

COSELY BUTTONS.

They Were Worn Once Too Often by Gambler Gonzalo of New Orleans.

In 1851, when New Orleans was reached by flatboats, the cargoes of apples, hay, corn or meats were disposed of as fast as purchasers could be found, after which the crews looked up the local sights, particularly the "tiger."

Down the front was a row of very large buttons made from Mexican dollars, the front faces of which were so polished that they reflected light as mirrors.

Bowers nodded pleasantly to the right and left, and took a seat at one of the tables where Gonzalo was presiding. The visitor was a man who would be conspicuous in any crowd.

"Si, senior, I play whatever game you like." They both withdrew to a small ante-room in the rear, which was lighted by a large glass skylight.

The game commenced, and at first Bowers lost. This, however, did not disturb his equanimity in the least.

Bowers after some time began to win. At first every second game; then two out of every three.

"The flatboatman did not move one inch in his chair. He seemed as rigid as if carved of stone. Facing his opponent, he kept his eye fixed on the handsome green jacket of the proprietor and the silver buttons.

At 3 o'clock in the afternoon Bowers was \$1,800 ahead, and that Mexican had awakened to a decided interest in the game.

Not long ago a famous critic told me a story about a journal with which he was connected. The editor sent a little girl, who was writing for him, to the opera on an opening night.

The game was the talk of the town for a number of days, and Gonzalo was treated considerably about it by his comrades.

ing: "Partner. It's too good to keep, so I'll tell it to you. When you play with a gringo take off that green coat and silver buttons."

A Strange Romance

Dr. Hardin, as his name shall be for this occasion (now dead), had but lately arrived in Americus, Ga., from Savannah.

One day Miss Julia, with her widowed mother, went out on that most important duty of a woman's life—the purchase of a bridal trousseau.

Thus weeks passed, and until the date popularly supposed to have been set for the nuptials had gone by.

The soldier friends of the young lady's brother, feeling that she was without male protection, determined that she should not be imposed upon.

One of the men, maddened at the doctor's icy indifference, rushed over to him and grasping him by the shoulder, shook him violently.

"How came I here? This is so very strange. I went to bed in my room at 8 o'clock, and thought until this moment that I was still there."

He was a somnambulist! In the talk which followed the whole matter was made plain.

It was too plain that no opposition existed there. Soon the license was procured, the minister called in, and the happy pair made one.

But one chapter more remains to be told. When the yellow fever broke out in Savannah with such violence about ten years ago.

Love of Publicity.

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The Life of a Diver.

There is always a peculiar concern felt in the operations of a diver, and while the subjoined report of a conversation of one of these submarine workmen had with a Boston Traveller reporter does not contain a great deal that is strikingly new it can hardly fail to be generally interesting.

"Of course, there are many dangers attendant upon a diver's life, but he is apt to become indifferent to them. Until within a year or two it was sure death for a man to have his air pump give out or a break to occur in his supply pipe; but recently a valve has been attached to the pipe, which prevents the air within the dress from escaping if an accident occurs to the air supply.

Many people have the idea that the bottom of the ocean is one vast treasure bed, and the divers must reap a rich harvest when they go below.

"Many divers carry on what is called the 'wrecking' business; that is, they purchase the hulks of wrecks in hope of obtaining enough out of them to make considerable money.

"Another and most important part of a diver's business is the rescuing of bodies of those who have been drowned. Until within a few years these bodies were recovered, if at all, by means of grappling irons, and the bodies were often thus badly mutilated, but nowadays a diver can go down and rescue the body of a drowned man in wrecks and generally in all manner of positions, and the diver often sees most horrible things in these places.

"But the greater part of the diver's work at present is what is termed the scientific branches; that is, the repairing of dams, building of seawalls or breakwaters, the cleaning of steamships' bottoms, the clearing clogged propellers.

"When an accident happens to a diver's air supply he feels as if he was in a vise, and as the flexible rubber suit is not able to withstand the great pressure while the helmet is, all the blood in a man's body is forced to his head, and he has to have exceedingly strong blood vessels in his head to be able to withstand this pressure.

"But after all, in spite of the danger, it is a fascinating business, and I wouldn't change it for any other."

The Princess of Wales.

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