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Nature's Corlous Freaks.

A physical monstrosity almost equaling the Prince of Trepotkine is the carefully guarded son of a well-to-do merchant occupying a costly mansion not far from the southern boundary of the Central Park. The Prince Trepotkine, who is justly regarded as one of the most brilliant minds in the Russian Empire, is the physical prodigy and monstrosity of an intelligent man with h's head at the termination of his right arm, and a hand and arm growing out of his neck and fall ng down over his breast. Born in 1853. the Prince has received a thorough education, and is known throughout the Russian Empire as a statesman and poet of high order.

The monstrosity that is so carefully

guarded in the mansion on West fifty-

seventh street, is a perfectly formed man about 30 years old, whose head and face is a block, as it were; that is, the sides and the top of the head, as well as the fare, are perfectly flat or slab-sided. The ears do not project, but are interlineatal, and the same with the features, the nose being a very slight protuberance, but natural in its functions. There is a good growth of hair on the caput; the eyeprows are perfect, but excepting a light mustache no beard has ever grown on the face beyond a coating of down. Thus deformed, no effort was ever made to educate the unfortunate man, for the reason that he is so willful that it has always been deemed best to let him have his own way. He possesses, however, much natural intelligence, and has a remarkably retentive memory, and, to a certain extent he has educated Limself. Never forgetting anything he hears, he remembers dates, names and occurrences and can carry on a conversation by repeating what he has heard on the subect, evincing an intelligent appreciaton of what he is saying. Chiro-graphy excites in him the liveliest interest and wonder, and one of his idiosynerasies is to treasure all pieces is also much delighted by pictures. and illustrated papers form his chief amusement. The ample means of the family enable them to provide him with an attendant and every comfort. and besides he has an inheritance from a grandfather, formerly a very prominent merchant in New England, which with the compounded interest and accrued income which has been allowed when he can only be governed by his who has had his care ever since his weak, but not otherwise unhealthy, seldom cares to leave his apartments. He is allowed, whenever inclined to do

so, to roam about the house accom-

The only vicious trait manifested

by the unfortunate man is when in a

panied by his nurse.

bad humor he always makes an effort to start a fire, and the sight of flames drives him almost to a frenzy of deght, mixed with savage glee. Once he ran ahead of his nurse and managed to secrete h mselfe in the cellar. Not immediately found, he was allowed to remain unmolested, the nur e believing he would reveal himself when he found that no search was he. ing made for him. Not appearing, however, the nurse repaired to the cellar and found him throwing wood into the furnace, ev dently with the intention of starting a big blaze. As soon as he saw the nurse he slunk back into a corner, evidently determined to dethe fire he had started. It is remembered that shortly before his birth the mother was terribly freightened by a fire in the neighborhood which threatshe was an inmate. His id osyncrasy in regard to the fire is physiologically accounted for or attributed to this fact. He will sit and watch the fire in the grate or the gas burning by the hour ment. The grate in his room is protected by a strong iron network under ten, they are shipped here for the palock and key, and the gas burners are per trade. Sometimes impurities of similarly inclosed, so as to prevent different kinds creep into the bales. In him from reaching the flame. It is feared that he might be inclined to tamper with the burner in one of his vicious moods. An indulgence is to allow him to ignate a quantity of paper, the burning of which affords h m much pleasure. Perceiving his father smoking a cigar, he once surrept tously obta ned one, but the taste of the tobacco sickened him and he has never since attempted to become a smoker. It pleases him, however, to watch his father smoke, and he will fee wently request his father to is a fact worth noticing that all of the Asster was born subse-"smoke. quent to his birth, but she died in in- pox has broken out have been vessels fancy. She was a perfectly formed, beautiful, healthy I ttle child.

