE.

The Bicycle Has Nearly Emancipated the Parsi Women.

The most peculiar people of India are the Parsis (or "Parsees," meaning "Persians"), who feed their dead to the vultures upon the Tower of Silence. They fled to India from Persia when that land fell into the hands of the Arabs twelve centuries ago. Their men are the first very singular persons the traveler sees on board the ship which takes him to India, their singularity consisting in their long narrow faces and large eyes, their shiny, patent-leather-looking, tubular hats and their long and ugly coats. They are most numerous in Bombay, but one meets them in other cities on the "Bombay side," and in Madras and Calcutta on the other shore. They are the richest natives of India, and have made and still make money in trade.

They are the only Indians, who, as a body, admire and cultivate Western progressive ideas, who treat their women fairly well (according to our ideas), and who permit their widows to marry again. Their first rule of life is to practice benevolence, and no people do this more liberally. They maintain nearly two-score charitable institutions in Bombay alone. They are the only people in the world who do not smoke, and this is because they will not trifle with fire, which is sacred in their belief. They never spit and they will not in any way contaminate the earth or water or defile the trees and flowers. That is why they destroy their dead without burning the bodies.

They have no beggars among them; they are monogamists; they are not caste-ridden (or rotted), like the Hindus, for they acknowledge two classes—the priests and the people. They keep New Year day, not only as a religious feast day, but, much as we do, as a day for general visiting. Their women are not imprisoned with their servants or otherwise degraded, but may be met anywhere and everywhere to the same extent as English women in India. So often are these women comely, and so beautifully are they clad—in such soft and exquisitely colored silks—that, as one writer says, "they appear as hours floating about the earth in silk balloons, with a ballasting of anklets, necklaces, earrings and jewelry." It is no more than fair for the Parsi men to let this be as it is, for they are the ugliest men that crawl upon this globe.

An English lady advised me to go and see the rich Parsi young women riding bicycles on the road beside the sea at 4 o'clock of any afternoon. What an idea! The bicycle has so revolutionized young womanhood in England that men who return there after a short absence can not credit their senses as they note the change in the maidens and their home government. What will it do—or not do—in India? Truly that modest-looking toy has worked as much of the change in this swift-booted century as many of our most important inventions. It has proved a steed which leaps the highest bars of prejudice, runs away with the deepest-rooted conventions—even outpaces the plans of women for their own emancipation. I try to fancy what it may do in India, but, after all, it has only a few thousands of Parsis upon whom to work.—Harper's Magazine.

The Kentucky Mountaineers.

There are no more strikingly interesting people in America than these isolated mountaineers who make their homes generation after generation among the fastnesses of the eastern section of the "dark and bloody ground." The waves of civilization which swept westward along the St. Lawrence, the Erie canal, and a dozen other routes seem to have found at this point in the Appalachians an insurmountable barrier and rolled back, leaving the descendants of the pioneers of a century and a half ago with many of the same habits and customs and traditions dear to the hearts of their forefathers.

A man who knows the whole country as a child does his first picture book told me that if any person took the trouble to go through a copy of Shakespeare and pick out all the obsolete words he would find nearly all of them in common use among these mountain folk. In their phraseology we find "help" for "help," "hit" for "it," and other words which, far from being corruptions, are the pure old Anglo-Saxon. Even their ballads are mementos of ages gone by, and I know of one man who, after riding 200 miles through the mountains for the purpose, finally picked up, from hearing the women sing them, the full thirteen verses of an old Scotch ballad which proved to be identical with those recorded in a diary bearing the date 1665.—International Magazine.

Female Postal Employees in England.

The English postoffice employs not far short of 30,000 women, and it is probable that the largest number are employed in telegraphy, or in duties relating thereto. In London alone the number would appear to exceed 1,500, of whom no fewer than 1,000 are employed at the central telegraph office at St. Martin's-le-Grand.—Scottish American.

Every time a boy looks at a gun, some woman screams.

INTERESTING ITEMS.

The native hen of New Zealand is an expert rat killer.

The giraffe, the armadillo and the porcupine are voiceless.

Tomatoes have been cultivated for only one hundred years.

As a rule, the eyesight of women is better than that of men.

