



TOURISTS VISITING THE PYRAMIDS OF SAKKARA.

One of the most fascinating expeditions which the tourist in Egypt has before him is the excursion to the famous step pyramids of Sakkara, which lies some ten miles south of Cairo. The route on approaching the pyramids lies through fields of clover, lentils, and vetches, among which are tethered little groups of goats and oxen in the care of native children. There are no fewer than eleven pyramids to be found in Sakkara. Some of them were explored by M. Maspero, the author of one of the most fascinating reconstructions of ancient Egyptian life. One pyramid is that of Unas, 3333 B. C. Another is that of Teti, 3286 B. C. The famous step pyramid is supposed to have been built by a monarch of the first dynasty; in fact, it is regarded as an early prototype from which the more complete pyramids of Gizeh were evolved. This year the Nile dams at Assouan and Assiout have completely vindicated their existence. The Nile flood is actually the lowest which has occurred since the year 1877, when Egypt was practically reduced to famine, but owing to the existence of the great dam at Assouan and the barrage at Assiout the whole of middle Egypt and every part of the heavily-laden delta will receive a sufficiency of water, and we are therefore faced with the seeming paradox of a record low Nile and a record harvest in the same year—a complete vindication of the policy which planned the barrage.—London Sphere.

A FISHERMAN'S SONG.

The poplars tall kissed the cold, gray sky,  
And in front was the hungry sea,  
And the river swept dark and drearily by,  
While the wind sighed mournfully;  
Away in the west the low sun died,  
The amethyst banks between;  
And amid the reeds the plover cried  
As I gazed on that well-known scene.

And the fishermen's boats were far away  
On the ocean's gleaming breast;  
And the red lights heaved wide over the bay  
From the high hill's windy crest;  
And I saw again my lover's boat,  
With her white sails all outspread,  
Like a joyous bird o'er the waters float  
When the evening skies were red.

To-morrow the sun in the east will rise  
And the fishing fleets come home,  
To gladden the weary, waiting eyes,  
Wet with more than the salt sea foam.  
But, ah me! for the boat that left the shore  
That eve when the skies were red,  
For the fisher lad I shall see no more,  
Till the sea gives up its dead.  
—Chadwick's Journal.

A Grandstand Play

The day the Bar Y rowdies shot up Tularens, Encina Jones had no more idea which man she would choose than a girl with a nickel deciding between caramels and chocolate fudge.

But when the sun dropped behind the chaparral of mesquite and yuccas, she knew to a dot. The man knew as well, for he'd been proposed to and kissed while the other fellow had begun a seven-day jamboree.

Encina was a pretty creature with velvet eyes and hair black as ink. Her immediate ancestors were a New Mexico senorita and a Pan Handle cow puncher pa, and Tularens said she wasn't afraid of the devil. With it all she was as dainty as the snowflake blossoms blowing in her yard.

John Marshall was one of 'em. He was a raw-boned gent from up around San Antonio somewhere, and wore store-bought clothes.

Tommy Mulhall was the other. His trigger finger was the loosest in Tularens county, and he stood six feet two in his sock feet.

That afternoon Mr. Marshall asked Encina to the drug store for a drink of soda water, and just as they stepped out of the emporium they came face to face with Tommy. He had just emerged from the Rough Rider saloon.

"Howdy, Tommy," said Encina sweetly. "Sorry you couldn't join us in the refreshments."

"Indeed we are," echoed Mr. Marshall. "We might have another, though; the nectar's fine!"

"Not for mine," Tommy exclaimed, with a breath stiff enough to hang a hat on. "Ain't you-all gettin' reckless?"

Just what Tommy was going to ask never developed, for a whoop sounded down the street that made the windows rattle.

"Wh-o-o-o-e-e! Y-e-e-l-l-p-p!" The Bar Y gang had turned the corner. They galloped down Main street in a cloud of dust, banging loose with their Colts, right and left.

Men, women, cripples, children and chickens bumped it for the back side of the nearest thing that looked like it might stop a bullet.

Tommy reached for his gun. In a second it was unlimbered, and from behind a big cottonwood he began pumping lead at the rate of six pellets to the second.

Mr. Marshall's face paled. He grabbed

Encina by the shoulders and rushed her behind four packs of sample shingles piled on the sidewalk. A fold or two of his own body was exposed, but Encina, forced to the ground and held there, was safe from the flying bullets.

At the height of the miniature battle Mr. Marshall wheeled. A violent pang shot through his nerves, but he held his position until it was all over.

"Miss Encina!" Tommy was calling. The Bar Y bunch had disappeared in a haze of dust. Like apparitions the couple emerged from behind the shingles.

"Oh, Tommy!" Encina cried, "you're hurt!" Blood was dripping from a scratch on the hand.