The appearance of the head and face of this unfortunate man suggests that Chicago News. a circular and smooth compress had been placed on h's satures as he was growing, and the result is that the growth of all the features and the "Glad to hear it: but in what way curves of the face and head have been he to be envied? Was she rich?" suppressed and made uniformly smooth all around. He was born with this slab-sided deformity, however, and growth has not developed any of the features or the shape of the head. There is a number of deformities of the head, ears and face strongly re-sembling those of a pig, and to this class the physicians a cribe this singu-lar freak of nature. Usually persons "She knows how to cook."

possessing deformities of this class are viciously inclined, but this man has no bad habits. He is cleanly and careful of his personal appearance, and seldom gives any trouble to his nurse, to whom he is apparently much attached. It is fortunate for h m that the accident of birth placed him in such good circumstances. In a more humble sphere of life he would probably have oeen placed in a museum. Most of the deform tes exhibited in such places, however-among them the man-crab and the four arme! boy-are simply eases of distorted growth, which the surgeon's knife could easily temedy. It may not be out of place to state, in passing, that an article on this subject some months ago in these columns, describing a deform ty in a dime museum of a youth whose fingers on both hands had all grown together, attracted the attention of this unfortunate boy, and, learning that such a case of arrested growth could be easily remedied, he applied to a humane physician, and had an operation performed which resulted in his re overing, or rather obtaining, full use of his finger. The freak of nature described in this art cle, however, is beyond remedy by the surgeon's scalpel, or an operation would have been performed

History of the Tulip. The tulip is a native of the Levant and the warmer parts of Asia, and is very common in Syria and Palestine. In the year 1550 the tulip was rapidly distributed through all parts of Europe. being brought from Persia by Conrad Gesner. an eminent German physic an and naturalist. The scientific name of the tulip, "tulipa gesnerinna," commemorates the labors of its introducer. Early in the seventeenth century the special cultivation of particular varieties was prosecuted to a considerable extent in the Netherlands, and the price of the roots was higher in value than that of the most precious metals. In the years 1634 to 1637 the possession of choice tulips became so strong of writing that he comes across. He among the Dutch that dealing in them became one of the most important money speculations, and the bulbs were sold and resold at enormous prices. For one root of the Vicerov variety \$250 was paid, while for a Semper Augustus a person agreed to give 4.600 florins (equal to £400), with the addition of a new carriage and a pair of horses. Another agreed to give twelve acres of land for a single root to accumulate in his trust in event of of this sort. As late as the year 1754 family misfortune, now amounts to a Mr. Groom, of Clapham, catalogued snug l ttle fortune. He is generally show tulips at enormous prices; a amiable and passive, although selfwilled, and is apparently perfectly contented with his lot. At times, how-were sold at 100 guineas each, others is Columbia and Alaska. He went to the Stickeen or Cassiar mines in 1874, ever, he becomes cross and vicious, at 50, 21 and 10 guineas per root. In the following year, 1755, the whole of attendant, now an aged Irish-woman, Mr. Groom's collection, which consisted of over 200,000 roots, was sold at birth. He occupies a suit of rooms at auction, as it stood in the rows, at the top of the house and, being rather | very low prices, and from this time the tulip as a show flower declined in the public favor at a rapid rate. The commercial value for a flower at the present day of a new variety of early tulip, if of unusually fine quality, would be about \$1, being only about one tenth of the value of a new hyacinth. The reason for this difference is that it would take fifty years to get up a stock large enough to send out; while with a hyacinth, which multiplies rapidly, the same result could be produced in ten vears.

A Dead Baby in a Bale of Rags. Washington Letter. Great quantities of rags are shipped to the United States from all parts of the world. They are used for making paper, and are sent from the seaboard to the various paper mills throughout the country. The annual importation now amounts to about half a million bales. Each bale contains from 400 to fend himself in his retreat to watch | 1,200 pounds of rags. They are tightly pressed together and come into this country securely bound for shipping. You can have no idea of the sources from which these rags are obtained. ened to extend to the build ng of which | A large amount of them come from Japan, and thousands of bales from Calcutta. The Calcutta rags are the worst. They are made up in a large part from the wrappings of dead bodies. The bodies of the dead are thrown in contemplative interest and content- into the river, and when these rags float ashore, or can be otherwise gotone bale not long ago a dead baby was found, and in other bales other foul matter has been discovered. The Egyptian rags are largely tainted with camels' manure, and those gathered from the gutters and streets of Shanghai are foul beyond description. A great amount of rags comes from Japan to us. I think there are more than forty thousand bales now on the way. Some of the rags sent to this country come from districts in which infectious diseases are raging, and it vessels arriving here in which smallcarrying rags.

A Jewel.

"Crusher is married, I hear." "Yes, and he's made a downright good match, too, I can tell you.

"No-she didn't bring him a dollar." "Very pretty, then, I suppose?"