The animal that first succumbs to extreme cold is the horse.

In Switzerland a telephone can be rented for \$8 a year.

The song of the nightingale can be heard at the distance of a mile.

American and Australian butter is rapidly crowding the German article from the English market.

An elm tree arrives at perfection after a growth of 150 years, and a healthy one will endure for 600 years.

Two-thirds of the crime in London is perpetrated between 2 P. M. on Saturday and 9 A. M. on Mondays.

Mexicans are not noted for their cleanliness, yet nearly every town in Mexico has a public bath house.

Miss Helen Gould has contributed the Berrian collection of works on Mormonism to the New York public library.

Louise Froebel, widow of Friedrich Froebel, founder of the kindergarten system, died in Hamburg at the age of 85.

The production of prunes is increasing rapidly in Oregon, the annual shipment of the dried fruit now amounting to 500 cars.

Five hundred miners at the Bryson Coal & Coke Company mines, near Tazewell, Tennessee, walked out, after a day's notice of a demand of a 10 per cent increase in wages.

ALABASTINE

ALABASTINE is the original and only durable wall coating, entirely different from all kalsomines. Ready for use in white or fourteen beautiful tints by adding cold water.

ADIES naturally prefer ALABASTINE for walls and ceilings, because it is pure, clean, durable. Put up in dry powdered form, in five-pound packages, with full directions.

LL kalsomines are cheap, temporary preparations made from whitening, chalks, clays, etc., and stuck on walls with decaying animal glue. ALABASTINE is not a kalsomine.

EWARE of the dealer who says he can sell you the "same thing" as ALABASTINE or "something just as good." He is either not posted or is trying to deceive you.

ND IN OFFERING something he has bought cheap and tries to sell on ALABASTINE's demands, he may not realize the damage you will suffer by a kalsomine on your walls.

ENSIBLE dealers will not buy a lawsuit. Dealers risk one by selling and consumers by using infringement. Alabastine Co. own right to make wall coating to mix with cold water.

HE INTERIOR WALLS of every church and school should be coated only with pure, durable ALABASTINE. It safeguards health. Hundreds of tons used yearly for this work.

N BUYING ALABASTINE, customers should avoid getting cheap kalsomines under different names. Insist on having our goods in packages and properly labeled.

UISANCE of wall paper is obviated by ALABASTINE. It can be used on plastered walls, wood ceilings, brick or canvas. A child can brush it on. It does not rub or scale off.

STABLISHED in favor. Shun all imitations. Ask paint dealer or druggist for tint card. Write us for interesting booklet, free. ALABASTINE CO., Grand Rapids, Mich.

Bicycles in South Africa.

The present campaign in South Africa is practically the first opportunity the British military authorities have had of putting the cycle corps to a real test. The cyclist corps attached to the Durban Light Infantry recently covered a route of ninety miles in one day, for the purpose of obtaining information of the Boer forces, doing some skirmishing on the way. The veldt in dry weather is admirably adapted for cycling, as was demonstrated recently by the feat of an Englishman, just after the outbreak of war, who rode from Pretoria to Ladysmith on his wheel, passing several detachments of cavalry on the way.—Collier's Weekly.

Wireless Telegraphy

Has had a new demonstration of usefulness by the captain of a lightship, who used it after ordinary signals had failed, to notify the shore authorities of danger. In a like manner Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the famous indigestion and dyspepsia cure, acts when other medicines fail. It regulates the bowels and improves the appetite.

Soap enough to supply 150,000 for one year has recently arrived in Denver in one load. It was carried in a special train of 45 cars, and if stacked up, one bar on top of another, this soap would make a pile over 135 miles high.

Piso's Cure for Consumption is our only medicine for coughs and colds.—Mrs. C. Beltz, 439 8th Ave., Denver, Col., Nov. 8, '06

At Springfield the electric workers have gained an increase of wages from \$2.50 and \$2.75 per day to \$3 per day, and the coal handlers from \$9 per week to \$10 for single and \$11 for double teams per week.

Breeding and Feeding Microbes.

The intestines are full of disease germs that become active and dangerous in Constipation. Cascarets kill and expel them. Druggists, 10c, 25c, 50c.

A Pittsburg company is now engaged in an order for fitting up the palace of the Mikado, in Japan, with everything in the bath and sanitary line. Shipments are also being made to Australia, South America, China and Japan.

More Precious Than Diamonds.

Mistress—Did Pat give you a diamond ring when you promised to marry him?

Bridget—No, mum; but he is after givin' me a hug that made me ribs crack!—Jeweler's Weekly.

Check on Physicians.

Commissioner Wilson, of the international revenue bureau, has decided that a physician who prescribes and sells to his patients whisky, brandy, wine or any other alcoholic liquor that is not compounded into a medicine by the admixture of any drug or medicinal ingredient therewith, is required to pay special tax as a retail liquor dealer, even though the alcoholic liquor thus furnished be prescribed as a medicine only and so used.

Two Heads.

Two heads may be better than one, but one big head is usually enough.—Chicago Daily News.

The New England granite manufacturers have rejected the demands of the granite cutters for an eight hour day and at least \$3 a day. It is expected that the men will strike March 1.

Archbishop Corrigan has made the study of the Italian language obligatory on all theological students in his diocese in order that Italian Catholics may be reached more effectively.

The production of soap in Great Britain is about 45,000 tons per week, of which between 3,000 and 4,000 tons are made in London.

An Empress Who Wrestles.

The empress dowager of China is described by an English lady, who has spent the greater part of her life in the Celestial empire, as a much more remarkable woman than most Europeans suppose. She is an ardent painter, and her pictures are said to be admirable specimens of Chinese art. Strange as it may seem, her majesty is also said to be fond of wrestling, and frequently indulges in this rather virile form of exercise. She is well read, is fond of European music, and has some skill as a pianist. She is said, both by her friends and enemies, to be absolutely without any sense of fear, and, needless to say, her life has been attempted a number of times.—N. Y. Herald.

Mr. Hamm—(the eminent tragedian)—"Yes we opened our new play on the first of January." Friend—"And did you have a long run?" Hamm—"Well, no, we didn't have a long run, but after the second performance we had a long walk—all the way from Chicago to Philadelphia."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

THREE DAILY TRAINS BETWEEN OGDEN AND DENVER.

The increase in transcontinental travel by way of Salt Lake City in consequence of the scenic and other attractions of the route, has recently justified the Rio Grande Western Railway—in connection with the Denver & Rio Grande and Colorado Midland Railroads—says the Salt Lake Tribune, in establishing a triple daily last passenger service between Ogden and Denver. All of these trains are equipped with the latest appliances, improvements and cars. This road now operates through sleepers between Chicago, Ogden and San Francisco, also a perfect dining car service. Send 2c postage for literature, rates or other information to J. D. Mansfield, 253 Washington street, Portland; or Geo. W. Heintz, general passenger agent, Salt Lake City.

"I was never glad for this impediment in my speech but once," said the man from Dearborn, who was in to see the big parade. "When was that?" "Fe-fe-fellow asked me h-h-how much I would take for a-a horse, and while I-I-I was t-trying to tell him s-sixty dollars, he offered me a hundred."—Women's Journal.

5 DROPS Rheumatism

LA GRIPE and CATARRH! I shall know what thousands know of the efficacy of "5 DROPS" as a Curative as well as a Preventive of any Ache or Pain known to the human body, there would not be a family in all America without a bottle of "5 Drops!" Send for trial bottle, 25c, or large bottle, \$1—containing 300 doses. 6 bottles, for \$5. SWANSON'S RHEUMATIC CURE CO. 160-164 E. Lake St., Chicago, Ill.

The burning of the bride's playthings is part of the wedding ceremony in Japan. The bride lights a torch, which she hands to the bridegroom, who with it lights a fire in which the toys are destroyed.

A violent sneeze so shook the body of William A. Housell, a detective, of New Brunswick, N. J., that it caused temporary paralysis of the spine.

A new regulation cog introduced in Swiss watches, works so accurately that the time pieces do not vary 10 seconds in a month.

A firm in America is turning out large quantities of paper tiles which are used for roofing. They are reported to be hard and tough, and the glazing appears to be of the nature of Japanese lac. They are said to be exceedingly cheap, and can be fashioned in any color or shape to suit the purchaser.

TO PLACE OUR GARDEN SEEDS IN EVERY HOME IN THE COUNTRY

We offer fresh garden seeds, full sized packages, at less than 1¢ value, best ever grown, that will grow in any U. S. climate and GIVE you the best of all garden seeds. Cut out this advertisement and send us 7¢, if you want knife No. 78, or 9¢ if you want knife No. 79, and the following grand collection of THE BEST VEGETABLE SEEDS (retail price is over \$2.50) and we will send you the knife FREE! READ IT! 1 pk. Gem Peas, 1 pk. Dwarf Wax Beans, 1 pk. String Beans, 1 pk. Robbs Gem Watermelon, 1 pk. Marble Mammoth Drumhead Cabbage, 1 pk. Green Citron Muskmelon, 1 pk. Boston Lettuce, 2 pk. Purple Top Turnip, 1 pk. Red Globe Onion, 1 pk. Hollow Crown Parsnips, 1 pk. Early Long Scarlet Radish, 1 pk. Double Curled Parsley, 1 pk. Celery, 1 pk. Thyme, 1 pk. French Breakfast Radish, 1 pk. Summer Crookneck Squash, 1 pk. Ellipse Blood Turnip Beet, 2 pk. Early With Lot No. 78 B. Free! 1 pk. Large Early York Cabbages, 1 pk. Long Green Cucumber, 1 pk. Danvers Half Long Carrots, 1 pk. Perfection Tomato, 1 pk. Trophy Tomato, 1 pk. Grand Simpson Lettuce, 1 pk. Early Dutch Turnip Radish, 1 pk. Denver Market Lettuce, 1 pk. Early Russian Cucumbers, 1 pk. Cutham King Cabbage, 1 pk. Sweet Pumpkin, 2 pk. Early Minnesota Corn, Also 20 other pkgs. Fresh garden seeds not mentioned above, 5¢ altogether. KNIFE FREE! As Tets, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th. We give it FREE to every person ordering the above collection at 9¢, or through this advertisement, or we will furnish the 5¢ fresh pkgs. of garden seeds without the knife to anyone postpaid for 40¢, or 5¢ pkgs. fresh garden seeds postpaid for 20¢. No better seeds grown or sold at any price than our LARGE PKGS. FRESH SEEDS WITH KNIFE FREE. T. M. ROBERTS' SUPPLY HOUSE, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

FOR NERVOUS OVERWROUGHT MEN WEAKLY DELICATE WOMEN PALE SICKLY CHILDREN

VIN MARIANI MEANS SALVATION

VIN MARIANI

HAS STOOD THE TEST OF 35 YEARS EXPERIENCE ENDORSED BY THE MEDICAL FACULTY ALL OVER THE WORLD.

PISO'S CURE FOR CURS WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS.

Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.

PATENT

with no fee unless successful. Patent advertised free. Free advice as to patentability. Send for "Inventor's Primer." **MILBURN STEVENS & CO.** Established 1864. Washington, D. C. Branch Offices: Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit.

SURE CURE FOR PILES

ITCHING Piles produce moisture and cause itching. This form, as well as Bleeding or Protruding Piles are cured by **DR. BOSANKO'S Pile Remedy**. Stops itching and bleeding. Absorbs tumors. 50¢ a Jar at druggists or sent by mail. Treatise free. Write me about your case. **DR. BOSANKO, Philada. Pa.**

YOUNG MEN!

For Gonorrhea and Gleet get **Pabst's Oxy Specie**. It is the ONLY medicine which will cure each and every case. NO CASE known it has ever failed to cure, no matter how serious or of how long standing. Results from its use will astonish you. It is absolutely safe, prevents stricture, and can be taken without inconvenience and without business. PRICE, \$3.00. For sale by all reliable druggists, or sent prepaid by express, plainly wrapped, on receipt of price, by **PABST CHEMICAL CO., Chicago, Ill.** Circular mailed on request.

CURE YOURSELF!

Use Big 4 for unnatural discharges, inflammations, irritations or ulcerations of mucous membranes. Painless, and not astringent or poisonous. Sold by Druggists, or sent in plain wrapper, by express, prepaid, for \$1.00, or 3 bottles, \$2.75. Circular sent on request.

DROPSY Treated Successfully

Address DR. NIEUKIRK, Mountain Home, Ida.

PORTLAND DIRECTORY.

Fence and Wire Works.

PORTLAND WIRE & IRON WORKS: WIRE and iron fencing; office railing, etc. 334 Alder.

Machinery and Supplies.

CAWSTON & CO., ENGINES, BOILERS, MACHINERY, SUPPLIES. 48-50 First St., Portland, Or.

JOHN POOLE, PORTLAND, OREGON, can give you the best bargains in general machinery, engines, boilers, tanks, pumps, plows, belts and windmills. The new steel I X L windmill, sold by him, is unequalled.

MACHINERY. ALL KINDS

...TATUM & BOWEN...

29 to 35 First Street PORTLAND OR.



MANY SICK WOMEN

Can easily trace their trouble to the blood, but it at don't help, unless they find a remedy.

Moore's Revealed Remedy

Purifies the blood—makes sick women strong and well. \$1.00 per bottle at the drug store.

1900
There is every good reason why
St. Jacobs Oil
should cure
RHEUMATISM
NEURALGIA
LUMBAGO
SCIATICA
for the rest of the century. One paramount reason is—it does cure.
SURELY AND PROMPTLY

During the last year 25,202,901 bushels of grain and 2,198,513 gallons of molasses were used for the manufacture of liquor in this country, which produced 107,618,120 gallons of spirits and 1,657,808 gallons of rum, making a total of 109,275,928. This is about one gallon and a half to every man, woman and child in the country.

Spiders are a serious plague in Japan. They spin their webs on the telegraph wires, and are so numerous as to cause a serious loss of insulation. Sweeping the wires does little good as the spiders begin all over again.



An Excellent Combination.

The pleasant method and beneficial effects of the well known remedy, **SYRUP OF FIGS**, manufactured by the **CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.**, illustrate the value of obtaining the liquid laxative principles of plants known to be medicinally laxative and presenting them in the form most refreshing to the taste and acceptable to the system. It is the one perfect strengthening laxative, cleansing the system effectually, dispelling colds, headaches and fevers gently yet promptly and enabling one to overcome habitual constipation permanently. Its perfect freedom from every objectionable quality and substance, and its acting on the kidneys, liver and bowels, without weakening or irritating them, make it the ideal laxative.

In the process of manufacturing figs are used, as they are pleasant to the taste, but the medicinal qualities of the remedy are obtained from senna and other aromatic plants, by a method known to the **CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.** only. In order to get its beneficial effects and to avoid imitations, please remember the full name of the Company printed on the front of every package.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N. Y.
For sale by all Druggists.—Price 50c. per bottle.

SALZER'S 3 EARED CORN

This new, earliest, corn will revolutionize corn growing, yielding in 1899, in Minnesota, 400 bus. per acre. BIG FOUR OATS yields 250 bus. per acre, and you can beat that!

SPELTZ

20 bus. per acre. Greatest grain and hay food this side of the star! **HARLEY, BEARDLESS**, yields 120 bus. in N. Y. Winterfall **HAPE 25c**, a TON Gives rich, green food for cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, etc., at 5¢ a bus. We sell nine-tenths of the Rape seed used in the U. S.

BROMUS INERMIS

Greatest grass on earth. Grows to perfection in America everywhere. Salzer warrants it!

THE MILLION DOLLAR

points to the most reliable of vegetable seeds on earth, and Salzer Big Week's both will make you rich. Largest grower of Potatoes and Farm Seeds in the world.

VEGETABLE SEEDS

Largest, choicest list in U. S. Onion Seed, 50c. lb. Everything warranted to grow. 35 pkgs. our best vegetables, postpaid, \$1.00.

FOR 10c. STAMPS

and this notice, we mail great Seed Catalog and 10 pkgs. Farm Seed Novelties. Catalog alone, 5c. postage, 2¢.

JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO.

LA CROSSE, WIS.

N. P. N. U. No. 12—1900.

WHEN writing to advertisers please mention this paper.