"Aw, 'tain't nothin'—don't hurt. I chose the man who knows where I am when there's a rough house, instead of the chap who makes a great grandstand, then asks, after it's all over, 'Where are you at?' Don't call to-night. I'm going to sit up with John.—Encina."—Cincinnati Post.

Mr. Marshall staggered away, reeled and, as Encina screamed, fell upon the ground.

"Oh, you're wounded!" the girl cried, running to his side. Back the way they had come she saw huge splashes of scarlet. Mr. Marshall had fainted from loss of blood.

When Mr. Marshall was resting gently in Encina's pa's best room, and Dr. Burns had extracted a bullet through a hole between the wounded man's shoulders, and mighty near the lungs, Encina came and sat at the bedside. Her eyes were red and becoming streaks left by tears still remained on her cheeks. She had done a heap of thinking even as she cried.

Presently she sought pencil and paper and wrote: "Mr. Mulhall—I've decided. I choose the man who knows where I am when there's a rough house, instead of the chap who makes a great grandstand, then asks, after it's all over, 'Where are you at?' Don't call to-night. I'm going to sit up with John.—Encina."—Cincinnati Post.

The "Femme de Luxe."

There are in these days the train de luxe, edition de luxe and hotel de luxe, but it seems to have entirely escaped attention that there is also the femme de luxe. The femme de luxe associates only with the rich and prominent, lives but for amusement, spends money recklessly.

This femme de luxe and homme de luxe difficulty is the disease which, spreading with enormous rapidity, threatens to remove good conduct from the civilized world. A handful of men break every law, divine or human, swindle with impunity, and behave like hooligans, and with them are a handful of women who have abandoned all restraint. These are held up to the rest of the community as of such social importance that their misconduct is to be admired.—London Truth.

Paired Early and Often.

A number of years ago at a small town in Maine, an important local election was to take place, and there was strong rivalry between the Republicans and Democrats, and Hiram Morse, the blacksmith, was a strong Democrat, but many of the farmers were Republicans.

On the morning of the election a farmer came to have his horse shod. The blacksmith said to him: "We're both busy. You're a Republican and I'm a Democrat. Let's pair off. We'll neither of us vote, and it will amount to the same as if both went to the polls."

This was agreed upon. After election it was found out that Morse had paired off with five Republican farmers.—Boston Herald.

A Sad Bereavement.

An honest countryman, anxious to explore the wonders of the British museum, obtained a special holiday a short time since. Accordingly, taking with him a couple of friends, he presented himself at the door for admittance.

"No admission to-day, sir?" said the keeper. "But I must come in. I've a holiday on purpose."

"No matter. This is a cloudy day, and the museum is shut."

"What!" said John. "Ain't this public property?" "Yes, but one of the mummies died a few days ago, and we are going to bury him."

"Oh, in that case we won't intrude!" said John in a hushed voice. So he is buried.—London Tit-Bits.

Only a beautiful girl can afford to keep her domestic virtues under cover.

Science AND Invention

It is estimated that South America furnishes about 63 per cent of the world's supply of India rubber.

It is computed that about 14,000 words were sent over the Atlantic on the opening day of the wireless telegraphy from the United Kingdom to Canada.

Certain kinds of noises, says the Madras Times, attract snakes. The whirr of the mowing machine is one, and in six months as many as 120 cobras alone have been killed on a grass farm in India by the advancing machine.

By rubbing metals with salt before applying mercury, the ancients obtained a reaction similar to that for which copper sulphate is used. The chlorine released from the salt formed a silver chloride easily attacked by the mercury, so as to form an amalgam.

According to the Engineering and Mining Journal, chilled steel shot of extreme hardness and adopted to replace diamonds in drilling through many formations is made by spraying or atomizing molten steel into cold water, thereby chilling it instantly.

In August there was inaugurated at the Col d'Olen, close by Monte Rosa, at an elevation of 9,840 feet, one of the most remarkable institutions for scientific research in the world. It owes its existence to the initiative of Prof. Angelo Mosso, of Turin, and is called the Institute of the Col d'Olen. It contains laboratories for research in botany, bacteriology, zoology, physiology, terrestrial physics and meteorology. All these subjects are to be studied from the special point of view of the effect of Alpine conditions.

Monsieur Carbonelle, a Belgian, has invented an apparatus by means of which a picture can be reproduced by telegraph in the form of an engraved plate, from which printed copies may be immediately taken. The picture to be sent is printed with thick, non-conducting ink, and wound round a revolving cylinder, over which passes a stylus electrically connected with the telegraph line. At the receiving end a similar cylinder is encased with lead, or other soft metal, on which presses the point of a graver. The variations of intensity in the current produced by the stylus passing over the picture at the transmitting station causes the graver to cut more or less deeply, and thus to produce a typographic copy of the original, which may be placed without change on the printing press.