"Oh. no; rather plain. "Highly intellectual?" "No, no. Not above the average but I tell you she's a woman in a mil-

IN ALASKA.

How the Land Looks to an Old Scout and Miner.

San Francisco Butte in.

friend and former mining partner in this city, from Granville, Burrard Inlet, B. C. It may be said, by way of preface, that the writer has had a most

extraordinary and varied experience. About the year 1844, he resided in one of the then border states of the west, and was a student of medicine, and in very poor health-suffering from "consumption," the doctors said. and it was agreed that nothing would save him but a trip across the Rocky Mountains. He joined a party of trappers and came through to Oregon in that year. If crwards he drifted down into Mexico, and was hunting Apaches for the state of Chihuahua. He was on Mexican so I when the war commenced in 1846, and was brought close to death's door with a se ere attack of fever. During his sickness he was taken care of by an old Mexican woman, who managed to keep him hidden from the civil and military authorities till he became convaiescent, when he cluded the officials and made his way to the American lines, conveying some important information to Gen. Taylor. He then entered the spy service and was kept busy till the close of the

war, often running terrible risks. In 1848 he came through to California with Col. Graham's command, and encountered the usual vicissitudes of a miner's life in the pioneer days, in the counties of Calaveras. Tuolumne and Mariposa. He went north in the first Frazer river excitement—then to Cariboo. Returning to California, he joined an expedition and went to South America, crossing two ranges of the Andes, for the purpose of prospecting the headwaters of the Amazon. The enterprise panned out rich in hairbreadth escapes from huge serpents, evil-disposed wild beasts, venomous insects and mountain torrents, but added nothing to the wealth of the party. He afterwards tried Arizona, failed, and then turned his attention to the frozen north, joining the Russian telegraph expedition as head explorer, and subsequently engaged in several prospecting excursions under difficult and

dangerous circumstances. For several years his whereabouts has not been known to his California friends till the reception of the letter above mentioned. After a brief account of a logging camp, where he had been putting in his time for eighteen months, he gives a chapter of his prospeeting and mining experience in Britwhen he met with an accident-getting his right arm dislocated, in consequence of which he came to California for repairs -afterward returning to Cassiar. After two or three seasons of unsuccessful mining, he took up a farm near the head of navigation on the Stickeen. The land proved productive, and he had good crops of potatoes, cabbages, turnips, oats and barley. Hay was his principal crop. About the time he was fairly under way in his agricultural venture, the mines failed and the packers had to take the trains out of the country-utterly ruining the hay market, and as turnips and potatoes would not sell for money his three years' labor as a tiller of the soil went for nothing, ex-

cept to add to the sum of what he knew about farming. He then went to the Alaska mines at Harrisburg, between Sitka and Chilcot. There were some very fair placer mines in this neigeborhood, along the side of a mountain on the mainland and also on Douglass Island, but their extent was very limited, and they were all taken up before he reached the place. He writes that the climate in that region is "horrible everlasting rain and snow." It is the worst place in all Alaska. The mines are up Gastenaut Inlet. The great glac ers near the coast condense the clouds as they come up the inlet, so there is rain or snow nearly all the time.

On Douglass Island there are some good paying quartz mines, and a big mill is now being built there.

In the Basin mines, on the mainland, there is a great deal of galena united with the gold in quartz, and some very beautiful specimens have been found.

The Indians are employed in the mines and they are good workers. They are accustomed to the rains and m'nd no more about being wet than beavers and muskrats.

"In their house," says the writer, there is a very strong odor-something like that of wet dog-rather unpleasant till one gets used to it,'

The Indians all along the Alaska coast get plenty to eat; their bill of fare including herring, salmon, halibut, codfish, seals and whales. Fine black tailed deer are very plentiful along the coast some of them being marvels of fatness. In the woods ty of berries. The bears get so fat they "can hardly get about." Mountain sheep, marginal with the perfectly his time for retiring ta'n sheep, marmots, minks, martin, ermine, weasels, otters, foxes, and all other fur-bearing animals are plentiful. Of the feathered tribe there are geese, ducks, loons and divers and other water birds, several varieties of grouse, eagles, hawks, and jay birds. In summing up his experience in that territory, he concludes that Alaska is a rough looking country, but is better than it looks. There is an spoon, having been taught not to use abundance of mineral wealth, but it is the fingers in eating; he poured his

prospector. Nevertheless, there are likely to be wally important discoveries made, now that the civil law is established in the territory. Sometime in the near future we may expect from An old pioneer Californian writes to ing the interior of Alaska.

#### Flower Gardens.

Chicago News

The old-fashioned flower garden, with its beds of fragrant, straggling posies, is seen no more except in some quiet country spot. There can still be found the tall, sweet-scented syringia, with its bloss in like orange flowers, golden lemon lilies, delicate lavender and fawn tinted fleur-de-I's, the spicy cinnamon, and the faintly tinted blush rose. The damask rose, with its leaves like velvet and its yellow heart, invariably grows beside them. By and by, as the season advances, here and there, in such a ga den, blue, white and pink larkspurs and many-colored, tall hollyhocks spring into bloom, and variegated "four-o'clocks" open their eyes each day at the appointed hour. Verbenas run helter-skelter in this garden, the old-time hardy, purple variety never ceasing to bloom till frost comes, and even after that putting out flowers. There are great vellow marigolds, and I tile brown and gold ones. There is a bed of 'johnny-jump-ups' in some shady port on of this garden, bunches of "live forever," of pungent 'old man," and thorny sweetbriar bushes. There are single petunias, heavy with perfume, growing sturdily even among the gras-for the petun a is a bohemian, and flourishes wherever it chances to find itself, rapidly degenerating from a state of double pelated, brilliant hued aristocracy to a single-leaved, plain, white flower, without a home. It will lift its head up among the rankest growing nettles to look the sun in the face. The earth is carpeted in some places in this garden with deep-green myrtle. "Bachelor-buttons" grow wheresoever they will. On the edge of the garden the caraway and dill send up the'r stalks. There is a place some where in the beds for the scarlet flow ering bean and the morning glory. Even the wild cucumber-vine is not scorned, and it twines itself along the

The fashlonable garden of the period is quite another attair. It is orderly, to begin with, above all things. No stragglers are allowed there. It is close clipped, arranged on a certain pattern, looks as if it were rolled out on occasion and taken indoors when it rained to keep it from getting damp. It has a set form, made of perfectly graded hues, and is called the "orien-tal carpet style of gardening." This style is said to have originated in England, but it has been universally adopted througout France and Germany, as well as in this country. The plants used most largely to produce the effects des red are geraniums and those comprised under the head of "foliage plants," and small border growers of various kinds. Lobelia is utilized for outside borders to a great extent because of its brilliant blue blossom and continual flowering.

"There is far less attention given to the cultivation of flowers in America than there is in Europe," said a German florist. "In Germany, France and England gardeners are always experimenting to produce different effects in gardening. They give great attent on to producing new varieties of plants. Wealthy people there are willing to pay large sums for rare flowers. In this country people who have fine country places think more of a broad sweep of green lawn than of the finest flower beds on earth."

#### An Educated Chimpanzee.

I was once the owner of a highly educated chimpanzee. He knew all the friends of the house; all our acquaintances, and distinguished them readily from strangers. Every one treating him kindly he was looked upon as a personal friend. He never felt more comfortable than when he was admitted to the family circle and allowed to move freely around, and open and shut doors, while his joy was boundless when he was assigned a place at the common table, and the guests admired his natural wit and practical jokes. He expressed his satsfaction and thanks to them by drumming furiously on the table. In his numerous moments of leisure his favorite occupation consisted in investigating carefully every object in his reach; he lowered the door of the stove for the purpose of watching the fire, opened drawers, rummaged boxes and trunks and played with their contents, provided the latter did not look Suspicious to him. How easily suspicion was aroused in his mind might be illustrated by the fact that, as long as he lived, he shrank with terror from every common rubber-ball. Obedience to my orders and attachment to my person, and to everybody caring for him, were among his cardinal virtues, happy when some of us carried him to his bedroom like a baby. As soon as the light was put out he would jump into the bed and cover him elf, because he was afraid of the darkness. His favorite meal was supper with tea. which he was very fond of provided it was largely sweetened and mixed with rum. He sipped it from the cup, and a hard country to prospect. The glacers, the fallen trees, the moss, but, worse than all, the cold rains, are enough to discourage the stoutest table than did that monkey.

THE MYSTERY OF UNBRIDGE.

A Case that Has a Pascinating Interest for Everybody.