The Name of Norway's King.

As to the uncertainty of the spelling of the King of Norway's name, a Norwegian authority writes: "The genuine form of the name is Hakon. Such variations as Hakun, Hakunn, Hakwin, Latin Hagulnus, I leave out of consideration. The name is made up of two elements—ha, the root of har, high; and kon, for konr (like son, for son). The older form of konr was kunr, he of the kyn (kuni), of the family, the noble race." According to the Elder Edda poem, Rigsmal konr was the youngest son of Jarl (Earl), who himself was the son of the god Heimdall ('illuminator mundi'). Konr ungr, the young kon, swung himself, by deeds of arms, into the position of a konungr, king, which, though the old poet knew it not, simply meant the kon-ling, 'he of the kin'—ungr being a suffix indicative of descent.

"Accordingly, the name Hakon meant originally 'the high one of the kin,' and must have been a title for a prince, a king, before it assumed the exclusive character of a proper personal name. The old Norwegian pronunciation of the 'a' in ha seems to have come close to the sound of the English 'ow' in know; but in the course of time it has broadened into a sound as nearly as possible identical with the English 'aw' in hawk. The 'o' in kon is very nearly equal to the English 'o' in on. The accent falls on the first syllable. In modern Norwegian the spelling of the name is Haakon ('aa' equals 'aw')."

Head Hunting in New Guinea.

From Netherlands, New Guinea, comes news of head hunting among the people at Merakke, the chief settlement. The Netherlands authorities are hard put to it to check the practice, owing to the force of the old custom that children must bear the names of those whose heads had been taken off by their fathers. Lately many children have been nameless from head hunting falling off. The result is that the parents have started hunting for heads in the neighboring British territory. The Netherlands authorities have sent out patrols to prevent these raids. Severe punishment to the guilty parties has been threatened.—Straits Times.

Up Against It.

Viskey, of the Russian secret police, slapped his hand on the tourist's shoulder.

"You must not stay in this country," he hissed.

"Then I'll leave," the tourist mildly answered.

"But have you a permit to leave?"

"No."

"Then come with me," said Viskey harshly, leading the way toward the Kremlin. "I'll lend you up till you decide what to do."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

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SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF BRAINS.

Man's Intellectual Superiority Explained by Dr. Edward Spitzka.

A work that scientists in all parts of the civilized world have been awaiting with eagerness has just been issued under the imprint of the American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia.

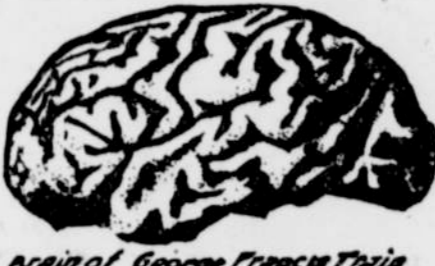
It is a study of brains, by Dr. Edward Anthony Spitzka, professor of general anatomy in Jefferson Medical College, formerly demonstrator of anatomy in Columbia University, and an authority of world-wide recognition upon scientific study of the brain.

Omitting the scientific terminology, some of the most important of Dr. Spitzka's statements may be thus expressed:

The white matter of the callosum, or band connecting the hemispheres of the cerebrum, in great measure determines the quality of human intellect. The cerebrum is that portion of the brain which lies in front of the skull, and is generally accepted as the seat of the mind. Heretofore the quantity of the gray matter of the brain was supposed to determine the fineness and usefulness of the brain.

The fibers of the callosum are the telephone wires connecting and associating the brain centers. Disease or injury in these is attended by profound weak-mindedness or downright idiocy.

Contrast the brain of Dr. Joseph Ledy with that of Prof. E. D. Cope shows that it is possible not only to differentiate between the learned and the



Brain of George Francis Thain



Brain of a Peasant, Savage



Brain of a Chimpanzee



Brain of a Baboon

ignorant, but that abstract reasoning produces one kind of a brain, while observation and concrete philosophy produces another form.

Such abnormalities as left-handedness, partial deafness and defects of vision leave their indelible imprints upon the brain.

The brains of various kinds of thinkers show specialized developments; thus musicians' brains are richly convoluted in the auditory association area.

The average weight of the brain of an adult male is 1,400 grammes. The average weight of a woman's brain is 1,200 grammes. The brain of Cuvier, the naturalist, weighed 1,830 grammes, that of Turgenev, the novelist, 2,012 grammes, and that of Daniel Webster, 1,807 grammes.

Smallness of the occipital arc (the curvature at the back of the head) signifies superiority of brain development. This measurement in centesimals, the metric divisors of a 90-degree arc are as follows:

Average man ..... 20.8  
Average woman ..... 21.7  
Orange-utang ..... 23.2  
Chimpanzee ..... 24.2

Concerning the question of weight, Dr. Spitzka says:

"The fruitful investigations of many anatomists have resulted in the tabulation of thousands of brain weights drawn from all the social and intellectual classes, among which more than 100 are of men of intellectual eminence.