Uxbridge, Mass., is perplexed by a mystery of a very aggravating nature. There is no tragedy or scandal of any kind involved in the matter, and for hat reason the gossips can find absolutely nothing to base an extended conversation upon. It concerns only one man directly, though another one cems to have some connection with it. Not being a murder, a scandal, a mysterious disappearance, or anything of that sort, it might be thought that it would be easy of solution, but it isn't. How did Levi Wilson get rich? is the juestion which promises to agitate the people in that section for generations to come.

Wilson began life as a stable boy. In 1873 he was at work in a factory at North Uxbr dge at \$1.75 a day, and up to that time he had never had a hundred dollars at one time in his life. Then he disappeared and nothing was seen of him for two years. In 1875 he returned to Uxbridge wearing fine clothes and carrying large sums of money in his pockets. He opened a bank account, bought lands, built houses, married, purchased a hotel and litted it up at a great expense. went to Europe, travaled through America, drove fast horses, and, in short, became the capitalist of the place. His money came to him in installments of \$50,000, and after a little t was noticed by his bankers that hese remittances were invariably sent by Philip Moen. a wealthy manufacurer of Worcester. There was talk of blackmail, but Moen indignantly denied the rumor and Wilson said nothing. Ten years have passed, and the remittances continue in about the same order. Occasionally they are delayed, and then Wilson sues Moen, whereupon the latter settles and both hold their peace. Even their lawyers do not know the nature of the claim, for none of the suits have yet been permitted to go to trial, and the complaints that are filed are not specific. No wonder the rural gossips are at their wit's ends. Interest in the case has been re-

vived by the institution of a suit for \$150,000 by Wilson against Moen. The attorneys of each say it will never come to trial, and Moen himself admits that he will pay anything that may be due Wilson. Moen is an elderly man, who has an income of \$250,000 a year, while W Ison is still young. The latter spends his money with a prodgal hand and is something of a sport. No one ever saw the men together, and nobody can imagine what the nature of their relations is. It is a queer case and Moen and Wilson are queer tish.

That Whistle Among the Icebergs.

The launch whistled frequently as she steamed along, and we knew afterward that the sound was made by those who lay in the tent, which was partly blown down. Brainard and Long succeeded in creeping out from under its folds and crawled to the top of a hill near by, from which was visible the coast toward Lake Sabine. At first nothing was seen by them; and Brainard returned to the tent, telling by the silent despair of his face that 'there was no hope." The survivors discussed the probable cause of the noise, and decided it was the wind

blowing over the edge of a tin can.

Meanwhile Long crept higher up the hill, and watched attentively in the direction from which the sound had apparently come. A small, black object met h's gaze. It might be a rock, but none had been seen there before. A thin, white cloud appeared above it; his ear eaught the welcome sound and the poor fellow knew that relief had come. In the cestacy of his joy he raised the signal flag, which the gale had blown down. It was a sad, pitiable object-the back of a white flannel undershirt, the leg of a pair of drawers and a piece of blue bunting tacked to an oar. The effort proved too much for him, and he sank exhausted on the rocks. It was enough for the relief party; they saw him, whistled again, and turned in for shore with all possible speed. Long rose again and fairly rolled down bill in his engeness to meet them.

Why Bu Endeth

"Mr. Yager," said the young man, "I come to ask you for the hand of your daughter."

"Der 'handt' fon me'n tochter. Fur vhy you say der 'handt' fon mein tochter? You dinks Katrina only vone handt got <sup>100</sup> You vas peen a fool. Kat-rina got two handts."

"Well—yes—excuse me. I—I—I of course mean two hands."
"I—I—I!" You peen a schtutter

feller, eh? I no schtutter feller in mein family vant. I dinks it vas petter ouf you gone home und learn dot schtutter pisness schtop."

"Excuse me, please; but-"
"Dere don'd vas no oxcuse for dot schtutter pissness. Ouf dot Gott make you dot vay, you don't gan'd hellup it, dot vas so; aber it vas petter ouf yoo don'd got marriedt und don'd no schillern haf. How you dinks dot look ouf you a house full schtutter schillern got goin' all der time, 'I-I-I?' near got schutter me'nsellif dalkin' mit Go vay mit yoursellef.

And the young man then went away with himself in great sadness.

Three card monte men, thimble-rig-gers and bunko-steerers are punished by public whipping in Delawars. Twenty lashes is the average dose.