"Men of the kind who never remain steadily employed and who usually fall to even learn a trade stand lowest in the scale. Above them come the mechanics and trade workers, the clerks, the ordinary business men and common school teachers.

"Highest of all we find men of decided mental abilities; the geniuses of the pencil, brush and sculptor's chisel, the mathematicians, scholars and statesmen."—Philadelphia North American.

Stuck to His Word.

"Of course Dubley's married. Didn't you know that?"

"No. Why, he said he wouldn't marry the best woman on earth."

"Yes, and he kept his word."—Philadelphia Press.

Fishes With Four Eyes.

Fishes have been discovered in Guam with two pairs of eyes. One pair does duty above water and the other below, the fish thus being able to see equally well in two elements.

Patting Him Next.

"Papa, what is a hardship?"

"An armored cruiser, son."—Houston Post.

Nature seldom stores a lot of brains behind a pretty face.



Postmaster General Meyer, in his annual report, makes several recommendations for increasing the efficiency and extending the scope of the work of the Postoffice Department. Chief among these recommendations was that for the establishment of postal savings banks. Mr. Meyer would have every money order office, and such others as may be deemed necessary, designated to receive deposits in amounts of not less than \$1, but the amount of individual accounts he would limit to \$300. On these deposits interest at the rate of 2 per cent should be allowed. A material extension of the parcels post service is urged. A recommendation is also made for more up-to-date business methods and a revised system of bookkeeping. He also suggests a permanent official corresponding to the superintendent of mails or the agent of a great manufacturing corporation, who would hold office continuously through various administrations. In illustrating the growth of the postal business during the last fifty years, Mr. Meyer states that in 1837 the receipts were \$8,053,952, with a deficit of \$3,454,104, while the last fiscal year the receipts were \$183,585,005, with a deficit of \$6,653,282. He believes that by 1917 the receipts will be over \$350,000,000.

One of the features of the annual report of Gen. F. C. Ainsworth, adjutant general of the United States Army, which has called forth no little comment throughout the country, is the statement that if present conditions continue there will be nothing for the government to do to secure men for the military service but to materially increase the pay of enlisted men or resort to conscription. The report shows that the deficiency below the authorized strength of the army on Oct. 15, 1906, was 8,046, while in October, 1907, it was 20,535. Among the reasons given for this falling off is the strong competition which the government encounters from private employers, who offer higher pay and more attractive conditions.

The annual report of the Isthmian Canal Commission, recently made public, shows expenditures up to date of \$48,285,880.37, and indicates gratifying progress in the work. On June 30, 1907, the total force of skilled and unskilled laborers was 29,446, an increase of 10,000 over the previous year. The death rate among employes for several years past shows a marked improvement in health conditions, mainly due to sanitation, better housing facilities and better food supplies. The report strongly recommends the continuation of the work by the National Government direct and not through a contractor or syndicate of contractors.

Despite denials on the part of government officials, there is a persistent report that the United States Government has purchased from the Wright Bros. the control of their "heavier than air" flying machine. The Wrights have been in Europe for some time, and it was generally supposed that they were negotiating for the sale of their machine to foreign governments. Much secrecy is thrown about the subject, but it is apparent that the government is interesting itself deeply in the problem of air navigation.

At the direction of the President a special commission, consisting of Lawrence O'Murray, Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Labor; Herbert Knox Smith, commissioner of corporations, and Charles P. Nell, United States labor commissioner, started for Goldfield, Nev., to investigate the labor conditions at that place and to determine whether there is necessity for the presence of the United States troops recently ordered there at the request of Gov. Sparks.

Bids to the amount of \$25,000,000 of the recent offering of Panama canal bonds have been accepted by Secretary Cortelyou at an average price of 103, and nearly all of the accepted bids are from national banks which were in a position to take out additional circulation at once. It was thought that the 3 per cent certificates would not exceed \$15,000,000. The Secretary says that the improvement justifies him in limiting both the new issues.

Rear Admiral M. E. Mason, chief of the Bureau of Ordnance of the Navy Department, in his annual report strongly urges legislation that will authorize the department to purchase ordnance, projectiles, powder and torpedoes in limited quantities abroad, such material to be admitted free of duty. This recommendation is based on the statement that the domestic manufacturers are unable to supply these articles within a reasonable time.

The opening of proposals for the \$50,000,000 of Panama canal bonds showed that the amount had been subscribed several times over, and that a good figure, well above the market price, would be realized for the securities. While the official figures were not obtainable, it was thought that the average price would prove to be about 104. The allotment of the bonds will be at the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury.